

SPORTS DAY 2019!

On Friday 24th May, Years 1-3 competed in their annual Sports Day. The speed and agility on display was outstanding with every child competing to the best of their ability. To conclude our Sports Day, the children were presented with a medal to celebrate their endeavours and a juicy ice-lolly to cool them down. It was the turn of Years 4 to 7 on Friday 7th June and once again a fantastic day was had by all. Well done everyone!



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

As always, we have had a very busy schedule of activities in our Extra Curricular programme. We introduced Iconic Dance, Forest School and Athletics to our Term 3 listings as well as our regular activities of Budding Musicians and tennis. Our tennis participants had the unique opportunity to play in the new tennis courts at the University of Ulster, Coleraine.



NEW BEGINNINGS

Our Year 7 children are nearing the end of their time with us in St. John's. In preparation for their transition to post-primary, every child has taken part in 'New Beginnings' programme organised by EA. The aims of the programme include: getting to know children from other schools, learn ways to cope with change and unfamiliar situations whilst developing resilience skills. We would like to wish our Year 7 pupils all the best in their new schools. We hope you will look back on your time here with fondness!



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

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YEAR 1

It is so hard to believe our first year at St. John's is coming to an end. The time has flown past and we have learned so much this year. We performed at a special assembly on Friday 14th June. Our Assembly Hall was packed with our family and friends who we entertained with song, poetry, speech and tin whistle playing.



YEAR 2

We are enjoying our topic of Under the Sea. We have been learning about Coral Reefs and various creatures that live beneath our oceans. We have been working on finding out facts and information in non-fiction books and on the internet. We love using our Bee Bots and can program them to follow a set of commands. Watch out for our fabulous writing and artwork.



YEAR 3

We have been developing our understanding of capacity in Using Mathematics. We have enjoyed estimating, pouring and measuring different amounts of water into a range of containers of various sizes. We have been trying very hard to make sensible estimates as to how much water each container can hold using our prior knowledge.



YEAR 4

We have been busy making our very own class time capsule that will not be opened until the summer of Year 7. We have written a letter to our future selves and have included our hopes, dreams and future job roles. We are very excited to see what our future holds!



YEAR 5

We have been learning about The Water Cycle and have investigated the processes of condensation and evaporation. We created our own water filtration system using a plastic bottle, cotton wool, stones and sand. We timed how long it took for muddy water to pass through the filter.



YEAR 6

In conjunction with University of Ulster Coleraine and I'm Happy Project, we had the opportunity to use a range of computer software to design and create an app. We loved using our coding skills and experimenting with different software features to design a fun and interactive app.



YEAR 7

We recently participated in Coleraine Primary School Orienteering competition at Coleraine College and WON! We all really enjoyed the experience and want to thank Fred for organising this event. We are really proud of our achievements and the fact that we have all learned new skills that we can use in the future.



Community Big Breakfast

On Saturday 8th June, we invited our local community to a 'Big Breakfast,' in our school canteen. It was a real team effort from our volunteers who worked together to make this such a successful fundraising event. Thank you to Ray and everyone who helped in any way and to those who donated food for the breakfast. A final word of thanks to everyone who came along and dined at our 'Big Breakfast.' All money raised will be spent on learning resources for our children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 28th June - School Closes at 12noon for Summer Holidays
- 30th August - School reopens at 8.50am!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



The Board of Governors and staff of St. John's P.S. would like to wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing summer. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in any way this year. It is much appreciated!



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YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL

Our Year 7 annual residential took place on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd May. The children travelled to Portrush by train and resided in a local hotel. During their time in Portrush they participated in a range of activities: rock pool exploring, surfing, coasteering and archery. The children were joined by Year 7 pupils from Millstrand P.S. who led a beach lesson using the beach and its amenities for a range of focused mathematical activities, e.g. perspectives and measuring. The children dined in 55° North and Morelli's Ice-cream parlour before toasting marshmallows and playing challenge games on the beach. Our Year 7 children had a fabulous time! Thanks to our school staff who organised and accompanied the children on their annual outing.



CELEBRATING OUR FAITH

Congratulations to our Year 4 children who received the sacrament of Holy Communion on Saturday 1st June in St. John's Parish Church. The ceremony was officiated by Fr. Jimmy McGrory. Our wonderful school choir and instrumentalists enhanced the Mass beautifully. Afterwards, everyone returned to school for refreshments before continuing their celebrations with their families. Thank you to everyone involved in preparing the children for their special day, participated in the Mass and to those who helped with refreshments afterwards. We hope you all had a memorable day.



TRIP TO DOWNHILL FOREST

As part of our Extra Curricular programme in Term 3, we facilitated forest school activities in Years 4 to 7 both here in our school grounds and in Downhill Forest. We invited children from Ballyhackett P.S. to join us in our trip to Downhill Forest. The children worked together on a number of activities in a zoned area within the forest. They investigated the forest floor, the different types of trees and the layers contained within the forest. On their final session, the children made a bug hotel and an insect log pile before toasting some marshmallows on the fire pit here in our school grounds. Well done to all our participants for promoting our outdoor learning space.



BUILDING BRIDGES IN ST. JOHN'S - STEM LEARNING



Thanks to Mr Niall Mc Gill from FW Lowery and members of the Institution of Civil Engineers in Northern Ireland who facilitated a unique learning experience for our children as they had the opportunity to build a 15m cable stayed bridge which they then walked across here in St. John's P.S. This engineering activity provided our children with numerous educational benefits as they were required to use their problem solving skills to build the bridge whilst working as a team. They also gained a greater understanding of the civil engineering profession.



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