



St. Patrick's Primary School September 2024 Newsletter

SPECIAL DATES...

Stay and Play P1 & P2 children: 2pm – 3pm daily

Afterschool Supervision P1 – P7 children: 3pm – 5:30pm daily
(Please book on the school money app by Sunday at 12 midday)

Friday 6th September and Every Friday thereafter

Violin with Mrs McAleer
(some P5 / P6 / P7 children)

Friday 6th September

Swimming commences for Miss Boyd's class (for 8 weeks)
Some children will attend the Lakeland Forum for Sporting Activities;
Pickleball, Boccia, Curling (for 8 weeks)

Monday 9th September

School Photographer / Photos

Tuesday 10th September

Handball Coach for the P6 and P7 children (6 weeks)

Tuesday 10th September

P7 Transfer club: Miss McGarrigle, 3pm – 4pm

Thursday 12th September

P7 Transfer club: Mrs Scollan, 3pm – 4pm
(Every Tuesday and Thursday thereafter)

Thursday 12th September

"Trad Thursday", P3 – P7 children, 2:30pm – 2:50pm
(and every Thursday thereafter)

Friday 13th September

Roald Dahl Day

SAVE THE DATES...

Afterschools for classes P3 – P7 children 3pm – 4pm

4 weeks: Tuesday 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd October.

Friday 15th November 2024: Parent- Teacher Meetings

TESCO



1st Place WINNERS!!!
= £1500

We are EXTREMELY thankful to you all and the wider community for collecting blue tokens and making this possible! 😊😊😊
#blessed with the best
#team work makes the dream work



Welcome – A big welcome back to everyone!!! 😊 😊 😊 I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Special words of welcome to our new Primary One children. We also welcome Molly Kerr (P5) to our school.

School Uniform - Can I please commend everyone on how well the children are turned out. Please remember to put your child's name on their school jumper(s). A gentle reminder that school trousers, must be plain navy trousers, track suit bottoms. Leggings or trousers with logos/stripes are NOT acceptable. School t-shirts and jumpers must be worn with the school crest. Remember to bring a coat to school and continue to bring your smile! 😊

Free School Meals and Uniform grants - Please have a look at the EA website <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants> to register your child for free school meals and uniform grant. If you are eligible for free meals and do not wish to avail of them, please register as the number of children eligible helps to raise our school budget. In a time when costs are rising, there is extra strain on the budget.

Happy Birthday -Please can I ask parents to refrain from sending in birthday invitations, cakes or birthday treats. Thank you.

Swimming – Miss Boyd's Primary 5 will begin swimming lessons on Friday 6th September. The lessons will continue for 8 weeks with the concluding lesson being Friday 25th October 2024.

I await further correspondence from the Lakeland Forum in relation to closure or future lessons. In the event of closure I have booked the Share Centre in Lisnaskea so I anticipate future lessons for our children, P5's and P6/7 children after Christmas.

Roald Dahl Day – Children will celebrate Roald Dahl day on Friday 13th September. Please can everyone wear yellow to school as that was Roald Dahl's favourite colour. Do NOT go out and buy anything especially, we all have something yellow! 😊 This is a non-uniform day. Children in classes P3 – P7 are asked to please bring in a glass jar. Children will undertake activities in their classroom, a movie afternoon and a special reward system in all classes. Thank you to Mrs Dolan and Miss Treacy (Literacy Co-ordinators) for organising.



ASDA – 2nd September – 30th November Cashpot for Schools is a donation initiative operated by Asda, whereby Asda will donate 0.5% of Qualifying Purchases during the Qualifying Period to eligible schools.

I have registered the school.

Participants must be a registered Asda Rewards member.

Participants must opt in to the Cashpot for Schools initiative via the Asda Rewards app.

Please select our school.

Thank you to the parents who have made me aware of this funding opportunity.



‘Trad Thursdays’ – A lovely new initiative in our school! Thank you Miss Maguire and Mrs Dolan. Every Thursday from 2:30pm – 2:50pm, children in classes P3 – P7 are welcome to attend to further support their love of traditional music! Eg) whistle, violin. Children will be required to learn a tune each week. This is for playing at events throughout the school year.

Afterschool Clubs – During the month of October, every Tuesday, (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd) there will be afterschool clubs provided for classes P3 – P7 from 3pm – 4pm. More information to follow. Thank you in advance to the teachers and adults for facilitating and making such clubs possible for our children.

