



PARENT NEWSLETTER

April 2015



Important Dates

Communion – Saturday 16th May at 11:00 am in Holy Trinity Church

Easter Holidays

The school will close for the Easter break at 11:00 am on Thursday 2nd April. There will be no dinners. School will reopen Monday 13th April.

3G Floodlight Pitch

Plans are afoot for an exciting new development within the Upper Springfield Community. A shared community initiative between Gort Na Mona CLG and Holy Trinity PS will see the complete transformation of the back playground of the school into a modern fit for purpose 21st century 3G Floodlit sports facility. As well as being used every day by the children of Holy Trinity, this facility will also be accessible to all stakeholders within the Upper Springfield community - school teams, local GAA club, local community groups, sports governing bodies etc. in the evenings. Over the coming weeks we hope to engage with all stakeholders within the community as we seek to move this exciting new project forward. Residents and local community groups can view plans for this development by visiting www.planningni.gov.uk and entering the following planning reference number Z/2014/1521/F. Plans will be on display in a number of community buildings including Holy Trinity Church and Youth Centre, Gort Na Mona GAC and within Holy Trinity Primary School from the 15th April. We encourage the community to actively support this initiative as we seek to promote change for and within our community.

ICT Mark

We are delighted to announce that we have once again been successful in achieving the prestigious ICT Mark. Three years ago we were the first school in Belfast to have been awarded this, in recognition of the sterling work which takes place in Holy Trinity within the area of ICT. Holy Trinity is ensuring that your children have the ICT knowledge and skills to equip them for life in the 21st Century.

It is very difficult to achieve the award a second time and we are absolutely thrilled to have done so. Mr O Dowd, the Minister for Education will be coming to the school after Easter to present us with the certificate.

As a reward and huge thank you to our pupils and staff for all their hard work Mrs Boyd is giving everyone a half day on Monday 20th April.

Children in KS1 will finish at 12.00 and should be collected from the classroom or yard as usual.

KS2 children will finish at 12.15 and normal arrangements for collecting the children should take place.

The dinner hall will give the children who go to dinners a hot dog and bun on this day.

Penance

Primary 3 pupils celebrated the Sacrament of Penance on Friday 27th March. The children worked very hard preparing for this wonderful service and as a result it was a beautiful occasion. The readers involved in telling the story of the Good Shepherd were: Jazmin Bellew, Niall Brown, Eve Kempston, Clodagh Duffy, Dara Boylan, Conleith Corr, Samantha



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Murtagh, Leon Smyth, Kyla McVeigh, Eva Cusack and Liam Walsh led the children in the Act of Sorrow and the Prayer After Forgiveness. The pupils all went home after the service was over.

Confirmation

Our Primary 7 pupils received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 5th March in Holy Trinity Parish Church. Bishop Anthony Farquhar confirmed the pupils and talked to them about the importance of showing courage, strength, wisdom and knowledge in the decisions they make in their lives. It was a very beautiful ceremony and the children spoke and sang out magnificently. The psalm was sung by Niamh Murtagh, Chloe Shevlin and Georgia Murray. Georgia also gave a beautiful rendition of the song 'River of Hope'. The readers were: Thomas Doran, Erin Lee, Declan Uprichard, Joshua Mc Bride, Shanice Muir, Katie-Marie Downey and Cliodhna Mc Quitty. The gifts were brought up by Joseph Curley, Tiernan Curley, Leon Nash and Annie Mc Auley. Thanks to everyone who made this ceremony a beautiful experience for the children.

Boys' Football

Our Boys' Football Team was back in action over the last few weeks in the Raffo Cup. In their section games they recorded a good win over St Kieran's and after a strong second half performance they emerged victorious against St Patrick's, Hollywood. In the semi-final played at Gort na Mona the boys were narrowly beaten by St Bride's in a hard fought game that ebbed and flowed throughout.

For our P7 boys this marks the end of their competitive football careers in

Holy Trinity and we thank them for representing our school with pride and distinction and for helping the next crop of young players coming through. We hope they will stay involved in sport in their new school and, if they are not already playing with a club, they will join up with Gort na Mona. Holy Trinity was represented by: Sean Christopher Carleton, Callum Walsh, Conor Scannell, Patrick Mc Shane, Corey Hamill, Corey Clarke, Garric Mac Adhaimh, Sean Brown, Joshua Mc Bride, Conal Keenan, Kyle Mc Greevy, Conor Mooney, Rian Brown and Declan Uprichard.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not permitted in Holy Trinity. If, in an exceptional circumstance, a pupil may need to carry their phone the parent/carer should make an arrangement with the class teacher.

Parents' News

We recently had the Parents' Room decorated and it would be great to see some new faces at our coffee morning every Friday from 9:15 – 10:45. The exercise class continues every Friday morning 9:30 – 10:15 for the month of April. Everyone is welcome

STEM

Over the past few months our Primary 7 pupils have been involved STEM projects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). They entered a competition called 'Code Breaker Challenge' organised by Seagate. They investigated how codes are made and broken and how they are used in technology industries like Seagate. They had to create their own



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secret code and then script, film and edit a short video of less than 5 minutes in length that puts their codes and research to the test. These videos were then uploaded to the Seagate website, from where a few were selected for an awards ceremony held in the Odyssey Arena hosted by Sarah Travers of BBC. The awards were called 'The STEMies 2015'. P7 LMC were shortlisted for their video entitled 'The Big Baby'. This was a tremendous opportunity for the children to experience how subjects like Science and Mathematics are used in industry.

Right of the Month

Article 27:

We have the right to an adequate standard of living and an environment that is clean and safe.

