

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENTS NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2019

EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

P3 First Penance Enrolment: Thursday 14th February, 10.45 am, Holy Trinity Church

P7 Confirmation: 11.00am, Friday 15th February, Holy Trinity Church

FEBRUARY MID TERM HOLIDAY

School is closed from Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February.

School reopens as normal on Monday 25th February.

P7 CONFIRMATION

The Primary 7 classes are preparing for their Confirmation Day on Friday 15th February in Holy Trinity Church at 11am. They have been working hard, preparing for this sacrament and learning songs. Many thanks to the P6 children and all the teachers involved in helping to prepare for this sacrament.

TAG RUGBY BLITZ.

Our P5 classes took part in a term long programme of Tag rugby organised and run by Ulster Rugby. The children learned skills in catching, passing and evading tackles over the weeks. The classes then provided 15 players who took part in a mini blitz with several other schools from all over Belfast, which took place at the home ground of Instonians Rugby Club. The players involved were Miceal Mc Corry, Tiernan Press, Aimee Beck, Katie Bradley, Caoimhin Murphy, Harvey Fitzsimmons, Cara Mackel, Lorcan Fitzsimmons, Orlaith Irwin, Katie Mc Areavy, Abbi Crossley, Carly Voyle, Sarah Petit de Mange, Niall Mc Erlean and Bobby Cromie.

CAPTAIN CLEAN-UP

Holy Trinity P.S. received a visit on Wednesday 16th January from Captain Clean-Up. He was there to present our P5s with a prize from Belfast City Council for all their hard work in the council's Litter

Pick-up campaign. Our hard-working P5s had been giving up their break and lunch times to make sure the grounds around the school were kept clean, tidy and litter free. Captain Clean-Up also talked about keeping the environment outside of school as free from dangerous and unsightly litter as possible. Our P5 classes agreed with this important message.

P5 PARK LIFE STUDY

The Primary 5 classes have been continuing their Park Life Study with a trip to the Falls Park on Wednesday 30th January.

FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILLS

Our Primary 2 pupils are currently enjoying a six-week Fundamental Skills programme taken by coaches from Belfast Community Development Sports Network. The purpose of the programme is to help pupils develop skills and athleticism in a variety of games and activities. The pupils are thoroughly enjoying developing their talents and these skills are designed to be used in any athletic activity.

P2 SPACE ART PROJECT

The P2 classes are completing a 3D art project for their topic Space, at home with parents. These are to be displayed in the front hall in February.

BELFAST GIANTS

As part of Holy Trinity Primary School's 'Healthy Living Policy', representatives from the Belfast Giants visited our school on Tuesday 29th January to speak to the children about healthy eating and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. As a result of this visit, a trip has been organised to go to see the Belfast Giants take on the Glasgow Clan in the SSE Arena on Friday 8th March 2019.

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

GAA NEWS

Holy Trinity PS is delighted to announce that we have recently been invited to be one of only 16 schools to be involved in Antrim GAA's '5 Star Centre Pilot Project'. This project has been planned and will be delivered in collaboration with St Mary's University College as part of the Gaelfast programme. The concept of the 5 Star Centre was devised by the GAA for primary schools with the aim of ensuring that all children receive 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per week throughout the school year. Mr. McCrory and Mrs. McLaughlin attended the launch of the programme last Friday 18th January in St Mary's University College and will receive further training and resources to aid in the implementation and effective delivery of the programme in Holy Trinity PS.

HIVE HACKERS

We are very privileged once again this year to be involved in the PwC 'Hive Hackers' initiative which engages with six to 11 year olds and teachers at primary schools across the region to teach coding and technology, to the point where schools can design and code their own games. The P7 pupils will be involved in a 7 week programme which develops the skills of Coding; Sequencing, Loops, Debugging, Binary, Game Making, Digital Footprint and Interactive Story Making culminating in an awards ceremony to be held in The Waterfront Hall on Thursday 28th March 2019.

RADAR CENTRE

In January the Primary 7 pupils were invited to attend The RADAR centre (Risk Avoidance and Danger Awareness Resource). RADAR is Northern Ireland's first and only, life sized, interactive safety and life skills education centre. The children were challenged to think about how to keep themselves and others safe within a house, bus, train, social media,

court room and prison cell. This was a really fun, engaging and interactive day and each workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. We hope our pupils will remember all the safety procedures as they move forward to secondary school.

ICT NEWS

Our January eSafety Code is 'Think Before You Buy'.

The children will be talking about 'in app purchasing' and the importance of asking an adult before they buy 'add ons' in a game or app.

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2019

Safer Internet Day was on Tuesday 5th February with the theme 'Together for a Better Internet.' Children have been learning all about consent and how important it is to get permission online. eSafetysaurus has been around the classes this week on a 'Permission Mission' and the children have been learning how to stay safe. They have been looking at the issues around giving and asking for online permission or consent.

Check out the Internet Safety section on our school website for help and advice.

CLEVER CODERS!

P5ML are learning to code using Scratch. They have started a 6 week programme with Business in the Community called 'Time To Code.' **Scratch** is a free programming language and online community where you can create your own interactive stories, games, and animations. Why not have a look at Scratch and see what you think!

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

BUG CLUB

Bug Club is an online reading programme which has been used by teachers and pupils for several years. It is a brilliant resource which the school has purchased to enhance

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

the reading skills of all our children from Primary 1 to Primary 7. We are looking forward to our Primary 1 children beginning to use it over the next few weeks.

