



May 2024 Newsletter



We would like to wish our amazing Primary 4 children every blessing as they make their First Holy Communion on Friday 10th May. 11am P4RC, 1pm P4BD/JG. A photographer will be available before, during and after the ceremonies. All parents/guardians welcome to attend. The ceremonies will also be streamed on the Parish Webcam which can be accessed here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WatersideParish>



In May we Remember Our Lady. Children are welcome to bring in flowers to adorn our May Altar in school.

Dates for the Diary:



- Sports Day for P1-P7 will be held on Thursday 13th June (weather permitting). Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend. More information to follow...

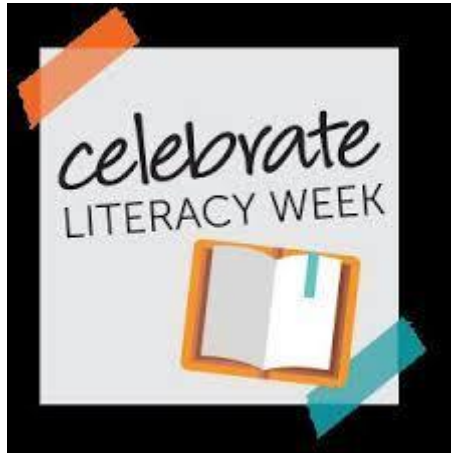
The school will be closed for all pupils on the following dates in May:

- Monday 6th May 2024
- Monday 27th May 2024 &
- Tuesday 28th May 2024



The **Nursery** will finish after their graduation ceremony on Friday 21st June.
P1-P7: The school will close on Friday 28th June at 12noon for the Summer Holidays.

Literacy Week Celebrations



Monday 13th May- Friday 17th May 2024

- Scolastic Book Fair in school all week- if you wish your child to purchase a book please send in money in an envelope with their name marked on it.
- **Sales also open from 2pm-3pm Monday-Wednesday** if you wish to accompany your child to choose a book- please call into the school office first.
- **Thursday 16th May-** dress up as a book character
- **Friday 17th May-** non-uniform
- **Get creative-** design a book cover of your own. P3-P7 should include the detail of a blurb on their design. All entries to be in for **Friday 17th May**.
- **Friday 17th May-** Mr Murphy the Music Man will be in to lead the children in song and rhyme.

Friends' of Good Shepherd School Disco

Wednesday 1st May @ 2.30pm organisation meeting- all parents/guardians welcome...we need your help!

Disco will take place on **Thursday 30th May**

5.30pm-6.15pm P1-P4

6.30pm-7.30pm P5-P7

£3 Entry & Tuck Shop Available





Chess Club Update...

Due to circumstances beyond our control, chess club will not run for the duration initially planned for. The last lesson of the current block will be **Tuesday 14th May**. 4 weeks will be refunded back to those participating on ParentPay. Thank you for your co-operation.



Teaching and learning starts at 9am every day. It is important that your child is punctual for school. School gates open from 8.45am. **Breakfast club is open from 8.10am. No need to book in for the breakfast club- £1 a day per child.** **Please enter the school grounds via the Nursery pedestrian gate.** In the interests of health and safety, children should not be left unsupervised at the school gates before they open.

Sun Safety Reminder:



We would encourage Parents/Guardians to apply sun cream on their child before they start school each day if the weather indicates a risk. Children can bring a sunhat to school (please label with their name). We would also encourage the children to bring water each day to stay hydrated. Summer uniform can be worn anytime in the third term. Boys may wish to wear plain navy shorts and a short sleeve white shirt, while girls may wish to wear blue/navy gingham summer dress.

Our Sun Safety Policy can be accessed here:

https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/embed.aspx?src=https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassets/swd/475/docletter/20210325024627_80_Good_shepherd_care_in_the_sun.docx



sustrans

JOIN THE MOVEMENT



We are delighted to be welcoming Donna our Sustrans officer back into school on Thursday 9th May. She will be leading a P6/P7 cycle skills workshop of 12 cyclists... please book your child's place here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/vgrrOzagGF>



DITCH THE STABILISERS

Fun session to help children progress on their cycling journey



With the help of a parent/carer this session will encourage transition from balance bikes or stabilisers to two wheels.

- Balance and control
- Braking techniques
- Cycling independently

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Then on the afternoon of Thursday 9th May- after school (2pm-3.30pm), Donna will be leading a 'ditch the stabilisers' workshop for P1 & P2 children with their parent/guardian.

Please book your place here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/1Cx9GVu55V>

| Date | What's on? |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 1 st May | Friends of Good Shepherd: DISCO organisation meeting- all new members welcome @2.30pm |
| Wednesday 1 st May | After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Week 6 |
| Wednesday 1 st May | P7MF & P7DH classes swimming week 5 (missed lesson on 24/4/24) |
| Wednesday 1 st May | After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 4 |
| Thursday 2 nd May | After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 3 |
| Friday 3 rd May | P5DW class swimming week 6 |
| Monday 6th May | School Closed |
| Tuesday 7 th May | Afterschool Singing Lessons Week 5 P1 & P2 2-2.45pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-3.45pm |
| Tuesday 7 th May | Chess Club 3-4pm P5, P6 & P7 Week 4 |
| Wednesday 8 th May | Meet the Lifeguards- Water Safety Assembly |

