



PARENT NEWSLETTER

June 2015



Holy Trinity Primary School



Minister for Education, Mr John O'Dowd, presenting the 'ICT Mark'.

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Minister's Visit

On Wednesday 3rd of June Holy Trinity Primary School welcomed Mr John O'Dowd, Minister for Education, to present the 'ICT Mark'. Three years ago we were the first school in Belfast to be awarded this accolade, in recognition of the sterling work which takes place in Holy Trinity within the area of ICT. Holy Trinity is committed to ensuring your children are developing the ICT knowledge and skills to equip them for life in the 21st Century.

Four of our Primary 7 pupils, Aaron Skelly, Odhran Braham, Niamh Murtagh and Zara Conlon, gave a presentation outlining the work being done through the medium of ICT and introduced a photoroll of activities on the screen.

In her address Mrs Boyd thanked Mrs Rooney (ICT Co-ordinator) and Miss Harte (Assistant ICT Co-ordinator) for their invaluable efforts to keep Holy Trinity Primary School at the forefront of using technology to enhance the learning opportunities of our children. Mrs Boyd, commented, "On behalf of Holy Trinity Primary School, I am delighted to be awarded the ICT Mark. It recognises our positive approach to the use of technology and the benefits it is bringing to our children. Our vision is to create motivated 'life-long' learners through the use of ICT to enhance and extend learning and teaching across the whole curriculum. As ICT is continually developing and new technologies emerging, we as a school strive to give all pupils the skills to prepare them for a future in which 'Using ICT' is an integral part of society."

In his presentation speech Mr O'Dowd said, "I am delighted to be here to congratulate you all on your hard work in achieving this prestigious ICT Mark award for the second time. The continued dedication of the whole school to computing and to the use of new technology in developing and progressing the curriculum is an example of best practice. As technology develops it is clear the pupils of Holy Trinity will be well equipped and may even create a future Candy Crush or Angry Birds."

Musical Entertainment

Our guests were entertained by two of our musical groups. We have two choirs in Holy Trinity. This year we have been working on pieces from 'Matilda, The Musical'.

The 'Musical Theatre Group' performs through the medium of song and dance. As this is very difficult to do we used 'Garage Band' on the iPad. Using this technology the children were pre-recorded singing and then Miss Donnelly took the recordings to a professional studio and had them mixed so we sounded as good, if not better, than a West End cast!!!! The children turned out a superb performance of 'Revoltin' Children' with the assistance of our ICT in Holy Trinity. The pupils in this group are: Georgia Murray, Libby Milligan, Macy Milligan, Jessica Mc Grattan, Caitlin Mc Keown, Caitlyn Boyd, Rhianna Smylie, Rhianna Mc Kenna, Clodagh Mc Laughlin, Megan Muir, Caileen Voyle, Naomi Campbell and Aoife Mc Phillips.

Our 'traditional style' choir performed 'When I Grow Up' with some children singing solos, giving them skills in



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performance to carry them through life. They finished the performance with Shannon Rose Mc Crudden singing 'Quiet'. She captured the mood of the piece beautifully and had the assembly hall in stunned silence!!!! The choir group were: Caolan Duffy, Aoife Mc Cann, Shannon-Rose Mc Crudden, Bronagh Nolan, Caoimhe Braham, Emma Reynolds, Toni Mc Ilwee, Eamonn Donnelly, Daniel Armstrong, Aedan Relf, Renise Mc Hugh Baggley, Nathan Patterson Mc Kenna, Caitlin Mc Clay, Leah Kerr and Dearbhla Ratcliffe.

Well done to all our performers and thanks to Mrs Mc Kinney and Miss Donnelly for all their invaluable work and expertise to help develop our pupils' musical talents and give them opportunities for the future.

Presentation to Mrs Kearney

This year sees the retirement of Mrs Ann Kearney from St. Martin's Nursery after twenty-three years of dedicated service to our school community. We, in Holy Trinity, owe Ann and all her staff a great debt of gratitude for presenting us with fantastically motivated and well-mannered children, eager to learn. St Martin's has certainly given our pupils an excellent start in life through Ann's vision and leadership. We will be sorry to see her retire and we wish all the very best in the future.

Mrs Boyd asked Mr O'Dowd to present Ann with a small token of our appreciation from all the staff at Holy Trinity.

Leavers Mass

On Tuesday 23rd June our P7 children will leave Holy Trinity Primary

School. They will celebrate their seven years at the school with a special mass in Holy Trinity Church. **The mass will take place at 11.00 and the children will leave after this.** We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work and to wish them good luck in their new schools. We would also like to thank the parents /carers of the P7 pupils for their continuous support. Our door is always open and if staff can ever help our past pupils or parents in the future we would be happy to do so.

*** Please note the change of starting time***

Right of the Month

Article 13

Children have the right to get and to share information as long as the information is not damaging to them or to others.

Rights Respecting Behaviour

We can respect this right by using our computers and iPads to access and create information in accordance with our ICT internet safety policy.

School Timetable from September 2015

P1-3	9:00 – 1:45	Monday
	9:00 – 2:00	Tuesday-Friday
P4-7	9:00 – 1:45	Monday
	9:00 – 2:45	Tuesday-Friday

*** Please note the change to starting and finishing times ***



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Eco-Schools

Green Flag Award



(Our Eco Council members are: Garric Mac Adhaimh, Ryan Glenholmes, Katie O'Neill, Rhianna Mc Kenna, Keelin Downey, Ryan Teggart, Oisin Boylan, Rian Brown, Conor Matthews, Zara Conlon, Grace Tolan, Brendan Mc Nally and Chloe Armstrong)

We are delighted to announce that Holy Trinity has been awarded the esteemed Eco-Schools Green Flag. Three assessors from Eco-Schools visited our school on Tuesday 19th May and were 'very impressed' at the on-going work of the staff and the pupils. A particular word of thanks goes to our Eco Council pupils who are selected from each class in Key Stage 2 and are led by Miss Torbitt. Together they designed our Eco Code which is displayed in every classroom. This was shown to the assessors by the Eco Council who also explained the many, varied activities that the staff and pupils have been involved in. This year our school has been working on four

main themes: recycling; saving energy; leading a healthy lifestyle and keeping our school tidy and litter free. This is only achieved through the dedicated efforts of our caretakers, Paddy and Tom, who work tirelessly to maintain our school grounds. The assessors were particularly impressed by our continuous efforts over many years to develop our landscape through the growing of a variety of trees, plants, fruits and vegetables. For this we are indebted to work of Mr Kelly and Mr Hackett who have worked with many groups of pupils to improve our environment, particularly in the Sensory Garden.