

# Principal's Update 19.5.23



Dear Parents,

We have completed another very busy and exciting week in St. Joseph and St. James's P.S. with lots happening with our P4 pupils, P7 pupils, our Early Years working as part of Shared Education, in fact the whole school has been very busy indeed. We hope you enjoy perusing this most recent update, informing you of events in this current week



## **First Holy Communion**

Our P.4 pupils will receive their sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023 at 10.00a.m. in St. Joseph's church Poyntzpass. We wish them every blessing as they complete their final preparations for such an important milestone on their faith journey. **Reminder, all choir members to arrive at Chapel for 9.30a.m in full school uniform.**

## *Spring Recital Concert - Celebration of Achievement*

We are cordially inviting all parents/guardians/grandparents to join us on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00p.m in the Parish Hall**, to celebrate the wonderful achievements attained by our pupils throughout this academic year. Please join us in what promises to be a wonderful afternoon of music, as we celebrate the success of our school choir, our recorder ensembles, as well as violin and cello instrumentalists, who will perform for you. Please email Mrs Morrow on [lmorrow846@c2kni.net](mailto:lmorrow846@c2kni.net), indicating if you wish to attend and confirm numbers to assist us in preparing the hall in advance. We look forward to seeing you there. Voluntary collection in aid of School funds.





This week in school, each class has continued their focus on mindfulness practise. P3 enjoyed displaying their beautiful art work, as part of their particular focus this week.



Do keep a look out for our whole school activity involving all pupils, who participated in a whole school challenge to continue to promote each individuals mental health and wellbeing.



Our P7 pupils had a wonderful opportunity to work alongside a local author Declan Carville in conjunction with the AMMA Centre Armagh. Pupils had the opportunity to explore their reviews of his book 'Nelly Fandango'. It was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to meet an author and discover ways to enhance our creative writing skills.





Our work continued with Poyntzpass P.S. with all classes linking up in K.S.2 via their sports focus of basketball, facilitated by Mr Convery, whose has been very generous in sharing of his expertise. Thankyou to Mr Convery who continues to work with all pupils P4-P7.



Our **P1/2** pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their focus through play. This week we had a 'Farm Safety' talk followed by lots of fun activities enjoying our wonderful facilities on the theme of farming. Our pupils enjoyed manoeuvring their farmyard vehicles on the various tracks as well as milking their cows. We have lots of budding farm helpers here in St. Joseph and St. James's.

**P2/3** linked up with all their friends from Poyntzpass P.S. and also availed of the lovely weather outdoors, making butterflies using some natural and man made resources. Indoors they continued their work on the story focus 'The Magic Harp'.





We had another wonderful debate, led mainly by our P6/7 pupils and Eco Council, as they presented their arguments for and against the use of electric cars.

Our pupils voted overall, for the use of electric cars as the best option going forward. We continue to raise our awareness on how we can look after the earth and it's natural resources.

Compelling arguments were presented from both sides and it was wonderful to receive feedback from our Eco School 'inspectors' who commended our pupils on a wonderful afternoon of discussions.

Thankyou to Mrs Shortt for her continued work as Literacy Coordinator, providing opportunities to promote and build our pupils confidence especially when speaking to an audience.

*Well done!*



Photographed above, our the members from our debating team alongside this weeks pupils who received the Principal's award for outstanding endeavour and sheer determination.

## Reminders:

- Confirmation – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 5.00pp.m - St. Joseph's Church Poyntzpass
- **Sports Day – Our annual Sports Day is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, weather permitting. Parents are welcome to attend this event.**
- We want to wish our P7 pupils the very best of luck as they receive notification of their Post Primary school this weekend. Please see our school app and Facebook page where we shared useful links you can access if you have any queries.

Wishing all our families and community a lovely weekend ahead. We will leave you with a fitting quote from Pope Francis, as we are asked to look after the earth, a topic that has generated much discussion among our pupil body this week.



Yours in continued partnership

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