



PARENT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014



Important Dates

Easter Holidays

Holy Trinity PS will close at 11:30 am on Wednesday 16th April. There will be no dinners on this day. School will reopen on Monday 28th April.

Sacramental Dates

First Penance Ceremony – Thursday 3rd April in Holy Trinity Church at 10.45. Children may go home after the ceremony.

First Communion- Saturday 17th May at 11.00 in Holy Trinity Church.

Afterschool Clubs

All afterschool clubs will finish for the term on Thursday 3rd April.

Confirmation

On Friday 21st March the 93 pupils from P7 received the Sacrament of Confirmation in Holy Trinity Church. Bishop Farquhar led the ceremony and the pupils were also joined by their parents and teachers. This is one of the most important days in the school and parish calendar and as usual it was a beautiful and uplifting ceremony. It was an inspiring day and the music, led by our Primary 6 and 7 classes, greatly enhanced the occasion.

Key Stage One Assembly

Mrs Graham's and Mrs Mc Manus' Primary 2 classes led the Key Stage One Assembly, which this month was on the theme of Saint Patrick. The pupils displayed fantastic dramatic ability and spoke and sang beautifully in front of a large crowd of enthusiastic

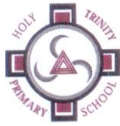
children and proud parents. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage One awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Daire Keenan, Rhys Brady, Martin Morris, Casey Walsh, Aliyah Beck, Mia McIlkenny, Dylan Brown, Jaidion McLaughlin, Fionnuala McCann Flynn, Brandon Gibson, Steven McCusker, Katie-Lee Robinson, Stacey-Leigh Davidson, Nathan Patterson McKenna, Michaela Tierney, Patrice McAllister and Lacey Hammond. Once again, congratulations to all these pupils.

Key Stage Two Assembly

Mr Mc Crory's and Miss Murphy's classes led the Key Stage Two Assembly for March on the theme of 'Diversity'. In an item full of song, dance and acting the pupils gave us all the message that we should celebrate our differences. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage Two awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Caeloan Rice, Jake Patton, Callum Walsh, Oisín Boylan, Emma Dixon, Chloe Hughes, Sean-Christopher Carleton, Shanice Muir, Lauziata Quinn, Cora Laverty, Declan Corbett, Joseph Cahill Berry, Megan Corbett and Ciaran Loughran. Congratulations to them all.

IET Smart Energy Project

P6LM have been taking part in IET Smart Energy Project in collaboration with Queen's University. This project is designed to stimulate young people's interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The project also hopes to raise pupils' awareness of the exciting future career opportunities available to them. The pupils got the opportunity to work with



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an engineer to carry out a number of practical activities involving renewable energy including making a solar panel, building a simple wind turbine and building a solar powered desk fan. The children thoroughly enjoyed the practical aspect of this project. They also carried out an energy audit of how the school uses energy. Our children are now more aware of the amount of energy we use on a daily basis. We will present our findings in the form of a display and presentation at Queen's University on the 6th May 2014.

All County Champions!

Holy Trinity Capture Girls' Allianz Indoor All County Title!

Congratulations to Holy Trinity girls who emerged unbeaten from the recent Allianz All County Indoor finals day held at Andersonstown Leisure Centre. Having already been crowned Belfast champions the girls moved on to do battle against the best from around County Antrim and again emerged victorious with superb victories over Glenravel (5-0), Mount St Michael from Randalstown (6-1) and St Kieran's, Belfast (6-2). The girls displayed outstanding skills as well as a tenacious will to win. This is the second time in three years Holy Trinity's girls have won this prestigious county title. They now move on to represent Antrim at the Ulster finals later this month.

Well done to all the girls: Cora Morgan, Lucy Collins, Chloe McLaughlin, Lauziata Quinn, Aisling Healy, Niamh Bellew, Zoe Mulholland and Eva Akinsehinde.

Gort Na Mona Coaching Academy

If any pupil is not currently involved with a club and have an interest in gaelic games we would encourage them to join up with our local club, Gort na Mona. Training times can be found below:

Boys and girls – 5 to 10 years old (Primary 1-6)

Hurling/Camogie & Football for boys and girls.

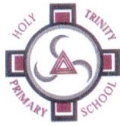
Every Sunday 10:30am - 12pm

Conservation Volunteers

The Primary 7's are engaged in an 8 week programme relating to outdoor learning based in the school sensory garden. This is organised by Holy Trinity P.S. with advice and help from Conservation Volunteers and is designed to foster the children's interest in nature, plants and wildlife. Each of the 3 classes will participate in 2-3 sessions over the programme. The children are engaged in activities e.g. digging, lifting, planting, etc., all of which develop their knowledge of the outdoor world as well as keeping our amazing sensory garden healthy and ready for the growth which occurs in Spring and Summer.

Medics in Primary School

Holy Trinity P7's are once again involved with Medics in Primary Schools Initiative, in which Queen's University medical students teach primary school children topics relating to Science. Our P7 classes are learning about the Human Body over a 10 week period. The 3 medical students are



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Lauren Hetherington, Nicole Jevons and Simon Mc Cracken. We are sure they will inspire our P7's to develop a further interest in Science and Biology, and possibly pursue a career in medicine as several of our pupils have in recent years.

Free School Meals Entitlement

Only pupils who are entitled are permitted to receive free school meals. If you are unsure if your child is entitled you can check with the office and if necessary the secretary will give you a form which must be filled out and sent to BELB.

Collecting Children

Children in Primary 4 and above finish at 2:45 pm. This fulfils the legal weekly requirement. Parents should not collect pupils in these classes at 2:00. If, in an exceptional situation, a parent needs to take a child at 2:00, they must first see Mrs Boyd or Mr White.

Parents' Room

It is good to see some new faces making use of the Parents' Room. This is situated where the 'Postman Pat' building was. Mrs Steele continues to run the activities including a coffee morning every Thursday from 9:15 to 11:15. Upcoming activities include 'Boxercise', which begins on 10th April and will run for 6 weeks (Please note the change of date).

Going Green

Holy Trinity was a sea of green on Friday 14th March as the children got ready for the St Patrick's Day celebrations. Staff and pupils were treated to an extravaganza of music, poetry and dance as the children, and a few of the staff, showed off their talents to the rest of the school. Two concerts were organised so that all our pupils got the chance to see all the items. Pupils of all ages showed off their Irish dancing skills to the delight of the audience and other children recited some poetry and sang 'as Gaelige'. Mr Colgan displayed his ability on the banjo and was joined for a few tunes by Mr Donnelly on the uilean pipes as well as pupils on tin whistles. A great day was had by all and it was fantastic to see the many gifts and talents of our pupils on display for all to see. A special word of thanks to Mr Colgan and Mrs Mc Kavanagh who co-ordinated the event.

Ulster Wildlife Trust

Belfast Hills Partnership and Ulster Wildlife Trust organised a "discovering rivers" session in Falls Park for P7MH. The P7's engaged in river dipping for aquatic invertebrates, made dragonflies and raced rubber ducks down the Ballymurphy Stream which runs through the park. The aim of the event was to educate local school children on the importance of rivers and river wildlife in Belfast. All our pupils enjoyed the chance to learn about these wonderful aspects of nature in the outdoor environment, and had an enjoyable morning.