



March 2023 Newsletter



The school holiday list for 2023-24 is now on the school website in the Parents Area.

New After School Clubs!

Starting Monday 6th March 2023

P1 & P2 'Lego Engineers Club' 2-3pm

Book here:

https://www.glowgroupni.com/service-page/good-shepherd-ps-little-lego-engineers?referral=service_list_widget

P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 'Coding & Minecraft Club' 3-4pm

Book here: https://www.glowgroupni.com/service-page/good-shepherd-ps-coding-and-robotics?referral=service_list_widget

There are 24 places for each club, and they will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. See more information on the attached flyers below.

Please check the school newsletter for the dates for all clubs.

Primary 1 & Primary 2:

GLOW

GROUP

BUILDING EDUCATION THROUGH PLAY!

presents

LEGO Engineers Club

- After School Club -

Little LEGO Engineers is an after schools club introducing student builders into the world of engineering and mechanics, through the use of LEGO. Throughout our experiences we have a huge focus on fun while implementing Science technology , engineering , art and maths (STEAM) into each session. You'll build motorised go-karts, helicopters, Lorry's and much more.



£40

for 8x1
hour lessons



Little LEGO Engineers will engage young people in fun, hands on activites that will support the learning of STEM subjects in an independent home setting, using



Primary 3- Primary 7:

GLOW

GROUP

BUILDING EDUCATION THROUGH PLAY!

presents

Coding and Minecraft

- After School Club -

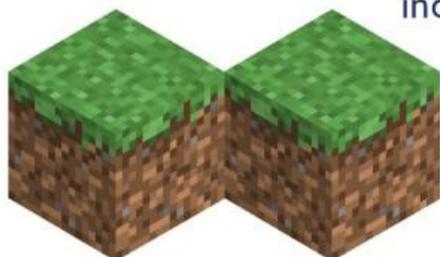
The STEAM coding club involves pupils tinkering with art, electronic and everyday materials to acquire an understanding of how the world around them works. We support their introduction to science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM) through fun, engaging activities and projects where they learn how they can demonstrate core scientific principles or create innovations of their own through the use of coding. Our artist-maker ethos prioritizes discovery through age-appropriate experimentation, knowledge-building exercises and practical application of theory in a fun, interactive environment.



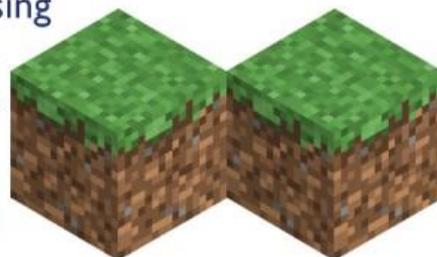
£40
for 8x1
hour lessons



S.T.E.A.M Coding Club will engage young people in fun, hands on activities that will support the learning of STEM subjects in an independent home setting, using



MINECRAFT





We would like to give a special word of thanks to Mrs Mary Hegarty, who stepped down from her position as Chair of the Board of Governors recently. Her dedication and support of the school has been outstanding over many years.

We would also like to congratulate Mr Philip Duffy on his appointment as Chair of the Board of Governors and Mr Nigel Sproule on his election of Vice Chair.



We would like to congratulate Alex on his recent qualification to the finals of the Northern Ireland Cross Country League. This is a great achievement. Alex will compete at the final on Friday 3rd March in Mallusk.

Good luck Alex from everyone at Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School!



We are delighted to welcome Miss Lauren Clifford on teaching practice from The Ulster University. Miss Clifford will be under the direction and support of Mrs Kivlehan in Primary 1.



Dear Parents/Carers,

Get set... we're taking part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2023 the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 20-31 March. It's free and we would love everyone to be involved.

What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.

Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. [A 2021 YouGov study](#) showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best way to bring down these pollution levels.

Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

Useful resources

To help you prepare, Sustrans has developed a handy free guide to walking, cycling or scooting to school. It is packed with advice to help you have hassle-free journey to school. [Download your free family guide](https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-guide/) using this link: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-guide/>

For more information about the event go to www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk . Enjoy the challenge!

Best wishes

Mrs S. McCafferty



New Education Authority Youth Centre

The Youth Centre which is located next door to the school will be undergoing major development works commencing on Monday 13th February. **There will be increased pressures on parking in and around the school grounds during this construction work.** This may be a great opportunity for local families to begin walking or cycling to school.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind our school community on the various procedures in which to follow to ensure the health and safety of everyone.

