

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER September 2016



DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 2016	
Thursday 8 September	New School Year Mass @ 10 a.m.
Friday 9 September	Team Building Day I (P5-7) @ GAA Club
Monday 12 September	Singing Club Swimming 5M
Tuesday 13 September	Team Building Day II (P1-4) @ GAA Club Basketball Club (P6-7) Milk Money Payment Due
Wednesday 14 September	Dance Club (P6-7)
Wednesday 21 September	PTA Meeting @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown
Monday 26 September	Staff Training Day School Closed
Thursday 29 September	Black Bag Recycling
Friday 30 September	Whole School Assembly

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Mary Queen of Peace Primary School. This is not just the start of a new school year but the beginning of a new school.

Much work has gone into getting the school ready and I would like to thank my staff and their families, who have done so much over the summer months to prepare the school. We have also received wonderful support from parents and parishioners. Thank you to everyone for their commitment to the school and to our children.

The school's governors have been working with the Departments of Education and Infrastructure, as well as local politicians to resolve the issues which are preventing us from proceeding with a new school build. The issue of a footpath connecting the new school building to both villages has not yet been resolved. The Department of Education has also commissioned site searches in the locality. The governors will keep you informed of developments in this area.

I hope the children are excited about starting school, putting on their new uniform and looking forward to a successful and happy year. There are many exciting curricular and extra-curricular developments which will be taking place during the year and I have outlined some of them overleaf in this newsletter.

Working with our parents will be a key aim for the new school and this month I have started a consultation exercise

with parents about the feasibility of setting up a Morning Club which would operate from 8 a.m. daily. There is also a meeting, this month, to establish a Parent Teacher Association and I look forward to meeting with you and working together, in partnership.

The school's website will be launched this month and I hope you find it helpful in keeping up to date with everything that is happening in the school, including key dates and events. The website will make the links between home and school stronger.

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

Malachy Conlon
Principal

WEBSITE

Our new school website will go live this month:

www.mqpglenravel.com



We hope you and the children enjoy it!

STAFF

We welcome to the school Mrs Fiona McConway and congratulate her on her appointment as Vice-Principal of Mary Queen of Peace PS. Mrs McConway will teach Y7. Mrs Claire McNeill has also been appointed to the staff and will teach Y3 during Mrs O'Mullan's maternity leave. Our very best wishes to both teachers and to their classes.

ACTIVITY DAYS

Team building days have been organised, in conjunction with Ardclinis Outdoor Adventure to help all of our children settle into the new school and get to know their classmates, teachers and assistants. The activities will take place at the GAA pitch and will include team building games, laser tag and the climbing tower. More details to follow, closer to the dates. There will be no charge for this activity.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

This month we launch the first phase of our after school club programme:

Singing Club (Niaomh Rodgers and Mrs McNeill) on Mondays. A singing and musical performance club with a difference! We hope to enter competitions throughout the year. This club will run every Monday during the year.

Basketball Club (Ally McIlroy, Mid & East Antrim Council) on Tuesdays for 5 weeks for P6 & 7.

Dance Club (Lesley McLaughlin, Mid & East Antrim Council) contemporary dancing and keep fit for 5 weeks for P6 & 7 on Wednesdays.

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:

Mr Joseph Hutchinson

Tel No: 02825662277

E-mail: joseph.hutchinson@eani.org.uk

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

BLACK BAG RECYCLING

Our first fundraiser in Mary Queen of Peace PS will be a Black Bag Recycling. Please place items for recycling in a black bag which can be left at either site:

week beginning Monday 26 September 2016.

Items accepted Unfortunately items not accepted

Clothing Dirty/wet clothing

Curtains Mats/carpets

Paired shoes Single shoes

Belts/handbags Cut off materials

Thank-you for your support.



MASS FOR NEW SCHOOL

The Mass for the opening of Mary Queen of Peace PS will take place on **Thursday 8 September 2016 @ 10 a.m.**

Parents, grandparents, family members and parishioners are very welcome to join us for Mass and refreshments afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Children should go directly to the church for Mass and support with transporting children back to school would be very much appreciated.

The parish has purchased a book for each child in the school to mark the opening of the school.

MORNING CLUB

Consultation will take place this month on the feasibility of setting up a Morning Club which would allow parents to leave their children at the school from 8 a.m. The children would be supervised by an assistant, with a breakfast of cereal and toast. The proposed cost would be £1 per morning. In order to set up a Morning Club we need to know if there are the numbers to make such a service feasible (on one or both sites).

Please return your consultation forms to the school.

MUSIC TUITION

Singing	Miss Niaomh Rodgers	Mondays 2 – 3 p.m.
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 the tuition service.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

A meeting to establish a Parent Teacher Association in the school has been organised for:

Wednesday 21 September 2016 @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown.

We very much welcome parental support at Mary Queen of Peace PS and I look forward to meeting parents and working with you.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

We may have to operate on two sites for a few years but we are very much one school. There will be opportunities throughout the year for us to come together and celebrate as a whole school.

The school been successful in an application for Lottery Funding, to help us with our whole school celebrations.

Part of our school celebrations will include a whole school monthly assembly (Y1-7). This will take place in the parish hall along with a Pupil of the Month presentation. All of the children will then have breaktime together.

Celebrate!
What would you Celebrate in your local community?
Find out how the Big Lottery Fund could help you bring people together.