| Date | What's on? |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 8 th May | Foundation Stage Community Reading Partnership ends |
| Wednesday 8 th May | After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Week 7 |
| Wednesday 8 th May | P7MF & P7DH classes swimming week 6 |
| Wednesday 8 th May | After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 5 |
| Thursday 9 th May | P6/P7 cycle skills- 12 places available |
| Thursday 9 th May | P1 & P2 ditch the stabilisers 2pm-3.30pm |
| Thursday 9 th May | Fiona Collins from Dublin Changer Maker Schools Award Visits Good Shepherd |
| Thursday 9 th May | After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 4 |
| Friday 10 th May | First Holy Communion in St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road. 11am P4RC, 1pm P4 BD/JG |
| Friday 10 th May | P5DW class swimming week 7 |
| Monday 13th May-Friday 17th May: Literacy Week | |
| Monday 13 th May- Friday 17 th May Scholastic Book Fair | If you wish your child to purchase a book please send in money with your child in a clearly marked envelope and a member of staff will assist them. Monday-Wednesday Parents/Guardians welcome to come in from 2-3pm to assist their child in selecting a book. Please enter via the school office. |
| Monday 13 th May | After School R9 Sports P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm. Week 5 |
| Monday 13 th May | After School Mini Professors P1 & P2: 2-2.50pm, P3 & P4: 3-3.50pm Week 4 |
| Tuesday 14 th May | Afterschool Singing Lessons Week 6 P1 & P2 2-2.45pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-3.45pm |
| Tuesday 14 th May | New Nursery Children Stay and Play Sessions 2pm & 2.30pm |
| Tuesday 14 th May | Chess Club 3-4pm P5, P6 & P7 Week 5 Last Week |
| Wednesday 15 th May | After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Week 8 |
| Wednesday 15 th May | New Nursery Children Stay and Play Sessions 2pm & 2.30pm |
| Wednesday 15 th May | P6 School Trip to Magilligan Field Centre |
| Wednesday 15 th May | P7MF & P7DH classes swimming week 7 |
| Wednesday 15 th May | After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 6 |
| Thursday 16 th May | After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 5 |
| Thursday 16 th May | Dress Up as a book character |
| Friday 17 th May | Non-Uniform Day |
| Friday 17 th May | Last day for book sales |
| Friday 17 th May | Mr Murphy- song, rhyme and tales workshop |

| Date | What's on? |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Friday 17 th May | P7 Visit Ardmore Cricket Club 'Kwik Cricket' Schools' Day |
| Friday 17 th May | P5DW class swimming week 8 |
| Saturday 18 th May | P7 Post Primary Applications: Parents/Guardians informed of allocated schools by Education Authority via email. Education Authority Admissions Helpdesk Tel: 028 9598 5595 Email: postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk |
| Monday 20 th May | After School R9 Sports P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm. Week 6 |
| Monday 20 th May | After School Mini Professors P1 & P2: 2-2.50pm, P3 & P4: 3-3.50pm Week 5 |
| Tuesday 21 st May | Afterschool Singing Lessons Week 7 P1 & P2 2-2.45pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-3.45pm |
| Wednesday 22 nd May | After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Week 9 |
| Wednesday 22 nd May | P7MF & P7DH classes swimming week 8 |
| Wednesday 22 nd May | After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 7 |
| Thursday 23 rd May | After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 6 |
| Friday 24 th May | P5DW class swimming week 9 |
| Friday 24 th May | P6 Visit to Magilligan Field Centre |
| Monday 27 th May | School Closed |
| Tuesday 28 th May | School Closed |
| Wednesday 29 th May | After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Week 10 Last Week |
| Wednesday 29 th May | P7MF & P7DH classes swimming week 10 Last Week |
| Wednesday 29 th May | After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 8 |
| Thursday 30 th May | Friends of Good Shepherd School Disco with DJ 'Conka' McBride 5.30-6.15pm P1-P4 6.30-7.30pm P5-P7 Tuck Shop available £3 entry |
| Thursday 30 th May | After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 7 |
| Friday 31 st May | Nursery Parents/Guardians Induction Meeting 2pm-2.30pm |
| Friday 31 st May | P1 Parents/Guardians Induction Meeting 2.45pm-3.15pm in the assembly hall |
| Friday 31 st May | P5DW class swimming week 10 |

Safeguarding Information



In the interests of health and safety we now ask that children do not bring any shellfish products or nut products to school for either break or lunch. This includes Nutella.



We would like to take the opportunity to remind parents/guardians that **no cars are permitted inside the school grounds at any time** unless this has been pre-arranged with Mrs McCafferty or you are a blue badge holder. Please share this information with grandparents and childminders as refusal often causes offence.

Please ensure that the school gates are kept clear. Cars should not be parked on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school gates at any time. Please talk to your child about general road safety. Enter and exit the school using the pedestrian gates only. Once your child is collected from school, please keep them beside you at all times. These measures are in the interest of everyone's health and safety. Thank you!

Members of the Schools Safeguarding team are:

The Chair of the Board of Governors (Mr P. Duffy)

The Designated Governor for Child Protection (Dr M Gormley)

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs Maria Harley)

Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs S. McCafferty).

Other members of Safeguarding Team:

Mrs P. Houston/Mrs R Warne /Mrs Kyle/ Mrs A Kivlehan/Mr D Herron.

School policies can be found on the school website under the 'My School' section. There is also a wide range of support information for parents in the 'Parents Section' of the school website. This is updated regularly.

The school holiday lists can be accessed here:

<https://www.goodshepherdps.net/parents-area/holiday-list/>

The new school dinner menu can be accessed here- please check which week we are on as there is a 4 week menu:

https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/475/docletter/20240320013334_91_PS_Spring_Summer_24_P1-P7.pdf



Please ensure that you download the Schools NI App which is linked to our website. Click on the ? on the app and ensure that notifications are turned on. This is our central means of communication.