Rights Respecting Behaviour:

We can respect each other's rights by taking care of our school environment ensuring that everyone is allowed to enjoy it both now and in the future

Lost Property

Every week we find school jumpers, jackets, PE gear etc that have left behind by pupils. Even though we send clothes around the classes many items are left unclaimed. We would ask parents to please ensure that all clothes have the child's name written on the label.

Key Stage One Assembly

The March Assembly was presented by Mrs Mc Manus's and Miss Owens's P2 classes. In a very entertaining piece they told the audience the story of St Patrick. The pupils had a great time dressing up and shouting out their lines. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Matthew McCluskey, Jack Molloy, Orliath Hyland, Naoise McCrory, Darragh Ward, Jazmin Bellew, Oisin Adams, Rhys Brown, Calum Bradley, Abbie Smyth, Ryan Kerr, Niamh McGrath, Jack Mc Kernan, Clodagh Mc Cormick, Tiernan Press, Cara Mackel, Dylan Mongan, Cameron Flanagan and James Berry. Well done to them all!

Key Stage Two Assembly

The March Assembly was presented by Miss Torbitt's and Mrs Mc Areavey's classes on the theme of 'Looking after our World'. It reminded our pupils of the ECO Code drawn up by our school ECO Council:

- to use energy more efficiently;
- to recycle paper;
- to live healthily.

After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage Two awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Aisling Healy, Jack Holmes, Tierna Mc Croy, Aaron Skelly, Alissa Nolan, Aaron Donnelly, Casie, Armstrong, Fiona Mc Comb, Aine Moran, Shauna Cahill, Michaela Tierney, Aoife McCann, Annie McAuley, Eamonn Cassidy. Congratulations to all these pupils.



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Key Stage 2 Assembly (Easter)

On Friday 27th March Miss Harte's class performed their assembly. The Assembly was on the story of Palm Sunday. It explained to the children how Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem by people waving palms and singing Hosanna. However, just a short time later the people turned against Jesus and crucified him. The children were reminded to always be loyal to their friends and not turn against them. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Riain Lynch, Shauna McShane, Sophie Sloan, Eve Kidd, Ellie Burns, Lucy Mc Ilwee, Christopher Kenneway, Erinn Nolan, Daniel Armstrong, Katie Voyle, Raymond McKenna, Dylan Montgomery, Tiernan Curley and Thomas Beck. Congratulations to these pupils!

'Sing Out' Concert

Over the last few months Miss Mc Laughlin's and Mrs Carabine's classes have been involved in singing activities with the School of Music. Mrs Eames and Mrs Mc Bride have been coming to Holy Trinity for many years, involved in such events. They remarked how they loved coming to our school and how over the many years they have been coming to the school the pupils have always responded with such enthusiasm and have always shown excellent manners and respect. The activities culminated with a magnificent concert in St Anne's Parish Church where our children joined pupils from several other schools to perform three songs. The children sang with great enthusiasm and enjoyed showing off their talents to parents and the general public. The children also got the

opportunity to listen to some fantastic music by the pupils in the School of Music.

St Patrick's Dress Up Day

On Wednesday 18th March we had our own cultural celebration for St Patrick's Day. The pupils came to school wearing something green and were treated to a concert of dance, singing and musical instruments. The pupils' beautiful music was complemented by some of the teachers, Miss Gorman on tin whistle, Mr Byrne on guitar, Mr Colgan on banjo, Miss Donnelly on the piano and to Mrs Mc Kavanagh who co-ordinated the event. It was a great way to celebrate St Patrick.

Hurling and Camogie News

It is great to see so many pupils getting involved in the Hurling and Camogie coaching. This takes place on Thursday afternoons from 2:45 to 3:45. We are indebted to Gort na Mona who have been supplying four coaches to provide expert coaching advice to the pupils.

Training Times for Gort na Mona

Under 8 and **Under 10 Hurling** training sessions take place every **Thursday** on the grass pitch from **5:30pm to 6:30pm**. If you require any further information please get your get in contact with any of the coaching officers within the club on:

Seamus Corr - 07809861561

Ronan Scullion - 07707947394

Phil Dixon – 07730057179

School website

[http://www.holytrinitybelfast.co.](http://www.holytrinitybelfast.co.uk)

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enjoy it both now and in the future. were brought up by Joseph curly, Tiernan Curley, Leon Nash and Annie Mc Auley. Thanks to everyone who made this ceremony a beautiful experience for the children.

Soccer Tournament

Our Primary 6 pupils took part in where they played a series of matches against

Holy Trinity was represented by: Zoe Mulholland, Lucy Mc Ilwee, Joseph Doran, Emmett Mc Cabe, ETC

Confirmation

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Cross Country

Holy Trinity Cross Country Running teams took part in the annual Belfast School Cross Country Event in association with Belfast City Council in March. The West Belfast heat took place in Falls Park Eight other schools took part in the West Belfast heat including St Teresa's, St Oliver Plunkett, Bunscoil an Sleibhe Duibh, Holy Child, Gaelscoil Na Bhfal, St John the Baptist and Bunscoil Phobal Feirste.

In the boys' race a strong Holy Trinity team took 1st place overall with three individual places in the top 10 going to Ryan Mc Menamin, Conor Scannell and Kyle Mc Greevy.

The girls' team finished in 3rd place overall against a strong field. We again clinched individual honours with Georgia Murray finishing in the top ten. Both teams represented their school excellently. Well done to all our runners this year. The Girls' Team was represented by: Aoife Mc Phillips, Niamh Maxwell, Emma Mc Conway, Rachel Kerr, Niamh Murtagh, Ellie Burns, Georgia Murray and Fiona Mc Comb. The Boys' Team was represented by: Conor Scannell, Ryan Mc Menamin, Stephen Bradley, James Lundy, Conal Keenan, Kyle Mc Greevy and Garric Mac Adhaimh.