



October 2023



Curriculum Meetings

At this time of year, we take the opportunity of inviting our parents in class by class to meet with the teachers. It is a great way for teachers making the positive connection at a very early part of the year with the parents. It is also a great way for parents to get to know their child's teacher especially if they have not met before.

Of course, the primary purpose of this exercise is to allow the teachers in each year group to outline what is expected for the year ahead and offer ways in which you can assist with your child's learning especially around homeworks.

This is also a super opportunity to ensure that your Seesaw is working properly as we now rely heavily on it as our primary means of communication.

Finally, if this meeting will allow us to outline for you the curriculum for the year ahead and what will be covered in the core subjects of Numeracy, literacy, World Around Us and ICT. The times for each year group are as follows;

P2- Tuesday 17th October @1.30pm

P5- Tuesday 17th October @2.30pm

P3- Wednesday 18th October @1.30pm

P6- Wednesday 18th October @2.30pm

P4- Friday 20th October @2.30pm

P7- Friday 20th October @2.30pm

Class locations will be sent on Seesaw closer to the time. **P1 date will be announced later this month.**

The Parent/Teacher face to face meetings will be taking place in the school on Monday 6th November. Please ensure that you let the teacher know for any reason if you cannot make your allocated time.

Transfer Test News

The transfer test dates are fast approaching. To those pupils who have been registered to undertake the tests, we thank you for your commitment and hard work. We are almost there, just a few weeks to go.

To our parents, you have helped us in this process by attending our meetings, filling out the paperwork and by ensuring that all the extra work was completed, even during the summer holidays!!

A reminder that there are two common papers being undertaken this year. One paper will take place on Saturday 11th November. The second paper takes place two weeks later on Saturday 25th November. Please make sure to attend any pre-test meetings at the school centre where your child is registered. We wish every one of our pupils every success and all we can ask is that you do your very best.

P7 Service of Commitment

Our P7 pupils are preparing to undertake preparation for their final sacrament they will receive in Primary School, namely Confirmation. To begin this year of preparation, a commitment service will be held in the school assembly hall on Tuesday 21st November at 2.20pm. We ask that as many of the parents and sponsors attend this beautiful ceremony as possible. Fr Devlin will speak to the parents first for 10 minutes and then the children will join us where they will lead the prayer service of commitment.



For your
Calendar

The school will be closed for all pupils from
Monday 30th October until Tuesday 7th
November 2023.

Parent/Teacher interviews will take
place on Monday 6th November. Pupils
should not attend school on this date.

Sacraments for 2023-24

The dates for the sacraments this year are as follows:

P3 First Confession- Tuesday 5th March at 11.00am

P4 First Communion- Saturday 11th May at 11.00am

P7 Retreat and Service of Light- 5th December

P7 *Confirmation- Thursday 25th January at 11.00am

St Clare's Staff Give lecture to 200 University Students

Our school is again leading the way. Following on from a successful presentation last year, St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College approached our Diversity Team in the school to once again provide essential information to the new intake of student teachers from both colleges following the B.Ed1 course. Over 200 students attended the two hour lecture given by our own Mrs Logue and Mrs Brennan. The amount of interest shown after the event by students wishing to talk further with the presenters is testament to how relevant the presentation was and what high quality was displayed in the lecture by both presenters.

Season of Creation Mass at Clonard

Our school took part in a special event in Clonard monastery 24th September celebrating the environment. The pupils gave a presentation at a special mass describing the impact of the eco award which we have received.

The pupils were joined by our eco coordinator Mrs McLoughlin and also by our RE coordinator Mrs Bell. The pupils were congratulated and thanked by parishioners afterwards.

Success Follows Success

We try to celebrate every success which our pupils experience throughout the year whether that be representing the school or representing themselves at their favourite pastime. One pupil whom we have highlighted in the past is Caelan Henry. Already a world Champion dancer and having already performed on Broadway in the USA, he has only gone and done it again. He won the NI Championships last Sunday. On top of this, he has been selected from 400 dancers who auditioned to become a Northern Ireland Ambassador for CYD? (Can you dance). The sky is the limit for our star performer.



Attendance Matters

As promised in the last edition of the Newsletter, there will be a special prize for the class with the best monthly attendance record. We can announce that the winning class for September is Mrs Clarke's class with an impressive monthly total of 97.8% attendance. P3B will receive the special attendance cup and will hold on to this for the rest of this month. They will also be given their special treat for making such a great effort. Don't forget the best attenders will receive certificates at Christmas and in June the top attenders will receive a special treat by going to the movies, popcorn will also be provided!!! Please make sure that your child attends school every day as everyday matters



School Attendance Matters

Pupil of the Month and Rights Respecting Pupil of the Month Award Winners

Congratulations to our September winners. Each of them has been presented with a certificate outlining their achievements at a special assembly last Friday morning. We are very proud of our ambassadors within our school.

Rights Respecting Winners



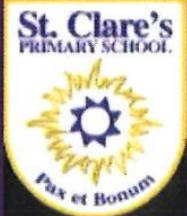
Star Pupils of the Month





MONDAY - FRIDAY
8.30 - 9.15AM
1.15 - 3.15PM

HELP US KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!





Message from the Principal Online Social Media Platforms

Like any other school, our pupils at St Clare's can be distracted by the excitement of sharing information on various social media platforms. Sites such as TIKTok, Snapchat, Facebook and Twitter can draw our pupils in so easily. I am aware of many of our children especially in P6 and P7 who are regularly engaging with each other over these platforms.

In the past, and again as in all schools, we have serious issues to deal with when inappropriate and hurtful things are shared online. We must remind our children of the dangers which they can be exposed to. These media platforms are not suitable for children in Primary Schools.

It has been brought to my attention that there are several TikTok channels operating under the St Clare's PS logo. These have not been endorsed by our school and we urge all parents to be vigilant and to monitor what their children are accessing on the internet.

I have spoken to all the classes in P5-P7 and reminded them that should anything hurtful or inappropriate be shared about any pupil in St Clare's, I will be dealing with it as a bullying incident. This includes the setting up of WhatsApp groups where sometimes children can be bullied or excluded.

I thank the parents who have already contacted me to tell me how they are constantly monitoring their child's internet and social media platform experiences. Working together we can maintain all our pupils' safety online and in school and help our children to continue to feel safe and happy.

Yours sincerely,

Mr O'Doherty

HALLOWEEN SCHOOL DISCO

WEDNESDAY 25TH OCT



Nursery P1 P2 P3
6pm-7pm

Tuck Shop
Available...
Adm £2

P4 P5 P6 P7
7.15pm - 8.30pm

323 Cupar St, Belfast BT13 2SE