- Parents/guardians are not permitted to drive into the school ground unless they are blue badge holders or there is a special arrangement made with Mrs McCafferty.
- Those attending the breakfast club should be accompanied by an adult to the canteen door and enter the school grounds via the top pedestrian gate located near the nursery.
- Please do not park on the yellow zig zag lines outside the school gates as they are essential for visibility.
- Please use the school crossing patrol

What's on at Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School?

Date	What's on?
1/3/23	Dance Club- WEEK 7 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
2/3/23	After School Yoga with Lorraine
2/3/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
3/3/23	Primary 7 Mrs Forbes Class: creative writing workshop with Steven from Sustrans
3/3/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 6
3/3/23	Northern Ireland Cross Country Final- Good Luck Alex!
6/3/23	Lego Engineers Club Primary 1 & Primary 2: 2-3pm WEEK 1 Coding & Minecraft Club P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm WEEK 1
7/3/23	Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service Visit Primary 5
7/3/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 8 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
8/3/23	Dance Club- WEEK 8 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
9/3/23	Primary 3 visit the Waterside Theatre for 'Granny D' performance @10am
9/3/23	After School Yoga with Lorraine. LAST WEEK
9/3/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
10/3/23	Boys Gaelic Blitz
10/3/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 7
13/3/23	Céilí Dancing with Mary McGuigan Primary 1-Primary 7
13/3/23	Lego Engineers Club Primary 1 & Primary 2: 2-3pm NO CLASS THIS WEEK Coding & Minecraft Club P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm NO CLASS THIS WEEK
14/3/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 9 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
15/3/23	Dance Club- WEEK 9 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
16/3/23	No After School Clubs today
16/3/23	Wear green/non-uniform
Friday 17th March- School Closed for St. Patrick's Day	
Monday 20th – Friday 31st March	
Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel Initiative	
20/3/23	Lego Engineers Club Primary 1 & Primary 2: 2-3pm WEEK 2 Coding & Minecraft Club P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm WEEK 2
21/3/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 10. LAST WEEK OF CURRENT BLOCK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7

Date	What's on?
22/3/23	Primary 2 Mrs Desmond/Miss Logue's Class Assembly @9.30am in the assembly hall
22/3/23	Dance Club- WEEK 10. LAST WEEK OF CURRENT BLOCK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
22/3/23	Chess Club P5, P6 & P7. WEEK 1
23/3/23	Primary 2 Mrs Chambers' Class Assembly @9.30am in the assembly hall
23/3/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
24/3/23	Girls Gaelic Blitz
24/3/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 8
27/3/23	Lego Engineers Club Primary 1 & Primary 2: 2-3pm WEEK 3 Coding & Minecraft Club P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm WEEK 3
28/3/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 1. FIRST WEEK OF NEW 10 WEEK BLOCK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7 Booking opening soon here: http://www.skillschoolni.com/
29/3/23	Dance Club- WEEK 1. FIRST WEEK OF NEW 10 WEEK BLOCK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7 Booking opening soon here: http://www.skillschoolni.com/
29/3/23	Chess Club P5, P6 & P7. WEEK 2
30/3/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
31/3/23	Boys Gaelic Blitz
31/3/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 9
1/4/23	Sacrament of Confirmation. St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road. Mr Herron's class @ 11am Ms Forbes class @ 1pm



We would like to take the opportunity to wish our Primary 7 children who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 1st April every blessing. May the Holy Spirit guide you and keep you safe.



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. Nursery-Primary 7 are welcome to attend. Please enter the school grounds via the Nursery pedestrian gate.**



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.

HSC Public Health Agency

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhea &/or Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Respiratory Illness (e.g colds & flu) Can return when no longer have a high temperature and well enough	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	
Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off if well enough, but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotics	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	German Measles (Rubella) 5 days from onset of rash
Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Scabies Until after first treatment	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis Can return when no longer have a temperature and well enough, school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 hours after commencing antibiotics

Use this guide to find out when they should stay off, and when they can go back if they are well enough to do so.

Safeguarding Information



I 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. Please cross the road using the school crossing patrol. 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 Vice Chair of the Board of Governors (Mr N. Sproule)

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 F Desmond, Mrs M Mc Cormack & Mr D Herron.

School policies can be found on the school website under the 'My School' section. The following policies have been recently ratified by the Board of Governors: Period Dignity, Health & Safety, First Aid & Child Protection. There is also a wide range of support information for parents in the 'Parents Section' of the school website. This is updated regularly.