

Principal Update 4.3.24



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Dear Parents,

In this half of Term 2, we continue to be very busy, organising lots of exciting events coming up during the month of March.

Important dates ahead:



We are delighted to be hosting a celebratory day on **Friday 15th March** to mark St. Patrick's Day here in St. Joseph and St. James.

We promise it will be a lovely event.

All welcome to join us at **Mass in St. Joseph's church at 9.30a.m. followed afterwards in our Parish Hall with a Ceile and some Ceol.** Live Music for our Ceile, courtesy of Ronan Wadsworth (World Dance Championship Musician)

We do request for you to please let Mrs Morrow our school secretary know by Wednesday 13.3.24

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 2.00p.m on this day for all pupils.



Friday 15.3.24 Green Day – all pupils wear green to school. Payment of £1 from each pupil for this day will go towards our fundraising for Trocaire during Lent. Payment please to be made via parent pay. During the Holy season of Lent, each class have taken on a challenge to raise funds for Trocaire. **We are hosting an 'In house Bazaar', where each class will have the opportunity to attend and participate in a range of fun events/games on 25.3.24. We ask for each child to donate a minimum of £2.50. Pupils can also bring additional cash on this day if they wish to partake more than once** (50 per class to compete in the activities arranged by each class) Payment can be made via parent pay/Under Trocaire.

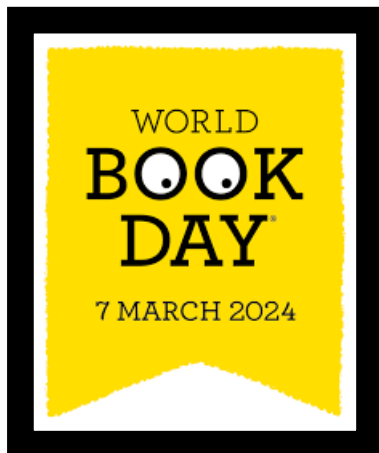
We urge you to please support our Trocaire campaign this year as we try to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Thankyou!



Next week commences the **Sustrans, 'Big Walk and Wheel Challenge'**. As we continue our work with Sustrans promoting active travel for our pupils and the benefits for their wellbeing and overall health, we intend to commence an active week with walking/cycling to school each morning for our pupils.

All pupils are provided with a Hi-Visibility vest, to wear as they travel to and from school courtesy of Sustrans.

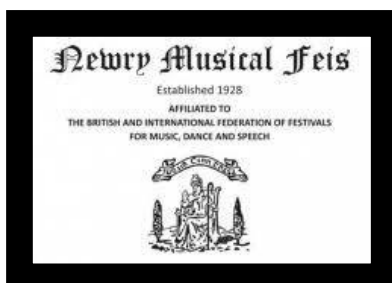
We aim to meet at the entrance opposite the local G.A.C. departing for 8.30 a.m each morning. We look forward to seeing you all there!



On **Thursday 7th March** we are hosting World Book Day. We invite all pupils to bring in a book they enjoyed reading to discuss with their class group. During this day all classes will be engaging in a range of activities that promotes the importance and love of reading.

Our P7 pupils are holding a bring and buy book sale of preloved books on this day. This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to purchase books. All classes will have the opportunity to visit the book sale on this day.

Wednesday 13th March the School Nurse will be visiting all our P1 pupils. We wish to remind all P1 parents of this date for your calendars.



Reminder the **closing date for all entries for the Speech and Drama section is this Wednesday 6.3.24.**

We encourage as many pupils to enter the individual poem section. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our pupils talents whilst building and promoting self-confidence.



We had an amazing day at the SSE Arena in Belfast on Sunday 25th February at the Peace Proms. Our pupils were an absolute pleasure to take to such an event. We hope you enjoyed our summary video on Facebook and our website. Every pupil has to be commended for their wonderful participation and of course exemplary manners. We were so proud to be part of this day. We sincerely thank all teachers, in particular Mrs Crawley, who helped prepare our pupils learn all songs for the final concert.



Congratulations to all pupils in Ulster House, who won the overall house points for the first half of Term 2. All pupils got the opportunity to celebrate together with some golden time and of course treats. Well done everyone. Keep up the great work!



Congratulations to all our pupils who attained the Principal Award for continued hard work and endeavour or the award of 'Word Millionaire' Well done everyone.



As we proceed through the Lenten season, we will leave you with one of Pope Francis' message to us all.



Yours in continued partnership

C. Wadsworth and staff of St. Joseph and St. James's P.S.