



St Mary's Primary School and Nursery



November 2017

www.stmaryspsbellaghy.co.uk

TERM 1b DATES

Wednesday 31st August –
Thursday 22nd December

**School closes for Christmas
on Friday 22nd December at
11am and reopens on
Monday 8th January for all
classes.**

Term 1 SCHOOL CLOSURES

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER
1pm finish Christmas Dinner
FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
Feast of the Immaculate
Conception.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Wed 15th NOVEMBER
Flu vaccine

Wed 15th NOVEMBER
P5 Life in Early Times

Thurs 16th NOVEMBER
P3&4 INTO Film Festival

Mon 20th NOVEMBER
BRIGHT DAY DRESS UP

FRI 24TH NOVEMBER
P2-7 Parent Teacher Meetings

Thurs 7th DECEMBER
School Christmas Dinner
£2.60
School will close at 1pm on
this day



NOVEMBER THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Remember, remember,
Remember those who've died,
In peace and rest,
May they be blessed,
May God be close beside
May God be close beside

God keep them, God bless them,
God shine your light on them,
Forever and forever,
Forever more Amen,
Forever more Amen.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

We gather at this time of year to recall with love those who have passed away and whose memory is dear to us. We remember family, friends, staff members and students who have been part of our school community.

In the hall notice board, we wish to create a whole school 'Garden of Remembrance'. Each family is invited to create a flower in memory of someone who has died. We wish to celebrate their memory and share stories about them. These flowers will be displayed throughout the month and we will offer our morning prayers and prayers throughout the day for those who have died.

While we may have sadness in our hearts that they are no longer with us, we trust they are with the Father in heaven and we encourage the children to celebrate and remember their life.

Childhood is a unique experience.

Respect it.

Enjoy it.

Protect it.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

PRIMARY 1

Nursery and Primary 1 Parents have already had their Settling In Meetings. Progress meetings for these classes will be held in February.

PRIMARY 2-7

Parent Teacher Meetings will be on Friday 24th November in the school hall. Each meeting is expected to last between 10-15 minutes. Times will be sent home by the class teacher.

On Friday 24th November the school is open for Nursery and Primary 1 children only.

Please be reminded that you can make an appointment to meet the class teacher at any time during the school year.

!!!SCHOOL COUNCIL GET TOUGH ON LUNCHTIME!!

The school council held their first meeting of the year. They agreed again that Monday would be 'Treat Day'. We ask parents to support us in this by only sending one lunchbox treat to school on a Monday, such as a small chocolate bar/biscuit – no crisps. All other days of the week lunchboxes should not include chocolate or crisps.

ECO COUNCIL

New Eco members were elected in each class! If any parents have any ideas for projects or want to get involved in maintaining the school environment, please speak to Mrs Bradley (P7 teacher).



Week Beginning 27th November, Eco Council are leading 'Waste Reduction Week'.

The week starts with an assembly led by Mid-Ulster Council and the children will be coming home with tips and ideas on how you can reduce the amount of wastage!

Primary 5 Mesolithic Day

Wednesday 15th November

HEAD LICE

We remind parents to check their children's hair regularly for head lice and treat as appropriately.

WORLD MATHS WEEK IRELAND

Classes were engaged in fun interactive activities as part of World Maths Week. Teachers swapped classes and there was a super buzz in the school Thank you to all the staff for their efforts.



PE

REMINDER: School PE Policy.

All children must have shorts for PE. Tracksuit bottoms are not allowed due to being a trip hazard.

All children are to wear their full uniform on PE days and P5-7 must change back into their white tops after the lesson. This promotes health and hygiene. We thank parents for their support in this policy.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND EARLY CLOSURE

Christmas dinner will be celebrated on Thursday 7th December and will cost £2.60 per child. School will close at 1pm on this day.

P3&4 INTO Film FESTIVAL

Primary 3&4 will be travelling to Maghera Cinema on Thursday 16th Nov as part of the INTO Film Festival. Children will watch an Autism Friendly screening of Captain Underpants Saves the World. Admission into the cinema is free. We ask for £3 contribution towards the cost of the buses.

FLU VACCINE

School Nursing Service will be in school on Wednesday 15th November to distribute the Flu Nasal Vaccine. If you have not yet returned your forms please do so as soon as possible.

All forms need to be filled in and returned, even if you do not wish your child to receive the vaccine.

WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME

We were delighted to welcome three students from St Mary's Teacher Training College. We hope they enjoy their time at St Mary's.

ACCELERATED READING

Congratulations to pupils who received Accelerated Reader Certificates at our October Assembly. It is fantastic to see so many super readers making such good use of our school library. Keep up the reading!!



SPOOKY FUN IN ST MARY'S

We had our annual Halloween Dress-up on Friday 27th and the money raised will go towards our chosen charity for this year: AUTISM NI
The children had super fun and their costumes were fantastic. More photos on our school website.



PRIMARY FOUR ENROLMENT MASS

The Primary Four boys and girls had their enrolment ceremony for the sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist on Sunday 22nd October. It was a lovely service and we wish to pass on our thanks to Monsignor Dolan and the 'Do this in Memory Parent Group' for all their hard work and support.

Sunday Mass dates for the 'Do This In Memory' Programme

Sunday 26th November 2017
Sunday 14th January 2018
Sunday 11th February 2018
Sunday 25th March 2018
Sunday 15th April 2018

First Eucharist Saturday 28th April 2018 2pm

AFTER SCHOOLS

**REMINDER: All afterschool clubs finish at 4pm.
Please ensure the children are collected promptly.**

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

We are running a number of clubs for P3-7 this term. Some of the clubs will be supervised by an assistant or a teacher. Eldest child will receive a leaflet tomorrow. As we do not receive Extended Schools funding, there will be a small cost £1 per week per club to cover costs. We hope these clubs will provide additional childcare support for parents and be fun activities for the children. If any parent has a skill which they could use to support us, please contact Mrs McCann.

