 St Patrick’s P.S.

 and Nursery

 Castlederg



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**March/April Newsletter 2020**

**also online @** [www.stpatrickspscastlederg.org.uk](http://www.stpatrickspscastlederg.org.uk)



**Confirmation/Sacraments**

Good Luck to our P4 pupils who will make their First Confession on Monday 9th March at 6pm in St Patrick’s Church Castlederg.

The P7 pupils making their Confirmation will attend a full day retreat and preparation for Confirmation on Thursday 19th March in St. Patrick’s Hall. Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Donal Mc Keown on Sunday 22nd March at 3pm in St Patrick’s Church.

The Parish are commencing a Children’s Liturgy during Sunday Morning Mass at 11am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. More details are available in the Parish Bulletin or on the Parish Website [www.castledergparish.com](http://www.castledergparish.com)

**Spelling Bee Competition**



Our annual spelling bee competition takes place in the last week in March. Good luck to all the competitors.

Congratulations to all our P3 pupils who took part in the Paired Reading Project in January and February.

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World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March. The pupil council and teachers have been planning activities for each individual class.

There will be the Big Read for P1 helped by the P7 pupils. P2 and P3 visit the librarians in Castlederg Library for Story time. Mr. Keenan’s and Mrs. Smith’s classes will be making book marks and taking part in a World Book Day Quiz. P5 P6 and P7 will be taking part in the Big World Book Quiz and learning about different authors. The whole school plan to write a story with each class adding a few lines and the children will be designing book covers. The March Reading challenge also takes place this month.

The local library is a great resource so it’s a great idea to visit the Library this month with your child to get books and resources to help your child read at home.

**Big Bedtime Read at Nursery.**

Mrs Shelley is hosting a ‘Getting Ready to Learn’ information meeting in the school assembly hall on Friday 13th March for the morning group at 9.15am at drop off and at 2.30pm for the afternoon group at collection. The Nursery will visit the Town Library this week and will take part in a Big Bedtime Read Pyjama Day on Friday 20th March.

**Extended Schools Spring Term**

Breakfast club and homework club continues as normal each morning.

* Homework Club Monday to Thursday P4 to P7 3.15pm – 4.30pm.
* Tuesday – Gaelic Games P6 and P7 – 3.20pm – 4.20pm Mr. Keenan and Miss. Emma Mc Hugh.

**Cross Community Project** (in conjunction with Edwards PS)

* Edwards Nursery visited St Patrick’s last week to take part in Jo Jingles Concert – Well done to all involved.

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**Cumann na mBunscol**

Good luck to our girls gaelic football team who take part in this weeks’ indoor games competitions and to our quiz competitors who visit St Conor’s Omagh for their heat. Match reports and photos can be found at [www.cnmbtyrone.com/](http://www.cnmbtyrone.com/)

**Swimming/PE**

P7 pupils continue their 10 week block of lessons in Strabane swimming pool. All our P7 and P6 pupils have completed a block of coaching with the Tyrone County Board GAA Coach Fiachra. He is coaching the year P5 and P5/6 pupils this term.

**Road Safety**

Thank you to all parent/s who park safely and who show care and consideration when dropping or collecting the pupils from school. Please avoid double parking. Please leave disabled bays, bus bays and keep clear bays free from obstruction. Please remember to use only the main pedestrian gates to enter and exit the school, and also all cyclists should be reminded to wear a helmet when cycling when the weather improves.

**Governors**

Dr. Martin Rushe is presently Chair of the Board of Governors and Mrs. Jacqueline Harvey is our Parent Governor. Copies of our most recent Board of Governors report and Complaints Procedure are freely available on our school website.

**Online Safety Newsletters**

Our internet Safety Newsletter for January, February and March are available for download from our school web site. They are very useful in helping parents manage their child’s internet use and keeping them safe online.

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**St Patrick’s Day Holidays**

The school and nursery will be closed on Monday 16th March and Tuesday 17th March for the St. Patrick’s Day holidays.

**Easter Holidays.**

Please note that the school will close on Wednesday 8th April **at 12pm** for the Easter Holidays. There will be a dinner served on the day for pupils entitled to free school meals and to those pupils who are moving on to crèche /day care etc.

The Nursery closes after lessons on Tuesday 7th April for the Easter Break to allow staff prepare for the summer term.

The school reopens on Monday 20th April for the summer term.

Many thanks Brian Mc Gurk Principal