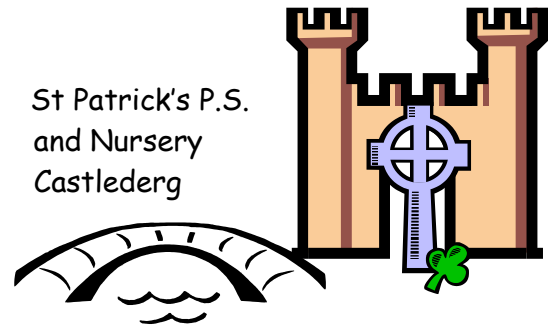


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22nd May 2023

Dear Parent/s

I hope this letter finds you well.

Congratulations to the P4 children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 20th May. The children were so well prepared and presented on the day and our thanks to their teachers Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Smith and their assistants, who put in such hard work to make the day a success. My thanks also to Mrs. Mc Crory and the children in the choir who sang so beautifully on the day.

Fr. Paul has invited all pupils who made their Confirmation or Communion this year to attend a special Mass on Sunday 11th June in St. Patrick's Church. The End of School Year/Leavers Mass takes place on Friday 23rd June at 10am and all the pupils P1 to P7 will attend. P7 Parent/s are invited to attend school after the Mass for the P7 assembly and presentation from 11am.

As the summer term draws to a close, it is a busy time for all our pupils. Many of them will look forward to their school trips and details/letters will be posted on Google Classroom.

Sport/s days will take place as follows P1, P2 and P3 sports takes place on Monday 5th June. P4, P5, P6 and P7 sports takes place on Wednesday 7th June. Parent/s can attend sports from 10am – 12pm on both these days. Nursery Sports takes place on Monday 12th June with separate sports for the morning and afternoon classes – again parent/s are welcome to attend on this day. Could I ask however, that siblings are not collected from class to watch sports if they are not involved as each class will have their own sports. We have planned sports, fun activities and treats for the all the children on the day and they can buy/receive a snack box from the canteen on Wednesday 7th June. The pupils can wear their PE uniform to school on their sports day.

Congratulations to the boys gaelic team who won their league competition and who will compete in County finals in Garvaghey on Tuesday 5th June. Good luck! The girls gaelic team lost out narrowly in qualifying but can be proud of how they played on the day.

Well done to our team of 31 athletes who competed in the Finn Valley Championships and to the 9 athletes who qualified and competed on finals day. Congratulations to Grace P7 who was placed first overall in the Sprint and to Joe P5 who was placed third overall in the Turbo Javelin.

Well done to all the children who took part in the West Tyrone Feis competitions in art, music, poetry and dance. Congratulations to the many prize winners and medal winners.

I will post pictures of the teams and prize winners on our school website this week.

Mrs. Shelley Nursery and Miss. Breslin will be meeting our new Nursery pupils and P1 pupils in June. A reminder that children in their penultimate year for nursery – (underage pupils) will receive notification on the 13th June 2023 – sorry about the lateness of this but this is an EA procedure. The teachers will be in contact before the end of term, I will also post all letters and documents and starting dates etc. on the school website.

The children have been working hard this term and we plan to send school reports home with the pupils on the week beginning 19th June. We will change the P7 report in this academic year in line with the new report style we issued last year.

There are links available on the school website on how to apply for free school meals and also school uniform allowance – please check your entitlement. S and K Castlederg will stock our school uniform as normal, and we hope to take orders for our new PE uniform in June.

You will be aware that there has been cuts to our school budget and to the programmes that have benefitted our pupils for many years. These include the Extended Schools Project and programmes which had been introduced to support the pupils post pandemic, like the Health Happy Minds project and the Engage Project. Sadly, these cuts affect the delivery of the education and the quality of buildings we can offer to our pupils. We should be investing in our young people's futures and not accepting a reduction in education funding.

Mrs. Monica Mc Dermott has joined the staff as school secretary. Parent/s can send any emails to her email address mmcdermott196@c2kni.net or also as normal to the school info account. We forward these on and try to check messages daily. You can also leave private messages to your teacher on Google Classroom if they have this function on their Google Classroom.

The school will be closed for the midterm break/bank holiday on Thursday 25th May, Friday 26th May 2023 and Monday 29th May 2023. The school reopens as normal on Tuesday 30th May 2023.

Have a lovely mid-term break.

Many thanks

Brian Mc Gurk Principal