



June 2023 Newsletter

Our final month of the school year has arrived...please read through carefully all the information put together in this month's newsletter.



I would like to take the opportunity to share with our school community that Mrs Fiona Desmond will be retiring at the end of June. Mrs Desmond has been teaching here in Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School since 1987. Her kind, nurturing and gentle ways will be sorely missed by the children, parents and staff. We wish her every happiness as she begins the next chapter of her life and thank her for everything she has given to the Waterside Community.



Tickets for our P5-P7 school show can be purchased via Parentpay at £5 per ticket. Parents/Guardians in P5-P7 will be limited to 2 tickets.

The shows will be on:

Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th June

at 1.15pm in the school assembly hall.



We will be holding sports day for P1-P7 (weather permitting) on Friday 2nd June. Please see attached timetable of events below.

- Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend from 9.30am onwards.
- Light refreshments will be served in the school canteen between 10-11am for Parents/Guardians.
- Please note that in the interests of health and safety, that all children must remain with their class teacher. It is a full school day as normal.
- Children should wear their own appropriate sports gear and suncream if the weather suggests necessary.

We look forward to a day of celebrating achievement and the participation of all with our school community. There will also be a special treat for each child on Friday 9th June for their participation.

**Good Shepherd Primary and Nursery School
Sports Day Timetable of Events**

Time	P1, P2, P3	P4, P5, P6, P7
9.30-10.15	P1-P2 Sports Activities - Lower Playground P3 Sprint/Relay Races - Top Playground	9:30 - 12 noon Basketball shoot (PE hall)
10.30-10.45 (BREAK)	Break	Standing long jump/Tug O War (Grass below Nursery)
11.00-11.45	P1-P2 Sprint Races - Top Playground P1-P3 Sport Activities - Lower Playground P1-3 Sports Day Activities conclude by lunchtime	Penalty kick (Grass below Nursery) 7-a-side football (Football Cage)
12.00-1.00	LUNCH	
1.00-2.00	P1-P2 Play activities in class	1.00 - 2.45 P4-P7 Sprints & Relay Races
1.00-3.00	P3 Play activities in class	

As we approach the end of the school year, please ensure any outstanding balances on ParentPay are settled, including dinner money.
Thank you!



Our uniform swop shop is back! Children can wear their own clothes from Monday 26th June until the end of the school year in order for uniforms to be donated. **However, Primary 7 children will need to wear their uniform on Thursday 29th June for their leavers mass.**

Please leave any donations of clean, good quality uniforms into school on Monday 26th June to the school office. We welcome Nursery- Primary 7 uniforms.

We welcome donations of: any uniform items, coats or shoes and school book bags which are in good condition.

Uniforms will then be organised for parents/guardians to browse and collect on **both Tuesday 27th June and Wednesday 28th June 9-4pm** from the school assembly hall. All Free!

Any uniforms donated which have not been collected will be donated to a local charity.

We also ask for everyone to have a hunt at home for any school books and return them. Thank you!

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.

Date	What's On?
1/6/23	Primary 1 Induction meeting @1pm in the assembly hall
1/6/23	P6 Orienteering with Steven from Sustrans
1/6/23	Ditch the Stabilisers event 3-4pm
2/6/23	Primary 1- Primary 7 Sports Day
5/6/23	Lego Engineers Club CANCELLED Coding & Minecraft Club CANCELLED
5/6/23	New Nursery Children Stay and Play Sessions
5/6/23	Primary 1 Stay and Play Sessions
6/6/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 9 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
6/6/23	Primary 1 Stay and Play Sessions
6/6/23	New Nursery Children Stay and Play Sessions
7/6/23	Primary 7 (both classes) Swimming
7/6/23	Dance Club- WEEK 8 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
7/6/23	North West Swimming Gala
8/6/23	Fan the Flame P7 Mass @Celtic Park
9/6/23	Sports Day Presentation of Medals and treat
9/6/23	Primary 5 Mrs Wilson's class Swimming
9/6/23	P6 cycling proficiency: Greenway cycle with Steven from Sustrans
12/6/23	New Nursery Children Induction Meeting @2pm in the Assembly Hall
12/6/23	Lego Engineers Club Primary 1 & Primary 2: 2-3pm LAST WEEK Coding & Minecraft Club P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm LAST WEEK
13/6/23	Multi-sport after school club- LAST WEEK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
14/6/21	Primary 7 (both classes) Swimming
14/6/23	P5-P7 'Star Warts' school show @1.15pm
14/6/23	Dance Club- WEEK 9 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
15/6/23	P5-P7 'Star Warts' school show @1.15pm
15/6/23	Primary 1 & Primary 2 Outing
15/6/23	Nursery Sports Day
16/6/23	Primary 5 Mrs Wilson's class Swimming
16/6/23	Primary 6 St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's taster day
16/6/23	Sainsbury's Big Breakfast morning for Primary 7
16/6/23	Student Council Pyjamas Day £1 in aid of School Funds Children are permitted to wear their pyjamas to school but must wear trainers/school shoes.
21/6/23	Primary 7 (both classes) Swimming- LAST WEEK
21/6/23	Dance Club- LAST WEEK 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
22/6/23	Nursery visit The Playshed

