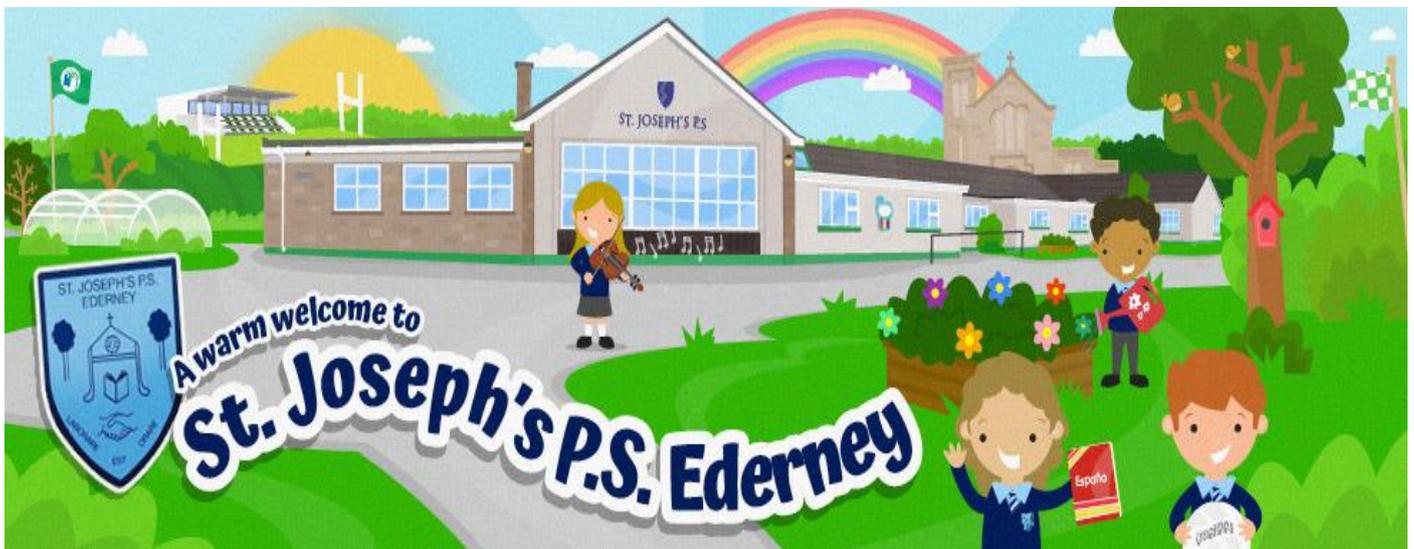


**Saint Joseph's Primary School**  
**&**  
**Ederney Community Nursery**

***Newsletter***

**Principal: Mrs S. Gallagher**  
**Senior Teacher: Mrs A. Hagan**  
**Tel: 028 686 31403**  
**[www.stjosephspsederney.com](http://www.stjosephspsederney.com)**

**12, Ardvarney Rd.,**  
**Ederney,**  
**Co. Fermanagh**  
**BT930HA**



**21<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

## **Post-Primary Application Process**

If you are applying for a place at a post-primary school for your child, starting in September 2024, closing date is **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**. Applications must be made through the EA website:

<https://connect.eani.org.uk/parents>

## **Catholic Schools' Week**

Congratulations to our P7 pupils on their fantastic Coffee/Tea morning for Grandparents' Day, which was held to mark Catholic Schools' Week. It was wonderful to welcome so many grandparents and parents into our school. Special thanks to Mrs Hagan and her assistants for organising the event, to Mrs Meenagh and Brenda Mc Aleer for assisting with the lovely music. Thanks also to our school kitchen for providing the tasty refreshments.

## **Medication**

Please inform the school office if your child requires to use an inhaler during the day. In keeping with our Medical Needs Policy, it is important that parents complete a permission slip to allow staff to supervise the administration of inhalers. Inhalers should be carefully labelled with child's name and given to the class teacher who will keep it safely in the medicine cabinet.

## **Credit Union Quiz**

Kesh PS hosted the Credit Union Quiz on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February with our U11 team winning their section and qualifying for the Chapter final. Well done to all those who took part.

## **Boys & Girls Five-a-Side Football**

Well done to our boys' and girls' teams who recently participated in the Cumann na mBunscol Five-a-Side Indoor Football competitions in Enniskillen Forum. Both teams competed very well with the boys reaching the semi-final where they were narrowly beaten by eventual winners Mulnaska P.S. The girls team played very well reaching the final only to be beaten by St. Mary's P.S. Tempo.

## **Safer Internet Day**

A huge thank you to Mrs. Hagan for preparing resources for each class for Safer Internet Day. Of real concern for children at present, is unfiltered access to YouTube, so please ensure your child's device has enabled the 'Restricted Mode' setting.

