



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

## November 2014



### Important Dates

First Communion Enrolment Service – at 10:00 Mass in Holy Trinity Church on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November.

Prize-Giving – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 1:30.

P1-5 Concert Week - Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

P6/7 Carol Service in Holy Trinity Church – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1:30.

### Mass of Commitment

The boys and girls of Primary 7 took part in their Service of Commitment during the school's October mass. During the ceremony Father Brendan explained to the children and their parents that this was an important step in their preparation for their Confirmation. All of the children showed great reverence throughout. A number of the children carried out some special duties and were commended by Father Brendan on their performance. These children were: Seamus Mc Keaveney, Jessica Murphy, Jack Daly, Tiernan Curley, Katie-Marie Downey, Olivia Rea, Rachel Kerr, Nathan Corbett, Anthony Cahill, Harry Costelloe, Leah Irvine, Leah Fisher, Aimee Ireland, Eoghan Connolly, Niall McCullough, Cora Stilges McHugh, Macy Milligan and Domhnall Sheridan. Well done to all the children involved!

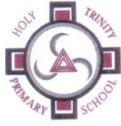
As yet we are unaware of the date of Confirmation this year. We usually get the information before Christmas. As soon as we are told we will inform our Primary 7 parents.

### Boys' Football

Congratulations to our Boys' Team on reaching the 'A' League Final. Last year the boys were promoted after winning the 'B' League. This year they faced tough opposition with previous winners St Anne's, St Bride's and Park Lodge in their section but played extremely well to emerge victorious in all three games. The final game, played at the Dub playing fields, proved a step too far for the boys this year, when they faced a very well drilled Bunscoil Phobal Feirste team. The boys have now turned their attention to the indoor 5-a-side competition in December. Holy Trinity was represented by: Rian Brown, Corey Hamill, Kyle Mc Greevy, Conal Keenan, Garric Mac Adhaimh, Corey Clarke, Callum Walsh, Conor Scannell, Sean Brown, Joshua Mc Bride, Sean-Christopher Carleton, Declan Upritchard, Conor Mooney, Patrick Mc Shane, Aaron Skelly, Aaron Mc Clean, Keelan Downey and Niall Mc Cullough.

### Primary 5 Fitness Drive

Our Primary 5 classes have been involved in a research project called 'Sport Life' run by the University of Ulster at Jordanstown. This included a questionnaire to be completed by the children on how much exercise they do per day/week etc. They had to wear monitors around their waist for 8 days to record the amount of physical activity they did. The data from the monitors was uploaded on to a computer programme. This research will be repeated in P6.



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### **Fire and Rescue Service**

Our Primary 5 classes had a visit from the Springfield Road Fire and Rescue Service to talk about the importance of safety in the home. The fire fighters impressed upon the children the importance of having a working fire alarm and having a family escape plan in the event of a fire. They also used the opportunity to discuss the dangers of fireworks.

### **P4 Trip**

As part of their project on castles our Primary 4 classes have been on a visit to Carrickfergus Castle. Thankfully the weather wasn't too bad and the children were able to appreciate the magnificent architecture. The pupils learnt about the history of Carrickfergus Castle and what it was like to live in a castle many centuries ago. They also got the opportunity to dress up in clothing of the time and they were particularly interested in the weaponry on show.

### **P6 Health and Fitness**

Our Primary 6 classes had a visit from the Dairy Council to help the pupils explore the need for balance in their lives. It is important to have a balance between the 5 food groups as part of our diet and it is important to take part in physical activities.

### **Key Stage Two Assembly**

Mrs Mc Coe and Miss Mc Laughlin's classes led the Key Stage Two Assembly, which this month was on the theme of bullying, as it is 'Anti-Bullying' Week. The children were reminded that in Holy Trinity we have a zero tolerance to bullying and that it

is vitally important that if a pupil feels they are being bullied they should talk to their teacher as soon as possible. Sometimes a pupil who is being bullied may not want to tell a teacher so pupils were reminded that if they see another pupil being bullied they should have a quiet word with a teacher so that the school can get the matter resolved.

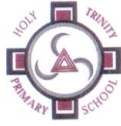
After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage Two awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Simon Stokes, Eoghan Connolly, Daniel Todd, Conor Scannell, Keelin Downey, Conor McCaw, Leah Irvine, Cora Braniff, Caoimhe Mc Laughlin, James Neill, Oisín Hutchinson, Declan Curran, Corey Irvine. Eamonn Donnelly and Toni Mc Ilwee.

