

Derrychrin Primary School

30 Drumenny Road, Coagh, Cookstown, Co Tyrone BT80 0BX

Tel: (028) 8673 7456

Principal: Mr Ciaran McElroy



Wednesday 8th March 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

St. Patrick's Day Non-Uniform Day

Pupils will have a non-uniform day on Thursday 16th March to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Mrs McGuckin and the P5 pupils will lead a St. Patrick's Day assembly, with all the children taking part in a day of song, dance and music. We are looking forward to a great day of celebration and everyone is encouraged to wear green clothing on the day to celebrate our Irish history and culture.

Travelling Book Fair

The travelling Book Fair will be in school from Thursday 9th March until Thursday 16th March. Book viewing will take place for all pupils on Friday 10th March and they will get an opportunity to record the names of any books that they would like to purchase.

The book fair will be open for pupils to purchase books at break time each day. We have allocated specific times if parents/carers would like to purchase books at home time with their child. The book fair will be supervised by Mr. O'Neill and the P7 pupils.

We encourage all parents/carers to follow the times below.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
1:45pm -2:15pm	P1-P2	P1-P2	P1-P2	P1-P2	P1-P2
2:45pm -3:15pm	P3-P7	P3-P7	P3-P7	P3-P7	P3-P7

Easter Raffle

In order to raise funds for our chosen charity this term, **MacMillan Cancer**, our annual Easter Egg Raffle will take place during Lent. As prizes there will be two Easter Eggs for each class and an additional Easter Egg for each Key Stage. The draw will take place on Wednesday 5th April. Tickets are 20p each or 6 for £1.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for the P7 pupils will finish on Thursday 30th March. P5 pupils will commence their swimming lessons on Thursday 20th April for ten weeks at the Greenvale Leisure Centre, Magherafelt finishing on Thursday 22nd June. A fee of £3.50 per child covers the cost of swimming lessons and transport. A permission slip will be issued via Private Messaging for all parents/guardians to confirm their child's participation.

St. Mary's University Students

We currently have two students from St. Mary's University Belfast completing their teaching practice and student placement in Derrychrin PS for a duration of six weeks. Mr Martin (P5) and Mr Devlin (P2 and P3) are very welcome, and we hope they enjoy their time at Derrychrin.

Cumann na mBunscol Quiz & Credit Union Quiz

Well done to our quiz teams who recently took part in the Derry Cumann na mBunscol quiz at Owenbeg and the regional Credit Union quiz in Ballymena. All three teams performed brilliantly with one of the teams coming third in their section and narrowly missing out on the finals in Dublin.



First Confession

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for P4 pupils of Derrychrin PS & Ballylifford PS will be held in St. Patrick's Church on **Wednesday 29th March at 10am**. This sacrament and ceremony are in preparation for First Holy Communion in May. Mrs Kelly has produced a preparation booklet for all children to practice their prayers, songs, and responses.

P4 children will travel by bus to the Church and should arrive for 9:45am. The first four rows on the left-hand side of the Church will be reserved for the children. Parents and family members are welcome to attend and we would ask that you sit in the rows on the right-hand side of the Church.

SUSTRANS Big Walk and Wheel Week

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is taking place 20-31 March 2023. It inspires pupils to make active journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world. On each day of the challenge, schools compete to see who can get the highest percentage of their pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school. The school's best five days will determine our final position. Further information will be issued in due course by Miss Moran and the ECO-Team.

Stuart Reid -Author Visit

We will be hosting a visit from the award-winning Scottish author Stuart Reid on **Monday 27th March 2023**. Stuart's first book won the Silver Medal at the Forward National Literature Awards. His books were written to inspire children to read for pleasure. Stuart's latest book 'Grandpa Jock and the Incredible Iron-Bru-Man Incident' was launched at the Edinburgh Festival.

Stuart will begin the day with a book reading assembly and activities with the whole school. He will then deliver separate creative writing workshops with the P5 and P6 children.

At **1:30pm**, there will be an opportunity for parents to attend a parents' session on the value of reading with your child. Stuart's events are very engaging and enthusiastic, and we hope to see as many parents as possible attend.

Pupils can purchase books on the day, all signed by the author, with a personal dedication to each child. Book prices are £7 each, two for £12, or a school special offer of five books for £20.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please continue to refer to the calendar on the school website for all upcoming events and dates for your diary on the school website and the calendar tab on the Schools NI app on your mobile phone device

St. Patrick's Day Green Day - Wednesday 16th March 2022

Sacrament of Penance - Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 10am

(St. Patrick's Chapel, Ballinderry – P4 pupils -Parents/guardians family members welcome to attend.)

P2 Easter Story - Wednesday 5th April 2023 at 2pm

(P2 parents/guardians and family members welcome to attend.)

First Holy Communion - Saturday 13th May 2023 at 12:30pm

(St. Patrick's Chapel, Ballinderry)

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Friday 17th March 2023 – St. Patrick's Day

Monday 20th March 2023 – Staff Development Day

School will finish on **Holy Thursday (6th April) at 11am** for Easter Holidays.

Easter Holidays -Friday 7th – Friday 14th April (Inclusive)

School will reopen Monday 17th April



**"Where We Always Believe
That We Will Achieve!!"**