

SAINT COLUMBAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

October Newsletter 2018

www.stcolumbanspsbelcoo.com

Twitter - @StColumbans76

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 4 th October:	Trip to Florencecourt (Primary 1 & 2)
Wednesday 10 th October:	Halloween Ball (Primary 3 & 4)
Friday 19 th October:	Walk to school
Monday 22 nd October:	P.6/7 Go Games Blitz
Friday 26 th October:	Presentation assembly to Tim Flaherty
Tuesday 30 th October:	Halloween Fashion Show
Tuesday 30 th October:	Primary 7 Assembly
Wednesday 31 st October:	School Closed

School Closure: Monday 1st October (Staff Development Day)
Wednesday 31st October, Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd
November (Mid term break)
The full holiday list is on the school website and in
homework diaries. There are two additional staff
development days to be added.

Caretaker: Our esteemed caretaker Tim Flaherty has retired
from his post. Tim began working in St Columban's PS
in 1986 and in the years that followed gave
tremendous service to our school. As a way of showing
a token of our appreciation to Tim we will be making a
presentation to him at a special assembly on Friday
the 26th October at 10.00am. Any parent who wants to
make a voluntary contribution towards this
presentation should send it in to one of the teachers
before Friday 12th October. Parents are also welcome
to attend this assembly.

Job vacancy: Catering Assistant required in St Columban's PS (2-3
hours per day - 11.00am - 2.00pm approx.)
For further information, please contact Teresa in the
kitchen. Tel: 02866386513
The post of Building supervisor will be advertised
through the Education Authority website.

Halloween Fashion Show: This will take place on Tuesday the 30th October at 9.30am. All children are asked to bring in £2.00
The money raised will be used to purchase equipment to be played with at break time.

Primary 7 Assembly: The Primary 7 class will perform their class assembly on Tuesday the 30th October at 1.15pm.
The parents of all pupils in Primary 7 class are invited to attend this.
We thank all parents who attended the Primary 6 assembly last month.

School Hours: The teaching day begins at 9.05am and children should be in their classrooms by this time.
Children should not arrive in school before 8.55am as supervision only begins at this time.
The Primary 1 & 2 day also ends at 1.55pm

Collecting Children: Please inform the school if there is any change to the person who normally collects your child.

Child Protection: The Designated teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Martina Meehan. The Deputy Designated Teacher is Mrs Anne Murray.

Curriculum Evening: We had a great turnout of parents at the curriculum evenings. The feedback both oral and written was very positive.

Parent - Teacher Meeting: These will take place as follows:
Primary 7: WB Monday 22nd October
Primary 4: WB Monday 5th November
Primary 3: WB Monday 12th November
Primary 6: WB Monday 19th November
Primary 5: WB Monday 26th November
Primary 1 & 2: January

A separate letter will follow. Meetings will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week.
The times for meetings will be;
8.45am - 9.00am and 2.00pm - 4.15pm

- Trips:** Primary 1 & 2 will visit Florencecourt Gardens on Thursday the 4th October to complete Trusty's Trail. The cost per pupil is £5
- Pupils in Primary 3 - 4 will visit Florencecourt House on Wednesday the 10th October for the Halloween Ball. The cost per pupil is £5.
- Primary 6 & 7 pupils will attend a Fermanagh County Board Go Games Blitz on Monday 22nd October.
- Classical Music:** A number of children in P5 -P7 classes avail of tuition in classical Music. The tutor will visit the school each Wednesday throughout the school year.
The cost for the year is £85.00 (This payment can be made in one or two stages by cash or cheque. Cheques should be made payable to St Columban's PS)
1st Stage - £60 due before Friday 5th October 2018.
 2nd Stage - £25 due before Friday 25th January 2019.
- 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.
- Website / Twitter:** Please continue to log into the school website on a regular basis. You can also follow us on Twitter. This will help keep you up to date with all that is happening in school.

- Golf:** After school golf continues for pupils in Primary 6 & 7 on Friday evenings with Shaun Donnelly. The children are really enjoying it and making great progress.
- After School Activities:** After school ceili dancing classes with Mrs Murray and Mrs Meehan for pupils in Primary 4 - 7 will commence on Thursday the 8th November.
- School Visitors:** We would ask all visitors to the school to make appointments to see teachers either before the school day or after 3.10pm. Teachers are not permitted to leave their classes to speak to parents during the school day.
- Party invitations:** We ask that parents do not send party invitations to school for circulation- this may cause distress to some children.
- Hair:** Please remember to check your child's hair regularly this year. A number of cases of headlice have been reported already this year.
- Attendance:** The Department of Education is looking at attendance very closely at present. **If a child's attendance falls below 85% we are asked to refer them to our Educational Welfare Officer.**
Pupils with full attendance each term will receive a school certificate. Pupils with full attendance for the whole school year will receive a certificate from the Education Authority.
If your child is absent, please send a note or fill out the absence note in the homework diary.
- Ditch the Dark Day:** We are holding a special walk to school day on Friday the 19th October. The theme of the day is *Be Bright, Be Seen*. To raise awareness of safe travel to school as the days become darker, we are encouraging children to **walk to school** (or at least part of the journey!) looking as bright and shiny as possible! (separate letter will follow)

Phone Numbers: Please let the school know if your home, work or mobile telephone number has changed. Also ensure that all contact details are filled out in your child's homework diary.

School Uniform: It is important that each child comes to school neat and tidy. We are proud of our school uniform which reflects the individuality of our school and offers to all children a common form of dress.
Full uniform includes school jumper, light blue polo shirt and a navy skirt or navy trousers. School uniform must be worn each day unless special clothing is required e.g. for field trip.

All children must have appropriate footwear for PE. Children will not be permitted to take part in PE without footwear that is appropriate for this activity.

Please ensure that all items of school uniform and personal belongings are clearly marked with the child's name.

Healthy Break: The school, in keeping with its healthy eating policy, asks parents to ensure that only healthy snacks are sent for break e.g. vegetables or fruit. All pupils in the school should bring their own break time snack. Please do not send chocolate, sweets, biscuits etc for break.
Pupils in Primary 1 & 2 should bring one item of fruit on a Friday for a shared break. Pupils in these classes will prepare their break together and share it out among their classmates.
Chewing gum is not allowed in school.

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.

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.

Run for Oisín: The Run for Oisín takes place on Sunday 14th October at 1pm in Belcoo. Locals are encouraged to pre-register.



Oisín McGrath Foundation
10k/5k
Walk/Jog/Run for Oisín
14th October 2018 1pm Belcoo

10k Categories:
1st, 2nd, 3rd Senior Male/Female
1st Male/Female O/50
1st, 2nd, 3rd Junior (U19) Male/Female
£100 First Male Under 33 Minutes
£100 First Female Under 39 Minutes

5k Categories:
1st, 2nd, 3rd Senior Male/Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd (U18) Male/Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd U16 Male/Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd U14 Male/Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd U12 Male/Female

Early bird entry:

10k	£12
5k	£8
5K U16	£5

Entry from 9th October:

10k	£15
5k	£10
5K U16	£5

ANI Certified Route Distance
Chip Timing
Trophy for First Local Home
Bespoke Medals for All Finishers
Car Parking available locally
Water Points on Route

Registration 10.00am-12.00pm
10k Run 1.00pm
5k Walk/Jog/Run 1.05pm
Prize-giving/Refreshments

Pre-Register online via www.njuko.net/run-for-oisin/select_competition

  

 WWW.OISINFFOUNDATION.COM #OMG #FOREVERRUNNING  WWW.ORGANDONATION.NHS.UK #SAYIDONATE