



St. Malachy's PS

Newsletter

October 26th 2018

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

5 th November	Flu Vaccinations
5 th November	Riverside Literacy Project in UUC for P5 & P5/6
6 th November	Riverside Literacy Project in UUC for P7
6 th November	Parents' Association meeting 7.30pm
7 th November	Riverside Literacy Project in UUC for P6
8 th November	'Road of Hope' Shoebox Collection
8 th November	Instrumentalists to 'Telling Stories' performance by the Ulster Orchestra
11 th November	Enrolment for First Communion & First Reconciliation at 11.00am Mass
12 th November	Cancer Focus Programme for P1-P7
14 th November	Board of Governors' AGM for parents 7.00pm
15 th November	Respecting Difference Meeting for P1 & P2 parents in Harpur's Hill PS
16 th November	Children in Need Crazy Hair Day
18 th November	Enrolment for Confirmation at 11.00am Mass
19 th November	P6 Active Travel Mapping session with Sustrans Officer
21 st November	Dairy Council talk for P5 & P6
4 th December	P7 Charity Cake Sale
5 th December	P7 Charity Cake Sale

SCHOOL WEBSITE

www.stmalachysps.co.uk

SCHOOL TWITTER

@StMalsColeraine

HALLOWE'EN HOLIDAY

School closes at 3.00pm on Friday 26th of October for the Hallowe'en break and will re-open for pupils on Monday 5th November. Pupils staying for 'Fun with drums' will finish at 4.00pm.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Many thanks to all parents/guardians for the excellent turn out at our parent interviews earlier this week. We recognise the positive effect that showing an interest in your child's education has on his/her achievement and appreciate your continued support.

GOOD LUCK

Good luck to our P7 pupils who will sit the GL and AQE tests for four consecutive Saturdays in November and early December to enable them to apply for places in local grammar schools next year.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



National Anti-Bullying Week begins on 12th November. The theme this year is '**RESPECT**'. Under this theme we will be encouraging our pupils to think about what respect means to them, what it feels like to be respected and how they show respect to others and how respect for others can build an anti-bullying culture in our school.

Throughout the week pupils will be given opportunities to discuss strategies to ensure that our school remains a Bullying Free Zone. One way you can support all of us at the school is by encouraging your children to use **STOP (Start Telling Other People)** when anyone is disrespectful to them.



ROAD OF HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Many thanks to everyone who has already returned a shoe-box. Please remember if you intend to fill a box for this worthy cause all shoe-boxes must be returned to the school by **THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER** when they will be collected by Fiona Kelly from the 'Road of Hope' charity. Please help us to make a child, young adult or an elderly person happy this Christmas by filling a box over the Hallowe'en break. **Thank you!** Don't forget to enclose £2 in an envelope at the top of your shoe-box to help cover transport costs.



MATHS WEEK

During maths week the boys and girls were challenging themselves to learn their times tables and to improve their quick recall. They have been working very hard to do this. They have also been exploring how maths is all around us and have thought of loads of maths related questions. Many pupils particularly enjoyed the logic puzzle quizzes on display in the hall each morning. There are displays of maths week work in the assembly hall. Ask your child/children to tell you all about the activities they took part in during Maths week and try some of them out at home.

SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENT CEREMONIES

The enrolment ceremonies for First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion will take place during 11.00am Mass on Sunday 11th November. The enrolment ceremony for Confirmation will take place at 11.00am Mass on Sunday 18th November.

FIRST COMMUNION (P4) & FIRST RECONCILIATION (P3)

The date for First Communion has been confirmed for Saturday 18th May 2019 at 10.00am.

First Reconciliation for P3 will take place on Monday 15th April at 1.30pm

The Bishop has not set a date for Confirmation but we will let you know as soon as it has been confirmed.

AGM



The annual Board of Governors parents' AGM will be held in the school assembly hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14th November.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Crazy Hair and Non-Uniform day for Children in Need



Friday 16th November £1.00

The school council has once again decided to hold a **Crazy Hair and Non-uniform day** to raise money for Children in Need. This will take place on **Friday 16th November** and the council ask each pupil to bring in a donation of £1 which they will collect and send to the charity. We will let you know in the next issue how much we collected. Have fun designing your crazy hairstyle or wear a wig! Have Fun!



Our trial of Mathletics has proven to be very successful with the pupils and will be a wonderful resource to support teaching and learning both in school and at home and is accessible across all devices. It enables children to focus on the areas of the maths curriculum they need more support with and provides teachers with feedback on pupil progress. It can be used by teachers as a homework activity and give maths a fun element for the pupils. Please help us to introduce this wonderful program for our pupils by contributing £5 towards your child's registration. We hope you will assist us with this. We need to register by Friday 9th November and would be grateful if we could have contributions by Wednesday 7th November.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is great to see nearly all of our pupils dressed in full school uniform each day. Recently some children have been taking home the wrong coat/jumper/PE gear. These are usually returned the next day. To reduce the number of children taking the wrong clothes home with them we ask you to please

- label your child's clothes with her/his name using tags or permanent marker.
- show your child where you have put his/her name so that he/she knows where to look in the event of an item of clothing being lost.
- encourage your child to check that the item of clothing he/she is taking home, putting on after PE is his/her own.

If your child is missing any clothes, please get them to check on the stage in the Assembly hall.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

There will be no after school activities from Monday 5th –Friday 9th November. Registration for all activities for the second half of the term (5 weeks) will take place on Friday 9th November at 8.50am. More information will be sent home with pupils after the Hallowe'en break.

P6 and P7 'BRIDGES TO SCHOOLS' Engineering Day with FK Lowry

All the P6 and P7 pupils had a wonderful day on Thursday 18th October when Mr Mc Gill and other engineering staff from FK Lowry brought the ICE bridge to St. Malachy's. If you visited the STEM village at the Portrush Air Show you would have seen the actual bridge the pupils were working on. During the sessions the engineers talked to the children about engineering as a career, safety on worksites, teamwork and thinking skills. The boys and girls had to work together to fulfil their different roles, follow instructions and solve problems to build a working suspension bridge which spanned the length of the assembly hall. It was a wonderful morning for the pupils and the staff. Many thanks to Mr Mc Gill and FK Lowry for providing our pupils with such a fantastic learning opportunity. Perhaps some of the boys and girls are our engineers of the future!



SUSTRANS 'FEET FIRST FAMILIES DAY'

Well done to all the girls and boys who cycled, walked or scooted to school last Friday for 'Feet First Families Day'. Every class enjoyed taking part in all the fun activities which were set out in the car park for the day. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who came along to enjoy the fun and for encouraging your children to be active. Keep cycling, scooting and walking to school on Wednesday for our new 'Wheelie Wednesday' initiative.



“Preparing today’s children for tomorrow’s world”

SCHOOL GATES LITTER

Dear parents/ friends we ask you to please not throw litter or cigarettes at our school gates while waiting to collect your children. Our eco-council are working hard to obtain a green flag award for our school and this sort of litter would result in a direct fail despite all of our other hard work.

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