

SAINT COLUMBAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

February Newsletter 2024

www.stcolumbanspsbelcoo.com

Twitter - @StColumbans76

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 31 st January:	Fire Safety Talk (Primary 4 & 5)
Thursday 1 st February:	St Brigid's Day
Tuesday 6 th February:	Internet Safety Day
Friday 9 th February:	Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Football
Tuesday 13 th February:	Go Blue Jersey Day
Saturday 17 th February:	Youth Choir St Patrick's Holywell @ 7.00pm

School Closures: Thursday 15th – Friday 16th February (mid term)
Monday 19th February (Staff Development)

Safety: We ask all to take care when dropping off and collecting children at the school. Please leave space for the Mullaghduin bus to pull in and for the Lattone bus to reverse into the school grounds.
Please also be mindful of the speed limit outside the school.

Walking home From school: Please see attached consent form in relation to walking home from school. If your child walks home from school any day please fill in and return to their class teacher.

Health & Wellbeing: The Education Authority are currently providing a wellbeing Programme for all classes. which is delivered over a 6 Week Period, to the Whole School. The programme will support pupils with their emotional health and wellbeing, help with building resilience and help with developing positive coping strategies to effectively manage emotions. The programme lasts 6 weeks.

Jersey Day: Go Blue Jersey Day will take place on Tuesday 13th February in aid of Belcoo GAA Club. We ask that all pupils wear blue jerseys, tops etc on this day. Please send in a voluntary donation. All money raised will be forward to the Belcoo Club.

Youth Choir: Our next time to sing is Saturday 17th February. We are so proud of all the children singing at Mass and really appreciate the positive feedback we have received from many parishioners. All pupils are welcome!

Swimming: The Primary 6/7 Swimming Programme continues on Thursdays in the Lakeland Forum Enniskillen.

Phone Numbers: This is the time of year some people may have changed their phone. Please let the school know if your home, work or mobile telephone number has changed so we can update our records.

Post Primary Transfer: An email has been issued to all Primary 7 parents in relation to the process of applying to post primary schools. Parents are asked to complete this online application before the closing date which is **Thursday the 22nd February** at 12.00 noon

The Education Authority link is;
www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/post-primary-admissions-guide

Website Please continue to log into the school website on a regular basis.

Twitter: You can also follow us on Twitter. This will help keep you up to date with all that is happening in school.

Contacting class teacher: Teachers can be contacted via email. The teacher will get back to you as soon as practical. Please be aware that teachers only access their emails during their working day. Urgent messages should be delivered by telephone.

We encourage you also to use homework diaries as a means of communication.

- Mrs Anne Murray amurray394@c2kni.net
- Mrs Siobhan Meehan smeehan445@c2kni.net
- Mrs Paula Gallagher pgallagher466@c2kni.net
- Miss Claire Crudden ccrudden144@c2kni.net
- Mr Liam Magee limagee459@c2kni.net

Mathletics: We encourage all pupils in Primary 1 – 7 to continue to log on regularly to Mathletics.
Pupils should aim to achieve a certificate each week.

Accelerated Reading: Accelerated Reading returns this term for all pupils in Primary 4-7 - there's great excitement in these classes!! Children are receiving their colours and are all set to get reading and quizzing.

Child Protection: The Designated teacher for Child Protection in the absence of Mrs Martina Meehan is Mrs Anne Murray.
The Deputy Designated Teacher is Liam Magee

Policies:

The following policies are on the school website;

- Complaints Procedure
- Anti-Bullying
- Positive Behaviour
- Drugs
- E Safety which includes the school's policy on the acceptable use of the internet.
- Child Protection
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Pastoral Care
- Supporting children with medication needs

Please contact Mr Magee or Mrs Murray if you require any of these policies in paper form.

Attendance:

The Department of Education is looking at attendance very closely at present. Good attendance is vital for every child. 'Every day matters.'

We get a monthly report of all children's attendance.

If a child's attendance falls below 85% we are obliged to refer them to our Educational Welfare Officer.

If your child is absent please send a note or fill out the absence note in the homework diary. This is important as all absences must be coded on our system.

Dinner:

The daily cost of school dinner is £2.60 per day (£13.00 per week). We would ask that money for the week be brought in on Mondays.

Free School Meals: Some children may be entitled to free meals. An application form may be obtained from the Education Authority Western Region, School Meals Department 1 Hospital Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT79 OAW. Telephone (028 82 411411)

We are continuing to promote the Munch Box Challenge (a lunch Box initiative) during lunch time. We as a school are working together with the Health Promotion Department to promote healthy eating habits and improve oral health in children. Children taking lunch may bring one treat in their lunch box.

Only staff cars should enter the school car park. Please do not park in the bus lay-by at the front of the school. Parking here presents a hazard for children boarding buses and prevents buses from pulling in.

All children who walk to school or travel by car should use the small pedestrian gate.

We ask that you do not use the main gate in the interest of the health and safety of all.