

PREVENTATIVE CURRICULUM

On Monday 11th March, we were joined by Peter from Portrush R.N.L.I. who warned our children of the dangers of open water and provided them with life saving skills should they ever find themselves in danger whilst in the water. The children had the opportunity to wear replica coastguard clothing and make an emergency call to the Coastguard. Peter has invited the children to visit the R.N.L.I. base when they are next in Portrush. Here at St. John's we strive to promote the messages of the Preventative Curriculum in order to safeguard our children. We have recently appointed a new Designated Teacher to the role of Safeguarding and Child Protection: Miss A. McNicholl (Year 1 Teacher). Our Deputy Designated Teacher remains unchanged: Mrs McDonnell.



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

As always, we have had a very busy schedule of extra curricular activities during this half term. We have added Multi-skills to our programme as well as continuing with Budding Musicians, Tennis, Camogie and Hurling along with Numeracy and Literacy is Fun in Year 2.



INVESTING IN OUR CHILDREN'S LEARNING

We are in the process of making a considerable financial investment by updating our current reading schemes. We have purchased new and exciting reading books for Years 1, 2 and 3 and bought new books for our Key Stage 1 and 2 library which now has a librarian to issue books to our children daily. We have purchased 'Giant Polydron' for use outdoors. Year 7 will have the opportunity to work with one of our parents on an engineering project in Term 3.

We are committed to extending our children's learning and providing a range of experiences for them in all areas of the curriculum.



The pupils and staff of St. John's P.S. would like to wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Easter. We thank you once again for your continued support and look forward to seeing you all again for another busy and exciting term!



Follow us on Twitter @StJohnColeraine to keep up to date with what's happening in our school



St. John's P.S. Community Newsletter April 2019

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YEAR 1

We took part in Forest School Activities on Monday 1st April in our school grounds. We looked for shades of green in our environment and used a colour matching card to sort them. We also made mud using compost and water which we then used to make mud pictures along with natural resources we found.



YEAR 2

We have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction to 20. We use dice to add two numbers together and to find out which number to subtract from the other. We love to take our learning outdoors. Here we are working together and thinking 'outside the box'.



YEAR 3

Our topic is Houses and Homes. We have been investigating the different types of houses in our local environment. We went for a walk around our local area and recorded what we saw on an observation sheet. We took pictures using the iPad which we uploaded to the app Clips and added narration.



YEAR 4

Our topic this half term has been World War II. We were visited by Wilson whose father fought in the war. He showed us his father's medals, pictures and money from that time. Along with our parents we made Anderson Shelters which are being displayed around our school. Come in and have a look!



YEAR 5

We took part in a national earthworm and soil survey. Each group chose their site which we measured before digging for worms. We also tested the soil for calcium carbonate. We left our site exactly the same way as we had found it.



YEAR 6

We have been working very hard to develop our understanding of the nets of a range of 3D shapes. We have enjoyed using clixi to make cubes, cuboids, prisms and pyramids. We opened these shapes to view their nets which we then drew accurately into our books.



YEAR 7

After 6 weeks of love and tender care, we released salmon alevins into a local river to allow them to increase salmon stocks. We investigated the water quality of the river and we are pleased to report the water is clean. We also investigated water filtration and how oil spills are cleaned from water courses.



eSAFETY

In partnership with Killowen P.S. and Kylemore Nursery, a parents' information session was held in West Bann Development on Tuesday 2nd April on the important issue of eSafety. There was a large turnout of parents and guardians who heard from a leading expert from NSPCC. She advised parents on ways to keep their children safe online including visiting our local O2 shop and availing of the O2 Guru service which helps parents setup parental controls on their child's device.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 29th Apr. School Reopens for Term 3
- 2nd, 3rd, 6th & 27th May - School Closed
- 20th & 21st May—Year 7 Residential
- 24th May - Years 1-3 Sports' Day (weather permitting)
- 1st Jun. First Holy Communion
- 6th Jun. - Year 7 Fan the Flame Mass
- 7th Jun. - Years 4-7 Sports' Day (weather permitting)

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WORLD BOOK DAY 2019

Thursday 7th March saw the arrival of the 23rd World Book Day. A range of events were organised throughout the day with the children dressing as their favourite book characters. Mr Burns organised for each class to have their photograph taken using 'Green Screen' which he then used to place us on the front cover of our favourite books. As well as this, each class paired with another to complete 'Paired Reading' for thirty minutes during the day. Year 4 visited the newly refurbished Coleraine Library to hear stories from the renowned story teller Liz Weir. It is clear to see that reading is important in our school all year round, not just on World Book Day!



ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2019

Our school was a sea of green on Friday 15th March to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We had music, dance and drama as Year 6 re-enacted the story of St. Patrick. We listened to children from 'Budding Musicians' perform Irish songs using their tin whistles and we were also treated to Irish dancing. A selection of our children performed at Mass in St. John's Parish Church on St. Patrick's Day. Thank you to everyone who participated in our concert and helped to celebrate our Irish culture.



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CELEBRATING OUR FAITH

On Thursday 28th March, our Year 4 children continued their journey in faith as they made the Sacrament of Penance which was officiated by Fr. Jimmy and attended by the children's families. Part of the children's preparations to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist on 1st June they are attending Mass with their class each week. As a school, we are praying for our children as they continue to make final preparations for their special day in June.



On Thursday 5th April, our Year 7 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Fr. Jimmy in our local parish church. We were joined by children from Ballyhackett P.S., D.H. Christie Memorial and Sandleford. The children, their sponsors and extended family members returned to school afterwards for refreshments. We would like to thank everyone involved in preparing the children, those who enhanced the ceremony with music and singing and those who provided refreshments afterwards. We would like to congratulate our children on receiving the Holy Spirit in their lives.



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