### **Further Education for Parents**

Thanks to all the parents who expressed an interest in the Essential Skills courses available in English, Maths or IT. The courses are now being established. If there is anyone else who is still interested in attending any of these courses could they please let the office or Mr White know by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

### **Belfast Giants Visit**

The Belfast Giants visited the school on the 21st October. Ray Sawada and Gordon Cameron talked to Primary Seven pupils about having a healthy lifestyle which includes healthy eating and exercise. They gave some ideas for circuits which can be completed in school and at home. The Primary Seven children hope to visit the Odyssey in the new year to watch a Belfast Giants game.



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### P1-3 After School Arrangements

**Step 1:** Just before 2:00 pupils who are staying in school for after school are separated from the children who being picked up. They move to the other side of the room.

**Step 2:** The classroom door is opened and parents/guardians tell the name of the child to the teacher. The teacher will then say the name of the child and that child will walk to the door.

It is vitally important for the children's safety that this is done one child at a time.

**Step 3:** When all the children have been picked up the children for the after school club will be walked by the teacher to the class where the after schools is taking place.

Although this may at times appear a time consuming process it is a necessary procedure to ensure the children's safety and we thank you for your patience.

### Collecting Children During School Hours

If, in an exceptional circumstance, it is necessary to take a child out of school, the parent/guardian must come to the office and the secretaries will send for the pupil. A parent/guardian should not go directly to the class.

### Bug Club

Having surveyed our pupils and teachers on the use of the 'Bug Club' we have reinvested in the licence for the next 12 months. Your child will have been given their login details and they can access a wonderful variety of online books. This is a brilliant resource which the school has purchased to enhance the reading skills

of all our children from Primary 1 to Primary 7.

Here is a reminder of how to access it using a PC or a tablet.

### Using a PC

To access this go to [www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk) if using a personal computer or laptop.

### Using a Tablet

If using a **tablet device** you will need to download the free '**Puffin Academy**' app.

Once you have done this, in the Search box type **BUG CLUB** and hit the return key.

Click on the Bug Club icon and then click on the Bug Club web address. [www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk)

Your child's teacher will have given your child the relevant passwords.

### P7 Girls Visit St Dominic's

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October the Primary 7 girls were invited to attend St Dominic's to be members of the audience for their school show. The production of Oliver was delivered to a high standard. The acting, singing, costumes and stage scenery were impressive. Holy Trinity girls received a warm welcome from the principal Mrs McCann and were rewarded with a treat from St Dominic's for their excellent behaviour. The Holy Trinity teachers were delighted to see some familiar faces on stage from past pupils. Our girls were inspired by the experience and we hope to see some of them in years to come on that stage. A big thank you from Holy Trinity for inviting us.



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### Parents' News

Our coffee morning in the Parents' Room is back in operation and will open each Friday from 9:15 to 10:45. Mr White and our parent facilitator, Mrs Steele, have been organising a series of events which will take us up to Christmas and are looking forward to seeing some familiar and new faces there.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** From 9:30 on we will be having a 'MOT Health Check' in the Parents' Room. This is a great opportunity to get your blood pressure, blood sugars and cholesterol checked.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November:** Jewellery Making.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December:** Make Up

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Flower arranging.

If there are any of the organised events that interest you please come along.

We are organising some enjoyable physical activities for January, with the emphasis on enjoyment. We will let you know more about that in our next newsletter.

### Sunshine Class

The Sunshine class enjoyed a visit to Finaghy library on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October for spooky Halloween story time!



### Grand Halloween Draw

The Grand Halloween Draw took place on Thursday during the Key Stage Two Assembly and the prizes were £150 of Park Centre vouchers, a meal for two in the Balmoral Hotel and a £20 Frozen foods voucher from Top of the Whiterock. We would like to thank all of the parents and members of the Holy Trinity community for their outstanding support of this event.

- 1<sup>st</sup> D. Mc Aleese
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs C Woods
- 3<sup>rd</sup> S Ireland

### Safety at Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en is a time of great fun and enjoyment for young (and older) children. However it can also be a time of danger, especially with regard to fireworks. We ask all our children to be very careful during the holidays and not to endanger themselves or others.

