



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

## Hallowe'en 2015



### **Important Dates**

#### **P3 First Penance Enrolment Service**

Thursday 26th November at 10:45 am  
in Holy Trinity Church.

#### **Key Stage One Assembly**

Mrs Graham's and Miss Owens' classes led the Key Stage One September Assembly, which this month was on the theme of 'new beginnings'. The children were reminded that when we begin something new, like going back to school, we can feel nervous but that there are always people in our school to help us.

After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage One awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Rhia Liddy, Cameron Flanagan, Darren Bolton, Erin Sweeney, Rebecca Armstrong, Megan McMahon, Eirinn Fegan, Ella Downey Gillard, Jay Murphy, Jack Vallely, Eve Gribben, Stephanie Devlin, Chantelle Kerr, Evan Hammond, Eimear Fegan, Candice McDonagh, Niamh Ward and Evelyn Kerr. Congratulations to all these pupils.

#### **Key Stage Two Assembly**

Mr Mc Crory's class led the Key Stage Two September Assembly on the theme of decision-making. The pupils looked at the story of Adam and Eve and examined what happened when they made a bad decision. It is important that our children learn to appreciate that our actions have consequences and that we must think about what we are doing and make good decisions that will protect us and keep us safe. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage Two

awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Shanice Hyndman, Aaron Mc Corry, Grace McConway, Riley Collins, Katie Rose Mc Anoy, Ruben McGlinchey, Stacey Davidson, Conall Fox, Terence McCrea, Leah Kerr, Hannah Mc Murray, Conor Matthews, Emma Reynolds and Padraig Nolan. Congratulations to them all.

#### **Car Parking**

As you are aware there can at times be a build-up of traffic at certain busy times. Over the last few years we have built extra car parking spaces reserved for parents. In the interests of safety to the children and the public parents are asked to use the two parent car parks and not to park on the double yellow lines or block the turning circle.

#### **Dropping Off Zone**

There are several spaces for cars at the front of the Key Stage 1 yard. These are specifically for dropping off children and moving away. This is not a parking area.

#### **Gort na Mona Access**

We have been informed by Gort na Mona that their gates will be closed to cars and only the pedestrian access will be available to parents and pupils.

#### **First Communion Enrolment**

Our Primary 4 pupils led the school in our October Mass. Father Brendan talked about the importance of First Communion and recalled his own memories of his big day. It was great to see so many parents and family members present to help the pupils prepare for the celebration of First



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Communion which will take place in May. Thanks to all the pupils who sang and spoke out so beautifully and a special thanks to our pupils who lead the readings and brought up the gifts and certificates - Liam Walsh, Dara Boylan, Bronagh Smith, Gerard Kelly, Evelyn Kerr, Kayla Fisher Slavin, Cormac Miskimmon, Che Mc Kinney, Eva Cusack, Aliyah Beck, Aoife Murtagh, Kevin Elumbaring, Dylan Mc Clean Brady, Rihanna Graham and Abigail Bradley.

### Parents' Room

We are glad to report that our coffee morning in the Parents' Room is now back in operation and will be open each Friday from 9:00 to 10:30. Mr White and our parent facilitator, Mrs Steele, look forward seeing many new and old faces for the new year. We will be organising a series of activities and information sessions after Hallowe'en and will keep parents informed by letter.

### P4 Trip

As part of their project on castles our Primary 4 classes have been on a visit to Carrickfergus Castle. 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 were intrigued by the canons, the dungeons and the weapons like those used over 800 years ago. Everyone had a great time and we made it back to school again without being locked in the castle's dungeon!

### Key Stage One Assembly

Mrs Mc Manus's and Miss Gallagher's classes led the Key Stage One October Assembly, which this month was on the theme of 'Superheroes'. The

children were reminded that we are all superheroes and in Holy Trinity we can help each other.

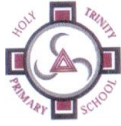
After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage One awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Corey Mathers, Abigail Bradley, Aimee McAnoy, Clodagh Burns, Darragh Heaney Hall, Orin Agnew, Matteo Quintero, Sophie Mc Caly, Zoey Kerr, Carly Holland, Cara McManus, Isabella Harte, Sean McCabe, Zoey Rooney, Jay Hanvey, Pdraig Hitchen, Conleith Corr and Jazmin Bellew Congratulations to all these pupils.