Date	What's On?
22/6/23	Primary 6 visit The Tower Museum
22/6/23	Nursery end of year reports issued
23/6/23	Nursery Graduation @9.30am and finish. 3 Parents/Guardians welcome to attend in the assembly hall. Refreshments served in the canteen after.
23/6/23	Primary 5 Mrs Wilson's class Swimming-LAST WEEK (2 weeks to be refunded due to the elections and sports day)
23/6/23	Primary 1-Primary 7 end of year reports issued
26/6/23	Primary 7 visit Carrowmena
26/6/23	Non-uniform from today onwards
26/6/23	Uniform donations welcome- please leave at the office
26/6/23	P3 visit tropical world
27/6/23	Uniform swop shop open to all- take what you need! 9-4pm
28/6/23	Uniform swop shop open to all- take what you need! 9-4pm
29/6/23	Primary 7 Leavers Mass in St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road at 11am. All welcome to attend. This can also be watched via the parish webcam: https://www.youtube.com/@WatersideParish
30/6/23	School closes at 12noon for P1-P7 children. Dinners only available. Those who take packed lunch should have their lunch at home.

School reopens for children on Friday 1st September 2023.
Nursery and Primary 1 children will have individual start times.
School reopening information will be communicated in due course via the school website and schools NI app.



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.



Holiday List 2023-2024

Parent/Guardian Copy
School re-opens for children on

Friday 1st September 2023



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

Month	Dates (Inclusive)
October (Halloween)	Monday 30 th October 2023 Tuesday 31 st October 2023
November (Halloween)	Wednesday 1 st November 2023 Thursday 2 nd November 2023 Friday 3 rd November 2023
Parents Meetings (Nursery-Primary 6)	Thursday 30 th November 2023 Friday 1 st December 2023
December (Christmas)	Friday 22 nd December 2023 Monday 25 th December 2023 Tuesday 26 th December 2023 Wednesday 27 th December 2023 Thursday 28 th December 2023 Friday 29 th December 2023
January (New Year)	Monday 1 st January 2024 Tuesday 2 nd January 2024
February (Midterm)	Monday 12 th February 2024 Tuesday 13 th February 2024 Wednesday 14 th February 2024 Thursday 15 th February 2024 Friday 16 th February 2024
March (St. Patrick's Day)	Monday 18 th March 2024
March/April (Easter)	Thursday 28 th March 2024 Friday 29 th March 2024 Monday 1 st April 2024 Tuesday 2 nd April 2024 Wednesday 3 rd April 2024 Thursday 4 th April 2024 Friday 5 th April 2024
May (Bank Holiday)	Monday 6 th May 2024 Monday 27 th May 2024 Tuesday 28 th May 2024

Total number of days at school: 185

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!

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

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. There is also a wide range of support information for parents in the 'Parents Section' of the school website. This is updated regularly.

PRAYER TO END A SCHOOL YEAR

God of Wisdom, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year. We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace. We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.



On behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish our entire school community a safe and happy summer break. Thank you for all your support throughout the year. *Mrs S. McCafferty*