

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

December 2019



www.mqpglenravel.com

DATES TO REMEMBER		DECEMBER 2019
Wednesday 27 November	Y2 Shared Education Teambuilding in Greenmount Campus	
Thursday 28 November	Pupil of the Month Assembly (Y1) Girls' Indoor Gaelic Football Competition (Antrim Forum)	
Sunday 1 December	Y7 Commitment Service @ 11 a.m. Mass	
Monday 2 December	Come Inside Our Classroom Updates Go Live on the Website	
Tuesday 3 December	Tickets on Sale for the Christmas Concert Y7 Trip to Folk Park (Omagh)	
Wednesday 4 December	Cross-Country Race II at Ulster University, Coleraine	
Thursday 5 December	Christmas Lunch Half the Pot Draw I	
Friday 6 December	Y7 Visit to St. Patrick's HS (Ballymena)	
Monday 9 December	Final Term I Swim	
Tuesday 10 December	Open Morning in Cargan @ 10 a.m.	
Wednesday 11 December	Milk Money Due	
Thursday 12 December	Half the Pot Draw II	
Monday 16 December	Christmas Concert Matinee @ 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall	
Tuesday 17 December	Christmas Concert @ 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall Y5 Shared Education Trip to the Ulster Museum	
Wednesday 18 December	Principal's Breaktime Treat	
Thursday 19 December	Pupil of the Month Assembly (Y5 Mrs Sharkey) Half the Pot Draw III	
Friday 20 December	School Closed @ noon, Non-Uniform Day School Bus On, No Lunches	
Monday 23 December 2019 – Friday 3 January 2020	Christmas Holidays	
Tuesday 7 January 2020	School Re-opens	

Mary Queen Of Peace Primary School

OPEN MORNING

in Cargan school on
Tuesday 10 December 2019
at 10a.m.

An opportunity to see the Primary 1 & 2 classrooms and meet the staff.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
to Primary 1 in September 2020 will be available
on-line at the Education Authority's website
www.eani.org.uk
Applications open 7 - 30 January 2020

OPEN MORNING

The Education Authority (EA) changed the process for admission to primary school to an online system last year. Applications are made through the EA's website: www.eani.org.uk The Education Authority has not issued information about admissions for the 2020-21 school year, at present, but we will keep you updated on this process at the Open Morning and on our school's own website.

STAFF

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Mrs Shauna McNicholl has been appointed Vice-Principal of Mary Queen of Peace PS. We wish Mrs McNicholl well in her new position and look forward to her visiting the school this month.

Mrs McNicholl will take up her post at the beginning of Term II (January 2020).

MRS MCLOUGHLIN

Congratulations to Mrs McLoughlin and her husband on the birth of their baby daughter. Our best wishes to the McLoughlin family.



CURRICULUM COME INSIDE OUR CLASSROOM

At the beginning of this term we issued, to each family, a **Parent Curriculum Overview** Newsletter which informed you about the theme your child was studying this term; information on what the pupils will be doing in Maths and English; as well as other relevant curriculum information e.g. days when the children are doing PE/swimming. We hope that the Parent Curriculum Overview helped keep you informed about what your child was doing in school and how you can support their learning at home. The next Overview will be published at the start of the new term, when each class will move on to their next theme.



In addition to this, we also invite parents to see what their child is doing in school through an on-line initiative called **Come Inside Our Classrooms**; where we upload a report and photographs to the website which shows parents what their child's class have been doing in the curriculum. The next **Come Inside Our Classrooms** will go live on **Monday 2 December 2019**.

www.mqpglenravel.com click on the Our School tab (green bar on the home screen), scroll down to Come Inside Our Classrooms and click on your child's class.

ON-LINE SAFETY

This month we have uploaded to the On-line Safety section on the school's website (on the home screen's green bar), some information about Screen Addiction. This is an issue that is being debated in the media and in homes across the country. We hope you find it useful, especially with the gifts which will be purchased and received at this time of year.

The on-line safety section also has help sheets on: conversations to have with your child about on-line behaviour, You Tube, Fortnite and on-line bullying.

With this month's newsletter we have also issued correspondence from the Ballymena Primary Principals' Association regarding Guidance on Social Media Posting.

We would ask that everyone connected with the school to read this guidance carefully.



FUNDRAISING

For the three weeks leading up to Christmas we will have the return of our Christmas **Half the Pot** fundraiser. Please buy one of the children's **Half the Pot** envelopes (cost £1) and write your name & tel. no. on the front of the brown envelope. The seller will return the envelope to the school. Every Thursday in December (5th, 12th, 19th) we will have a draw, with one lucky winner taking half the weekly pot! Fundraising, in this very difficult time, is essential for the school. Good luck everyone!



CONCERTS

This year the Y3 & 4 classes will perform the Christmas play (Children of the World) on: **Monday 16 December @ 1 p.m.** and **Tuesday 17 December @ 7 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Tickets will go on sale on **Tuesday 3 December (9 a.m. M'town, 2 p.m. Cargan)**. Price £4. Please note the change of dates due to the Parish Hall being used as an Election Polling Station.

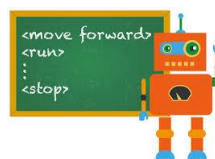


SCHOOL SPORT

The school sport season is up and running with action in Gaelic games and cross-country. The boys' indoor Gaelic football team played really well in their competition and the girls are next up to play (**Thursday 28 November**). In the cross-country league, the boys' and girls' teams lie fifth in their respective competitions. We also had a pupil who was a medal winner in the individual girls' race – well done! Next race: **Wednesday 5 December**.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

It has been another busy term for after school clubs: Gaelic Football (boys & girls), ICT Coding, Rugby and Cross-Country.



SHARED EDUCATION

Y5 are having a fantastic time working with their friends in Camphill PS on their Egyptians' theme and maths problem solving using Izak9 cubes.

The aim of the shared education programme is to help the children, from both schools, to understand each other better through work and play. This is an important part of our Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) programme.



Egyptian Team Building



Izak9

The Shared Education initiative also focuses on the staff, from both schools, working together on professional development programmes to improve the curriculum. This year the Camphill teachers joined our teachers for Izak9 maths' training in MQP, while our Foundation Stage (Y1 & 2) staff attended Numicon (maths) training in Camphill PS.