CHOIR

Thursday 3-4pm

Choir is open to children from P4-7.

New members are always very welcome!

223 CLUB

2o'clock to 3o'clock club is available every day for P1-3 children. **Cost £2 per afternoon**

PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographer is back in school on Thursday 23rd November. If any child missed their photograph, please contact Nicola. Only photos of those who have requested it will be taken.

Anti-Bullying Week

13-17th November 2017



The theme this year is

'All Equal, Different Together' with the following key aims:

- empower children and young people to celebrate what makes them, and others, unique
- help children and young people understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying
- encourage parents and carers to work with their school and talk to their children about bullying, difference and equality
- enable teachers and other children's workforce professionals to celebrate what makes us 'all different, all equal' and celebrate difference and equality. Encouraging them to take individual and collective action to prevent bullying, creating safe environments where children can be themselves.

ROAD SAFETY WEEK – Speed Down Saves Lives



We will be having:

- Poster competition in each class.
- KS2 will be debating – mobile phones while driving; drink driving; the need for speed.
- **BRIGHT DAY DRESS UP 20th Nov**
- Mrs Conway will also be taking our Annual Road Safety Assembly on Friday 1st Dec and presenting prizes.
- PSNI Officer Shona Holmes will be visiting the school to talk about keeping safe.

INTERNET SAFETY TALK

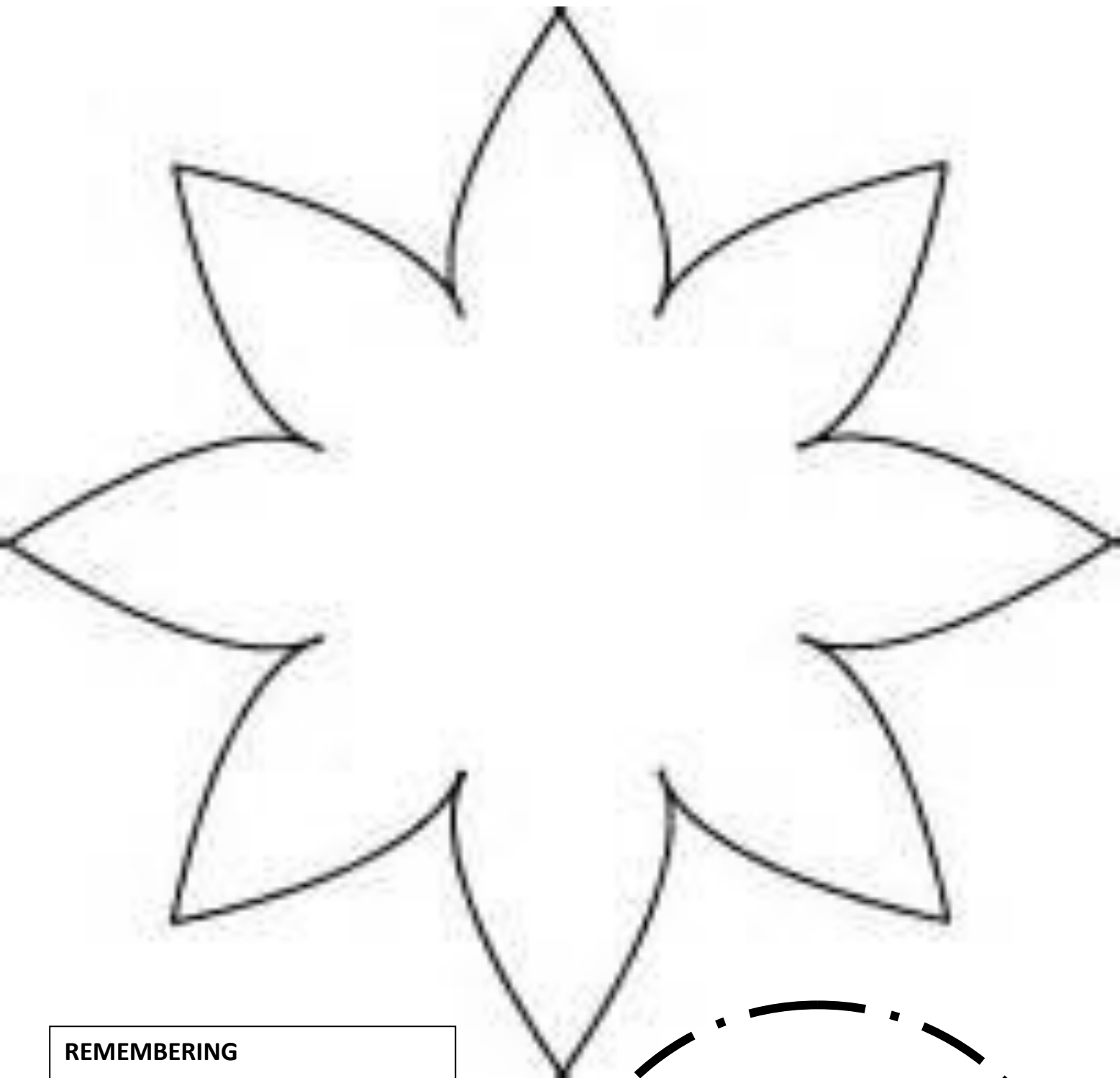
PSNI Officer Shona Holmes will be taking an assembly for P3-7 on Thursday 30th November to discuss how to keep safe when using the internet. We encourage parents to discuss this issue with their children.

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REMEMBERING

Colour your flower or cover it with wrapping paper. Cut it out.

Within the circle, draw a picture and write the name of a person who has died and you wish to remember in our prayers for the month of November.

