



May/June 2024



ETI Inspection

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of St Clare's PS and NU on June 4th and 5th. Three inspectors spent two days with us and the findings will be published at the end of month. Mr O'Doherty will send via Seesaw the link for the published report.

Until then, we can tell you that we received a wonderful report orally from the team. The commented on the high level interaction in every lesson observed. They also commented upon the exceptional work of the SEN in the school, the quality of the provision for Newcomer pupils operating at an international level. The nursery was highlighted for the work being led by Ms Shaw. The pupils were described as wonderful. The ETI were particularly impressed by the feedback from parents to the questionnaire with really positive comments from so many. The same can be said of the responses from the staff questionnaires and the pupil questionnaires.

During the visit, the ETI team interviewed middle and senior leaders in the school, representatives of the parent body, members of the Board of Governors and pupils from P3, P5 and P7. The team also met with representatives from the Newcomer families, this was described as emotional.

Mr O'Doherty explained that he has sat through many feedbacks from ETI in his career but has never experienced reporting of this standard.

We have to say, we are so so proud of this accomplishment. This is the highest accolade the school can be given that the quality assurance of this inspection will say boldly that we are a school operating at the highest level. We want to thank everyone who has contributed towards this recognition. It says everything we knew about ourselves, but it is great to hear it confirmed.

IQM Award

It has been such a busy few weeks in the school. Hot on the heels of the ETI inspection, we had a monitoring visit from the inclusion Quality Mark organization. In 2021 our work was externally monitored and evaluated by IQM and we received our first accredited IQM award. On 18th June, the external assessor returned to evaluate how we are doing so we could have our IQM status extended for another three years. We are pleased to announce after a rigorous examination of our evidence that the goal of continuing with this accreditation has been achieved. However, not only did we want to have our accreditation renewed, we want to go a step further by being considered a school of excellence for IQM. We have been encouraged by the assessor to move forward with this plan on the basis of what she has seen in this latest visit.

In order to achieve the continuation of our quality status, pupils, parents, teachers, BOGs were interviewed as part of the evidential portfolio put forward. Over the next twelve months we will be working towards achieving a three point action plan to reach this lofty status as a school of excellence.

For you our parents, this is an important month as between the ETI inspection and the IQM assessment, we can say without doubt that we have been externally scrutinized by registered bodies and been found to be a school operating at the highest of levels. We want to shout this from the rooftops!!! As you can imagine this is a cause of great celebration at St Clare's.

All of the IQM evidence building was coordinated by Mrs Logue and we are so thankful to her and the staff for shining a light on the tremendous work that is continuing to be undertaken in the St Clare's Primary school and Nursery Unit. We should all as a St Clare's Community be proud of our accomplishments and awards.

For your
Calendar

School will close for the Summer Term on
Thursday 27th June 2024

The new school term for 2024/25
will begin with two half days on 28th
and 29th of August

Beauty and the Beast

WOW WOW WOW. We had the absolute pleasure of presenting our School production of Beauty and the Beast to two sold out audiences on Monday and Tuesday the 17th and 18th of June. It was a tour de force of acting and singing and creativity and quite simply was a celebration of the best of our creative arts in the school.

There are so many people to thank for this magnificent production from the pupils who participated on stage and in the choir to the staff who contributed to the artwork and backdrop to the costumes. To carry off a production of this magnitude demands a real team effort and we want to thank all those who have put their shoulder to the wheel. We must thank those parents who provided the amazing costumes for the production especially Mrs Regan and our parent Mrs Corrigan.

There is one member of staff who shouldered the burden of pulling this all together and that was Miss Rebecca Dynan. Miss Dynan is one of our newest members of staff and we have been so impressed with her energy and skills she has brought to the production.

We want to thank the amazing cast and crew for what has been a most memorable production and special thanks to all the staff who gave of our their own time to allow the production to be such a success and also to our amazing parents who supported the show in such incredible numbers each night of the show. We are already preparing for our next two musical productions next year at Christmas and next June. Ofcourse, we will be announcing the titles of these productions in due course!!!

P7 Leavers Mass and Disco

We had such a great night on Thursday 20th June when our P7 pupils celebrated their last night in the school with a wonderful buffet dinner and disco. It was such a fun night full of laughter and tears which is an indication of how much they will miss our school. The pupils concluded their primary school careers with a very moving mass on Friday. We are truly blessed to have had these wonderful pupils with us over the past seven years and we wish them every success on their onward journey

End of the School Term

Because of the wonderful inspection report for the school and considering the amazing efforts which the children have put in over the year, we are finishing up for the summer term tomorrow Thursday. Tomorrow will be a normal school day with Breakfast Club in the morning and 123 club in the afternoon. The school day will run as normal so P1-P3 will finish for the summer break at 2.00pm whilst P4-P6 will finish at 3.00pm as usual. The school will be used throughout the summer for summer schemes for P6 and the Newcomer scheme. Shine will also be having their summer scheme in the school. The school building will be used as a polling station for the election on the 4th July.

P1 admissions for September

On Friday last, we had the joy of welcoming our new P1 parents to the primary school. Important information packs and information were distributed and classes were assigned. A small number of parents were not able to make the meeting and we are spending time contacting them. If you are aware of anyone who missed the meeting, please remind them to contact the school office as soon as possible.

Note from the Principal

I just want to wish all of you a fantastic summertime. I hope the weather stays fair and you all get the chance to relax. May I congratulate everyone in the St Clare's community following our ETI inspection report, certainly one of the best reports I have read about a school. This recognition is so well deserved. When we are allowed to publish it, I will send a link to the report via seesaw. This will be in early July.

I also congratulate the school on the IQM award extension. The evidence provided by the school led by Mrs Logue allows to prepare for the next level of award which is school of excellence. Good luck during the holidays and we will see each other again at the end of August.

Mr O'D



Beauty and the Beast 2024





Dear Parents/Guardians

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

St. Clare's P.S. will close on **Thursday 27th June 2024 at normal time** Please ensure that your child is collected on time.

Breakfast Club, break and dinners will be last served on Thursday 27th June 2024.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

The children will return to school on **Wednesday 28th August from 8.55 a.m. – 11.30am and Thursday 29th August from 8.55 a.m – 11.30am.**

Friday 30th August will be a full school day and dinners and breakfast club will operate as normal. Break will also restart on this date. Breakfast club begins at 8.15am.

Every Monday will be 2.00 p.m. finish for all pupils.

Breakfast Club and dinner prices remain at £2.60 and £1.50 respectively.

PLEASE NOTE

The staff of St. Clare's would like to thank you for your generous donations and continued support throughout the year.

I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable summer.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Mr O'Doherty
Principal