

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 2017	
Monday 4 September	Morning Club begins (Martinstown)
Friday 8 September	New School Year Mass @ 9 a.m. in the Church
Monday 11 September	Singing Lessons begin After School Choir Club begins Swimming Y5
Tuesday 12 September	Milk Money Payment Due
Friday 15 September	Piano Lessons begin
Monday 18 September	GAA Coaching (Ulster Council) begins Y3-4
Tuesday 19 September	PTA Meeting @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown
Thursday 28 September	Whole School Assembly
Monday 2 October	Staff Training Day School Closed

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to a new school year in Mary Queen of Peace Primary School. I hope that all of our families had a very happy summer.

We are ready for our second year of Mary Queen of Peace PS and we look forward to welcoming back all of the children; including our new Primary 1s and a new pupil in Key Stage 2.

The Department of Education has informed us that they have now completed further work on the economic feasibility of building a new school on a number of sites in the local area. We very much need a new school build and we hope that this process can be advanced in the interest of our pupils, parents, staff and parish.

However, while we are on our current sites we will continue to improve the children's learning experiences, in particular their playtime and safety in school. The Department has approved £20,000 for security gates and controlled access on both sites. This work will begin at the start of the new school year. At the same time, we have made investments in the playgrounds of both schools, totalling £3,500. Pictures of the playground improvements can be found overleaf. The playground improvements are as a result of your fundraising, including the work of the PTA. We are very grateful for your support for the school.

Our Morning Club resumes in Martinstown on Monday 4 September. You will also find information regarding transport and free

school meals included in the newsletter.

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back and over the next few weeks introducing the new playground improvements. In next month's newsletter we will also outline our extra-curricular programme for the year, which was a huge success during our first school year. Updates on school events and news can always be found on our website: www.mqpglenravel.com



Working with our parents is a key aim for the school and we have plans to show how you can support your child's learning in school and at home in the key areas of maths, reading and ICT (including on-line safety) throughout the year.

My very best wishes to you and your family for the new school year.

Malachy Conlon
Principal

MORNING CLUB

Morning Club begins on: **Monday 4 September** in Martinstown (main school building).
The cost is £1 per session.
Good luck to Christine, Karen and all of the boys and girls who use the service.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Application forms for free school meals are available from the school and online applications at: <http://www.eani.org.uk/i-want-to/fsm/>
Please complete and return forms.

UNIFORM

Please ensure that all items of uniform (coats, jumpers, polo shirts, trouser/skirts) are marked with your child's name and class.

Lunchboxes and snack boxes that are used for fruit at breaktime should all be marked with your child's name.

If an item is lost, we have a much better chance of returning it to you if there is a name on it.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Our after school programme begins with: **Choir Club** (Niaomh Rodgers) on Mondays. Information about the singing club has been issued with this newsletter. In next month's newsletter we will publish the after school programme for the whole school year. Clubs are a great way for all of the children to get to know each other and work together at Mary Queen of Peace PS.

TRANSPORT

Transport is organised by the Education Authority: North Eastern Region. Any matters relating to transport should be addressed to:

Mrs Freda Shanks

Tel No: 028 25661360

E-mail: freda.shanks@eani.org.uk

The school will support you with any matters in relation to transport.

ACCESSING the SCHOOL & STARTING TIMES

The gates and controlled access to the school is an important part of our safeguarding plan for the school. All access to the school by parents, grandparents, child minders and members of the public must be through the secretary on the Martinstown site; or by ringing the buzzer on the Cargan site and a member of staff will come and greet you. Please do not go directly to classrooms. Where this happens you will be directed, by a member of the staff, back to the secretary. The gates and buzzer access system will enhance



New play house in Cargan

New playground equipment in Martinstown

safety and safeguarding procedures on both sites.

Supervision for pupils in the playground begins at **8.45 a.m.** Therefore pupils, on both sites, should not be in school before **8.45 a.m.**, unless they are attending the Morning Club.

This an important safeguarding matter.

MASS FOR NEW SCHOOL

The Mass for the opening of the new school year will take place on **Friday 8 September @ 9 a.m.** Parents, grandparents, family members and parishioners are very welcome to join us for Mass. The children can either sit with their family or join their class. Children should go directly to the church for Mass on Friday morning and support with transporting children back to school would be very much appreciated.

MUSIC TUITION

Singing	Miss Niaomh Rodgers	Mondays
Violin	Miss Helena Nicholl (Education Authority)	Thursdays 10.30 - 11.30 a.m.
Piano	Mrs Demelza McFetridge	Fridays

Please contact the school if you wish to use the tuition service.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Our first Parent Teacher Association meeting for the new school year has been organised for: **Tuesday 19 September @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown.** A brochure outlining our work to date has been included with this month's newsletter. We very much value parental support at Mary Queen of Peace PS. Our PTA does terrific work and we don't have too many meetings! It is always important to have new members who will bring new ideas and commitment to the PTA. You will be made feel very welcome.