Stay and Play – is available every day for Primary One and Primary Two children from 2pm – 3pm, cost £3.00 daily. Thank you sincerely to you our parents for your support of this highly successful initiative. I hope you find it to be advantageous. Thank you to our wonderful Teaching Assistants for making this possible. Please book on the school money app by 12 midday on Sunday for the coming week.

Afterschool Supervision – we are delighted to offer Afterschool Supervision, for classes P1 – P7, cost £8.00 daily. Children are welcome to undertake homework, outdoor games, football, indoor games, arts and crafts, board games, bakery/cookery etc. Please book on the school money app by 12 midday on Sunday for the coming week. Thank you to our parents for availing of this. I hope you find it to be purposeful and worthwhile! Thank you to the adults for making this possible. Please always remember to send a snack with your child to eat during this time.



Easy Fundraising – Please, please, please can I ask for your careful consideration and efforts! Sign up to easy fundraising and raise FREE donations every time you shop online with over 6,000 retailers, John Lewis, Argos, Amazon, eBay and many more are waiting to give a free donation. Plus once you've signed up and raised £5 in donations, easy fundraising will give us an extra £5 bonus donation!



Sign up to support us here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpatspsderrygonnelly/>

Download the app (see image above) and then click on the app to order from your usual retailers! Honestly it's that simple! We currently have 29 supporters and have raised **£313.82** for our school.

Parent Representative on the Board of Governors – Would this be something you are interested in? Due to the Reconstitution of our Board of Governors, a position has become available for a Parent Representative on our Board of Governors. A nomination form can be obtained by telephoning the school / Mrs McGovern: 028 686 41358 or emailing info@stpatrikpsps.derrygonnelly.ni.sch.uk before close of day on Friday 13th September 2024.

Dinners - cost £2.60 per day (£13 per week). Please pay using our school money app. A dinner menu can be found on the school website (Parents Area – School Meals)

Healthy Eating – The school promotes healthy eating which is important for mental and physical development. We strongly advise parents against sending sugary drinks, chocolate and sweets for break and / or lunchtime. The food value in these items is small and does not add to a balanced diet. Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school. This can be topped up each day with water. ONLY water is permitted in class and during snack time. Children may choose to have diluted juice with their lunch.

Active Travel - As we are a Silver Active Travel School we encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Since we have been blessed with good weather on the return to school, it may be an idea to think about walking with others to school. As well as the health benefits, less traffic around the vicinity of the school leads to less congestion and a cleaner environment.

Attendance – There is a huge focus on pupil attendance this academic year by the Education Authority. It is important that children attend school. This ensures progression and success in learning as well as building and maintaining strong friendships with peers. Parents must



complete the online absence form which can be found on the school website (www.stpatrickspsderrygonnelly.com – Parents – Absence) to report full day OR part day absence which will be recorded on the EA attendance system. If absence falls below 90% or a pattern of absence emerges, the EA will contact parents to find a way to improve attendance.

Please note, a 'late' mark will affect your child's attendance record. Certificates for attendance will be issued before the Halloween break. We are looking forward to seeing how many children will have 100% attendance! 😊

Punctuality – Lessons begin at 9:10am sharp. Pupils will be admitted to the school building from 8:45am. No supervision will be available before this time.

The school day for P1 and P2 pupils finishes at 2pm. P3 – P7 pupils finish their day at 3pm.

Safeguarding - The school has a Safeguarding and Child Protection Team in place:

Deputy Designated Teacher	Miss McGarrigle
Chair of Board of Governors	Mrs Anna Corrigan

Parking - The Community Centre car park can be a congested space during drop off and pick up times. You are asked to be vigilant and patient at all times. A parent / carer must be out of their vehicle and visible before your child/children can be dismissed at hometime. Everyone has a responsibility to ensure the safety of all.

New Parents! Website app - To download the school app which is linked to the school website, go to the App Store (iphone) or Google Play app (Android). Search 'Schools NI'. A blue icon with a white speech bubble and the letters NI will be the app you select. Once installed and opened, select Fermanagh and scroll down to find St. Patrick's Primary School Derrygonnelly. Select notifications if you want to be alerted to new items added to the website / app.



In appreciation

Miss A. McGarrigle

(Principal)