Here is a reminder of how to access it:

Type www.activelearnprimary.co.uk into your search engine. Each child has been given the relevant username and password. You will then be prompted to enter the school code which is tgpr.

MEDICS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Our Primary Seven pupils are currently working with Medical students from Queen's University who are teaching about the various systems in the body. Over a six-week programme, the children will learn about the various aspects of what makes a healthy body and the importance of nutrition. The children will then engage in a number of practical learning activities in order to further their understanding of the heart, lungs, skin, brains with an emphasis on developing their skills and capabilities.

SALTO

Our Primary One children are extending their gymnastics programme taking turns to visit the world famous SALTO Gym in Lisburn where they receive expert tuition in using a variety of apparatus like the rings, ropes, beams and climbing frames. These visits to SALTO which commence in February, help our children develop their gross motor skills, their fundamental movement skills and their general co-ordination.

PEACEFUL SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

On Friday 15th February Holy Trinity will again host students from St Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada. This will be the 12th year that students from St Mary's have visited Belfast teaching conflict resolution strategies through classroom games and activities, passing on skills our pupils can

use. The Canadian students put a lot of time and effort into their lessons and fundraising for their trip to Belfast and we look forward to their visit.

PARENTS' COURSES

We currently are advertising some opportunities for parents:

- Essential Skills in English and Essential Skills in ICT. Both these courses are award-bearing courses.
- We have teamed up with the Trade Union 'UNITE' to offer a series of award bearing construction courses – A full list can be found at the back of this newsletter.
- Amazing Brains Parent Power Programme: This 90-minute presentation by qualified trainers helps parents to help their children to become successful and motivated learners. It will take place on Thursday 7th February at 9:15 and further details can be found at the back of this newsletter.

RIGHT OF THE MONTH

(Article 27)

We have the right to an adequate standard of living.

RIGHTS RESPECTING BEHAVIOUR

We can respect each other's rights by taking care of our school environment to allow everyone to enjoy it.

ADVERSE WEATHER

Our aim is at all times to keep the school open. However, there are certain times which make this impossible. In the event of severe weather like a very heavy fall of snow it may not be possible to ensure the safety of our parents, staff and pupils. Should the school be unable to open we will follow these procedures:

- A decision will be made by 8:30am
- Text message to parents
- Posted on our school website and Twitter account

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENTS NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2019

If the school should have to close due to unforeseen worsening conditions during the day parents will receive a text message and information will be sent to broadcast on local media for parents to collect children.

School website:
<http://www.holytrinitybelfast.co.uk>

Follow us on Twitter:
@holytrinitybelf

To: Parents/Carers of P5/6/7 Children

Helping Your Child Become a Motivated and Successful Learner

Dear Parent/Carer,

'Parent Power' is a programme from 'Amazing Brains' which gives parents the opportunity to help *their child to become a successful and motivated learner*. The session lasts for 90 minutes and is followed by an opportunity to ask questions. The presenters are **professionally qualified trainers with extensive experience in the education sector**. Topics include:

- **Time Management Strategies**
- **Impact of Social Media & Mobile Technology on Study**
- **The Growth Mindset**

'Amazing Brains' has been successfully running their programme in post-primary schools for several years. Parents who have taken part in the session have reported that they found it of great benefit and wished they had access to the information at an earlier stage in their child's school career. An underpinning theme of the discussion is the 'Growth Mindset'. This is the belief that intelligence is not fixed at birth. With hard work, perseverance, the right attitude and most importantly, support from parents and school, children are more likely to reach their potential.

We are delighted to announce that the Amazing Brains 'Parent Power Programme' will be coming to Holy Trinity. We feel very fortunate to be able to deliver this programme and we would like to encourage our parents to take advantage of this opportunity.

The 'Parent Power Programme' will take place in Holy Trinity PS (Key Stage 2 Hall) on Thursday 7th February from 9:15 to 11:00.

- **Please contact the school office on 02890616465 if you would like to attend.**

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENTS NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2019

RE: Training and Learning Opportunities for Parents and Community.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Holy Trinity PS is delighted to announce that we have teamed up with the Trade Union UNITE to deliver the following courses:

UNITE Construction Training 2018

- Crawler Crane
- Forward Tipping Dumper (Site Dumper)
- 180 Excavator (Above and Below 5T)
- Rough Terrain Forklift
- Industrial Forklift
- Telescopic Handler
- Wheel Loading Shovel
- Ride on Roller
- Agricultural Tractor
- Lorry Loader (Block Lorry / Crane)
- Slinger (Working with Cranes and Diggers)
- Dump Truck (Articulated)
- Mobile Crane
- Crane Supervisor
- CSR
- Manual Handling First Aid
- Abrasive Wheels
- Working at Heights
- Fire Awareness
- Harness Inspection
- Ladder Safety
- Mental Health Awareness
- Risk Assessment & Method Statements
- Health & Safety
- NEBOSH Award

(Any other Construction Related Qualification)

HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENTS NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2019

Some of these training courses are site based and some are class based which will take place in Holy Trinity. Some courses only take a few hours; others take a few days.

We are also able to deliver the following Essential Skills courses:

- **Essential Skills in English**
- **Essential Skills in ICT**

- Please contact the school on 02890616465 if you are interested in any of the above mentioned courses. Please remember these courses are available to anyone in the community not just the parent/carers of pupils at Holy Trinity.