



St. Mary's Primary School

www.stmarysstewartstown.com

Parents' Newsletter June 2021

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Our school year comes to an end...

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over and what a year it was! A new vocabulary and way of working became the norm-, social distancing, PPE, class bubbles and sanitiser became part of our working week. The school diary was very disrupted and our usual busy school became quieter during and after lockdown. But we made it through, we have come out the other end and are very hopeful for a much more normal school year to come in 2021-22.

It was a sad year for us too with the passing of Martina Newell and Fr Seery and family and friends of our children and staff. It really was a year where we just had to keep our heads down and keep going.

Like all school years we will soon say farewell to our wonderful P7 children who this year showed great stamina and resilience to all that was asked of them. We hope they leave with fond memories of their primary school, trusted friends and a high regard for their experiences at St Mary's. We really do wish them well in their new schools in September.

In their place comes a group of ten new Primary one children who will be approaching us I'm sure with anticipation and hopefully some excitement. We look forward to welcoming them in August for their induction mornings and pray that they too will be blessed with all of the opportunities to develop, learn and achieve their potential.

At the end of the school year too we are grateful for the support of the coaches and facilitators who continued to support us in school- Donald Canavan: Traditional Music, Ryan Daly: Gaelic Skills, Eithne O'Hagan: Education Authority and Shirley Walker: Piano.

On behalf of all of the staff of St Mary's can we earnestly thank you the parents for your support throughout this school year and wherever your journey over the summer months takes you, we do wish you all a really relaxing and safe summer.

We are Staying instead of Awaying!

This year we will celebrate end of year with a Fun day at school instead of our away trip. The P7 children have been choosing an array of activities and ensuring that the 'Tuck Shop' will be well stocked. Thursday 17th June has been planned as the Stay and Play Fun Day and we hope that the weather is kind to us. School meals will be serving chicken nuggets and chips that day too!

Remembering Fr Seery & Martina Newell

The school is looking forward to marking the positive influence that both Martina Newell (school kitchen staff) and Fr Seery (school Chaplain) had on the life of our school.

Martina will be fondly remembered by a permanent circular table dedicated to her, in the school playground, where children will be able to gather and have a chat or complete an activity.

Fr Seery, a keen marathon runner, in his day, will be remembered when the children take part in a Running Festival on **Thursday 24th June**. Stewartstown Harps have kindly given us use of their grounds and track that day. School meals will be serving lunch at the Harps grounds that day too and burger and chip will be on the menu!

The school has received sponsorship from Stewartstown Bowling Club, the Parish Hall and St. Vincent de Paul, for this event and we are very grateful for their very kind donations.

Birthdays Celebrations in June

Logan Campbell
Lynette Cullen
Mason Jeffers
Mckenzie Heron
Eve Dillon
Nikol Melohina
Austeja Gillen
Edel Skeffington
Finn McLaughlin
Amelia Booth

How Proud we all were!

First Communion was celebrated on Saturday 22nd May and we were just so proud of the children. They all participated so confidently and respectfully throughout the ceremony. Big thanks to their teachers Mrs B Hamill and Mr B Cullen to the classroom assistants Clodagh O'Neill, Sinead Devlin and Lynette Cullen, Fr O'Neill and Vinny Fee for all of their help and support in ensuring the ceremony ran smoothly. Professional photographs taken on the day of the group are available to order from Patricia. Individual and family photographs taken on the day can be collected from PJ Campbell at Pinevilla Studios.

NEW COMERS INDUCTION

Parents of P1 children starting with us in September have a dedicated section on the school website with information regarding the school, policies, a Welcome movie and what a typical school day at St Mary's looks like. Check it out on www.stmarysstewartstown.com Parents tab -

School Uniform

School uniform is available from Frank McGirr's shop Coalisland
Please note black shoes remain school uniform policy throughout the school year.

SPORTING DAY

The children's annual Sports Day will take place on week beginning Monday 14th June. **This will be a school only event this year.** If children come to school dressed in comfortable sports-wear and suitable footwear from Monday 14th June, we can be sure to get all of the events completed. School kitchen will be serving chips and hot dog on Sports day and the children will have a chance to buy from the 'Tuck Shop' that day too. Can of pop and crisps - £1

Class structure for 2021-22

*P1 & 2 – Mrs Marian Hamill & Mrs Catherine O'Donnell
(Mrs O'Donnell teaches Monday & Tuesday to lunchtime)*

P2 & 3 – Mrs Olivia Duffy

P4 & 5 – Mr Barry Cullen

P4 & 5 – Mrs Bronagh Hamill

P6 & 7 – Mr Martin Reilly

DATES FOR THE JUNE DIARY

Date	Event
	P7 Leavers Video shoot
8 th	Traditional group video shoot
7 th	AMMA Centre Shared Education last one!
14 th /15 th	Sports Day Hot dog & chips – school meal menu
17 th	Stay and Play Fun Day Nuggets & chips – school meal menu
22 nd	End of year school mass
23 rd	P7 Leavers Assembly
24 th	Fr Seery Memorial Run Burger & chips – school meal menu
25 th	P7 pupils last day
30 th	School closes 11am

School year starts September 2021

Thursday 26th August P1

Friday 27th August P1

Tuesday 31st August P2-P7 9am – 11am

**Whole school P1 – 7 start Wednesday 1st
September 8:50 am**

**Reminders and school menu will be sent
out on Class Dojo App
closer to the time.**

Leavers Assembly & Mass

Mr Reilly's P7 leavers will be celebrating their special leavers mass on **Tuesday 22nd June** and a Leaver's assembly on **Wednesday 23rd June**.

We wish this group of very special young people every success in their new schools. May they undertake this new chapter in their lives with enthusiasm and positivity. We wish them joy, fulfilment and success in all they do!

School Meals

Week 3

Orange week to start W/b 7th June