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February Newsletter 2023

Dear Parent/s,

This is a busy time of year for all our pupils. In the Nursery we hope to have the final piece of playground equipment installed to finish the Nursery Playgrounds.

The P1 to 3 pupils have all enjoyed the lessons in drama and storytelling with Avril from Debutots on Tuesday mornings. Good luck to the many children who have entered the competitions in Omagh Feis, and Miss. Breslin is also organising entries for the Art competitions for those who wish to enter. Details are on Google Classroom.

Sport/Gaelic Games

Cian from AB coaching is coaching P1 to P4 on Mondays and he is also coaching the P7 gaelic footballers after school on a Monday. Our thanks to Naoimh Eoghain Castlederg GAC for their support in funding this project.

Soccer coaching with Gareth Porter IFA will start on a Friday for P4 to P7 and Geraldine Mc Laughlin from Ulster GAA will return after the midterm to coach gaelic games.

Well done to the boys and girls in P6 who took part in the local primary soccer blitz held in Castlederg HS last week.

Both the boys and girls gaelic teams will take part in the Tyrone Cumann na mBunscol indoor heats on the 2nd and 3rd of March in the Station Centre Omagh. We also hope to enter a P7 quiz team for the Cumann na mBunscol quiz in St. Conor's PS on the 24th February.

The P7 classes have started their swimming lessons in Riversdale Leisure Centre Strabane this week.

Sacramental Dates

It was great to see so many parents at the school Mass on Friday 3rd February to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

The P7 children will celebrate their Confirmation on Saturday 25th March 2023 at 11am in St. Patrick's Church.

The P4 children will make their first Holy Communion on Saturday 20th May 2023 at 11am in St. Patrick's Church.

Well done to all for the good turnout for the special children's masses and for liturgies for the children making their Sacraments this year. Fr. Paul is also delighted that many of the children have joined the Parish Children's Choir.

The next children's Mass for P1 to P4 will take place on Sunday 12th February at 11am and the next Mass for the P4 children making their First Holy Communion takes place on Saturday 25th February at 6pm.

The P7 Service of Light takes place at Mass on Saturday 4th March 2023 at 6pm.

Post Primary Applications

P7 Parent/s - Applications to Post Primary Schools must be made by 23rd February 2023 via the EA website. If you need help or advice completing this application, please contact your teacher or the Principal.

Industrial Action

The main teaching unions are all presently engaged in industrial action over cuts to education funding and over the real time cuts in pay for teachers and those who work in our schools. They have called a half day strike on Tuesday 21st February until 12pm on this day and the school will have to close on this morning on the grounds of health and safety. The school will re-open at 12pm on the day and meals and transport should be provided in the afternoon only.

Midterm Break

The school will be closed for midterm break on Wednesday 15th /Thursday 16th /Friday 17th and Monday 20th February 2023. The school will reopen on Tuesday 21st February 2021 at 12pm *due to industrial action.

Mr. Doherty is presently Acting Vice-Principal and as ever if there are any concerns or issues, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. Doherty.

Many thanks,

Mr. B Mc Gurk Principal