Please remember to check your child's online activity regularly - many children are using Snapchat, WhatsApp, Tik Tok and Instagram in Primary Schools - the legal age for Snapchat is 13 and for WhatsApp 16. However, we know children are using these platforms to communicate so we have advised them to ensure their accounts are private. As we are

concerned that chat online after school may cause hurt, we have discussed in school how to do so respectfully and how to keep safe online.

The Education Authority have launched a Tik Tok safety guide for parents and carers and is available on <https://www.eani.org.uk>

### **Confirmation Pledge**

Confirmation Pledge will take place on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February** in St. Joseph's Church Ederney, at 11.00am.

### **First Confession**

Pupils in P4 will celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in St. Joseph's Church on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**, at 7.00pm.

### **Attendance**

Our attendance is completed by 9.30am each morning. Reasons for absences must be noted on our computer system and is accessible by the Education Welfare Officer. The Education Welfare Officer monitors absences and so we have to notify the Education Welfare Officer if a pupil's attendance falls **below 85%**.

### **World Book Day**

We will celebrate World Book Day on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**.

Children are encouraged to come to school dressed as a character from a book, story, myth or nursery rhyme of their choice. Please note that it is not necessary to purchase outfits. Pupils will be involved in a variety of activities on the day. Donations of £1 per pupil in aid of Trocaire will be very much appreciated.

### **Bring and Buy Sale**

This year we intend to host a 'Bring and Buy Sale' of old books to raise awareness of the importance of recycling and also to raise funds for Trocaire. If you have any old children's books or comics that you would like to donate, please send these in with your child. The 'Bring and Buy Sale' will take place on World Book Day.

### **Healthy Eating Week**

We were delighted to receive funding from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to offer some additional food provision for all our pupils. We intend to host two Healthy Living Weeks beginning next **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February** with Healthy Breakfast Week. All pupils will be offered a healthy breakfast cereal at snack time free of charge! We will highlight the importance of eating a healthy breakfast and we will encourage the children to try porridge, healthy grains, brown bread, fruit etc. Please note that this will be offered at snack time and your child will need to eat their own breakfast as normal at home prior to coming to school.

The second week of Healthy Living will take place week beginning **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March** and will consist of Healthy Snacks. Once again, the children will be offered a range of healthy snacks at snack time free of charge.

During both Healthy Eating Weeks, the children will learn about the importance of healthy eating and healthy food alternatives through assemblies and class activities.

We will also be offering a special St Patrick's Day dinner to all pupils free of charge on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **Big School Birdwatch**

Well done to everyone who took part in the Big Schools Birdwatch at the end of January, especially the Eco-council pupils. Hopefully we will now be better at identifying our local birds. A special thanks to our Eco team who braved the elements to feed our birds every morning.

### **Cash for Clobber**

The Eco - Council is organising Cash for Clobber as part of their 'Recycling Waste' topic. If you are spring cleaning and have items you don't want (clothing, bedding covers, curtains, shoes and handbags), we would be very grateful if you would send them into school in a bin bag. (items which are not suitable are duvets, pillows and soiled items). We would be grateful if we could have all items in before the **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **Shared Education**

Primary 6 and 7 pupils travelled to Kesh P.S. on 5<sup>th</sup> February to take part in a Choices and Change Project (P6), and Love for Life Project (P7).

Mrs Gallagher/Mrs Sprice's class along with Mrs Hagan's class will travel to Kesh P.S. on **7<sup>th</sup> March** to watch Kesh pupils perform Snow White.

### **Beyond Bricks**

Mr Mc Anespy and Mrs Hagan's class will begin a Beyond Bricks programme on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**. This programme uses a 'recovery to discovery' approach to enhance children's overall mental health and well-being. The programme will be facilitated by a qualified practitioner and will last for approximately 1 hour in each class and it will run for 5 weeks. We are delighted to have received funding for this project as well as sets of lego which can be used with other groups of children.

### **Irish Language Classes**

Unfortunately, our Irish language lessons have not begun yet due to difficulties locating an Irish tutor. It is hoped that these will begin after Easter.

### **St. Patrick's Day**

School will be closed on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** for St. Patrick's Day.

## **Book Fair**

We are delighted to be welcoming the Book Fair back to St. Joseph's on **Friday 8th March**. You and your child can view the books via <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/parents>

Further details to follow.

## **After School Football**

After School Football (3.00pm - 4.00pm) continues each Monday for another 3 weeks for all P6/7 pupils. Please note that P4/5 After School Football will begin after Easter.

## **Cookery Club**

Cookery for P7 with Rhonda Archer and Josephine McGrath will begin shortly - details to follow.