### Key Stage Two Assembly

Mrs Boylan's class led the Key Stage Two October Assembly which told us about the history of Hallowe'en and reminded us of the importance of staying safe, especially with regard to fireworks. The children sang a medley of songs and they certainly enjoyed performing some interesting dance moves. After the assembly Mrs Boyd presented the Key Stage Two awards for Star of the Month. The award winners were: Owen Donnelly, Roise Kennedy, Louise Mongan, Dylan Elliman, Anisha McGlade, Pearse McManus, Emma Brown, Sarah Mc Kinney, Rihanna Watkin, Katie McPhillips, Rhiannon Beck, Tiarnan Mc Givern, Leon Carlisle, Stephen Bradley and Caolan Clark. Congratulations to them all.

### Cúpla Focal

Mrs Mc Cooe's and Miss Mc Laughlin's P5 classes are currently taking part in Irish language lessons. Pupils are getting the opportunity to learn some vocabulary and basic conversation through the medium of Irish.



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### Sport for Life

As part of our commitment to improve our pupils' knowledge of health and fitness P5 classes are taking part in Sport for Life with the University of Ulster. Students from Jordanstown are coming in every Tuesday and teaching a lesson on healthy living as well as leading a physical activity.

### Primary One Autumn Walk

The Primary One classes have visited Lady Dixon Park as part of the topic 'Autumn'. On the walk the pupils observed the different types of trees and talked about those which are deciduous and those which are evergreen. They collected leaves, pinecones, acorns and conkers and sorted them back in class. Thankfully, the weather for each of the four classes was beautiful and the fresh air did everyone the world of good.

### Belfast Hills Partnership

Mr Hackett's P7 pupils have been working with Jane and Dave from Belfast Hills Partnership for a session entitled 'Finding out more about rocks'. The pupils engaged in a 3 part lesson, looking at how the Belfast hills like Black and Divis Mountains were formed millions of years ago.

Jane, Dave and the children began by making cakes using digestive biscuits, melted chocolate, raisins and marshmallows. This demonstrated the different layers of rocks formed during the Triassic and Jurassic periods in the Belfast hills.

They then made ammonites or fossils using clay and dough after discussing how millions of tiny dead organisms contributed to layers underneath the earth in the surrounding areas. They got to look at real fossils which were found in the streams and rivers in the Belfast hills. Finally they discussed how earthquakes and volcanoes shape the world we live in over millions of years, using water based game and some party poppers!

### Right of the Month

#### Article 31:

We have the right to have time to relax and play.

#### Rights Respecting Behaviour:

We can respect each other's right by taking care of our school environment and play equipment so that everyone may enjoy it. We can also allow everyone to make their own choices, as long as their activities do not stop anyone else from playing safely.

### Hallowe'en Ballot

Thanks to everyone in the school community who contributed to our fund raising ballot. We appreciate your continued support. The prize winners were:

1. T Mc Court
2. M Kearney
3. L Mc Givern

### Upper Springfield Events: Hallowe'en Fireworks

There will be a Family and Children's Fancy Dress Lantern/ Torch parade starting from the Whiterock Leisure Centre at 6:45 on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October followed by a Fireworks Display in the Falls Park then back to the Leisure Centre for the 'Monster's Ball'.



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### Belfast Giants Visit

The Belfast Giants visited Holy Trinity in September. Professional ice hockey player Craig Peacock along with 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 SSE Arena in the new year to watch a Belfast Giants game.

### Text Messaging Service

Our text messaging service is a very important method of getting information to parents quickly. Therefore it is important that if you should change your mobile number during the year please let the office know so that we can update our contacts and keep you informed.

### School Attendance

Last month we have distributed to all parents a leaflet supplied by the Department of Education entitled 'School Attendance Matters – A Parent's Guide'. We would ask all parents and guardians to read this advice. It points out why attendance at school is so important; what the law says about school attendance; family holidays and how parents can help. It makes the point "For some parents, 90% attendance may seem acceptable but the reality is that your child misses 19 days in the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks". At Holy

Trinity we have very high standards and take great pride in seeing our children achieve their potential. In order for us to continue to achieve our goals we need our pupils to have a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

### St Mary's Visit.

P7 boys visited St Mary's Grammar School on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September and had the opportunity to work in the Science labs and in the Home Economics Department. The boys participated in a science lesson on separating rock-salt using filtration and evaporation techniques, and a cookery lesson making pancakes from simple ingredients.

### 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.



**HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE HALLOWE'EN BREAK**