

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER MAY 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER MAY 2017

Tuesday 25 April	First Communion Parents' Meeting in Martinstown School @ 7 p.m. Tin Whistle Club (Y4-5, Mrs Hynds) Pottery Club (Y5-6, Mrs Sharkey) Girls' Gaelic Football Trial
Thursday 27 April	Pupil of the Month Assembly, Trócaire Presentation Girls' Gaelic Football Tournament Camogie/Hurling Coaching begins Y4-6 in PE Lessons
Monday 1 May	May Day School Closed
Tuesday 2 May	Staff Training Day School Closed
Wednesday 3 May	Camogie Trials
Thursday 4 May	Children's Commissioner's Visit to the School Camogie 7s in Portglenone Netball Club Y6 begins
Tuesday 9 May	Hurling Trials
Wednesday 10 May	Camogie Club (Y5-6) begins
Thursday 11 May	Hurling 7s in Randalstown
Saturday 13 May	First Holy Communion @ 10 a.m. Our best wishes and prayers
Wednesday 17 May	School Uniform Evening 6.30 – 8 p.m. in Martinstown School
Wednesday 24 May	New Y1 Parents' (September 2017) Meeting @ 10 a.m. in Cargan School
Thursday 25 May	Y4 School Trip to W5, Belfast
Monday 29 May	May Holiday School Closed
Tuesday 30 May	Y3 School Trip to Transport Museum, Cultra Y7 School Trip to Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh
Wednesday 31 May	Y5 School Trip to the Giant's Causeway Y6 School Trip to the Jet Centre, Coleraine
Thursday 1 June	Y1 -2 School Trip to Portstewart

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We have three new clubs for the final term:

- Pottery (Mrs Sharkey Y5/6);
- Tin Whistle (Mrs Hynds Y4/5);
- Y5/6 Camogie (Mrs McAlister).

We also continue with Hurling, Camogie, Music and Netball Clubs (Y6) this term.

Nineteen after schools have taken place during this school year. We hope the children enjoyed the variety of experiences. Thank-you to the school's staff who led the majority of the clubs.



TRÓCAIRE

This year we raised a total of **£1815.48** for Trócaire.

Thank-you very much for your generosity.

Every class in the school had its own Trócaire box and every class in the school organised a whole school fundraiser:

- Y1s collected copper coins every Wednesday and Friday in Cargan and Martinstown;

- Y2 ran an Easter egg raffle;
- Y3 organised a colouring competition;
- Y4 held a Bun Sale on Green Day;
- Y5 had a Smoothie Day;
- Y6 sold tickets for an Easter Hamper Raffle (and they can sell tickets!!);
- Y7 Toast Day and the Jumble Sale.

Our pupils care about children in the Developing World and they are aware of many of the global issues. The pupils in this school are living their Catholic faith and we are very proud of them.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please find enclosed, with this month's newsletter, a note regarding school uniform for 2017-18.

School Trends uniform company has been appointed the sole supplier of uniform for Mary Queen of Peace PS and the uniform will now be sold directly from the school.

A representative from School Trends will hold a uniform evening on:

**Wednesday 17 May
from 6.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.
in Martinstown school.**

This is an opportunity to:

- view the school uniform;
- try school uniform on for size;
- order school uniform for September 2017.

School Trends will supply school coats, jumpers, trousers, skirts, polo shirts and school bags (Y1-2).



SCHOOL TRIPS

Our school trip programme for Term III:

Year Group	Date	Destination
Y1 & 2	Monday 1 June	Portstewart Beach, Cheeky Chimps
Y3	Tuesday 30 May	Transport Museum, Cultra
Y4	Thursday 25 May	W5, Belfast
Y5	Wednesday 31 May	Giant's Causeway
Y6	Wednesday 31 May	Jet Centre, Coleraine
Y7	Tuesday 30 May	Folk Park, Omagh

School trips are £10 per child.

SPORTS DAY

School Sports Day is planned for **Thursday 8 June** at the GAA pitch, weather permitting. The school website will have Sports Day updates.

TEMPORARY REGISTER of EMPLOYMENT

Temporary employment positions may become available during the school year as a cleaner, school crossing-patrol, caretaker, lunchtime supervisor, classroom assistant or catering assistant. Please register with the school secretary if you are interested in any of the temporary positions.

SCHOOL TEAM SUCCESS



Cumann na mBunscol SW Antrim Hurling and Camogie; Credit Union Quiz (8th in All-Ireland); Causeway Coast Girls' Cross-Country

SCHOOL AIMS

Our aims shape the curriculum. The school's fifth aim is: *To provide a positive learning environment where children's attitudes are nurtured to ensure they become independent, confident, resilient and enthusiastic learners for life and the future.*

Primary education is of course about maths and literacy but it is also about a whole lot more. In previous newsletters we showed you how we nurture the *whole child* through their academic, moral, social, artistic, physical and spiritual development.

An important part of our work with the children is in developing their attitudes to learning. We want the child to work co-operatively and we also want them to work independently. Both skills are needed in education and in life. Therefore we design lessons that will promote both teamwork and independence.

We also want the child to be enthusiastic about learning so we teach in themes and we search out themes that we know will capture the children's imagination.

Mary Queen of Peace also wants the children to be resilient and *stick with* their learning, even when it gets tough. In maths and ICT, for example, we have been developing problem solving lessons. The work is challenging but we are teaching the children problem solving strategies which that will help when they face difficulties. Our children will need these attitudes to learning in primary and post-primary education as well as in their adult life.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Children's Commissioner, Ms Koulla Yiasouma, is visiting the school on Thursday 4 May to hear our pupils' views on the school amalgamation, to learn about our inadequate facilities and the new school build challenges.

We are committed to listening to the voice of the children and we are confident that the Commissioner will be well informed about Mary Queen of Peace, following her meeting with the School Council.

'St Mary's PS and Glenravel PS have now amalgamated and new friendships have been formed during the year. We love our school and we love the after school clubs. There are 19 clubs, including sport and even a pottery club! We are a great sporting school and now that we are bigger we have won many trophies. Our PTA has helped buy new ICT equipment and we love having inter-active whiteboards. It isn't all good. We miss not seeing our brothers and sisters in the other school site. The biggest problem is we do not have a PE hall or canteen. When it is wet we don't get PE. Almost all schools have a PE hall, why can't we?'

Maeve P7 Councillor, Ger P6 Councillor

