



Principal: Mr Terry McCann  
[www.stpatricksandstjosephs.com](http://www.stpatricksandstjosephs.com)  
Tel No: 02829558039



## Admission of Children to Primary School

Children, who are four on or before 1 July 2024, are due to start school in September 2024.

## Strike Action

As a result of industrial action, our school will be closed to pupils on Thursday 18 January 2024.

Our Christmas Jumper Day raised a total of £162 for Mary's Meals. Thank you to all who contributed.



## Christmas Shows & Raffle

A total of £2,457.89 was raised from the Christmas Shows and the raffle organised by the Parents' Association. £1,000 of this has been donated to Trocaire, with the remaining £1,457.89 going to school funds.

Many thanks to the Parents' Association for their continued support and to the local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle.

## Confirmation & First Holy Communion Dates

Sat	23 March	Confirmation at 11am. St Mary's, Ballerin
Sat	18 May	First Holy Communion at 11am - Venue TBC

## Attendance

Pupils who have any sickness should remain at home until well enough to return to school.

The application is via the Education Authority's website; <https://www.eani.org.uk/>. The criteria for admission to primary schools was published on this website on 12 December 2023.

If your child is starting primary school in September 2024, you can apply for their place online from 12 noon on Tuesday 9 January 2024. The closing date and time for primary one applications will be 12 noon on Friday 26 January 2024.

The key dates for the above can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Post Primary Applications

The EA will publish information on its website about post-primary schools on Thursday 11 January.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/post-primary-admissions-guide>. The application process begins on Tuesday 30 January at 12 noon and closes on Thursday 22 February at 4pm.

Please give careful consideration to the relevant criteria when making your school choices.

The key dates for the above can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.



## P4 Assembly

Assembly will be performed for their parents by P4 on Friday 26 January. This is a great opportunity for our wonderful children to showcase their talents. We would ask that parents use the hand sanitisers on the way in.

## Irish for the Month



Is maith liom :peil Ghaelach  
sacar  
iomáint  
camógaíocht  
snámh  
rothaíocht  
damhsa  
ceol  
drámaíocht  
ealaín  
léamh  
cluichí ríomhaire

Is maith lum pell Ghaelach  
saccar  
imonch  
camogaíocht  
snou  
rohaíocht  
dowsa  
quole  
dramaíocht  
alean  
layamh  
cleehay reewara

I like Gaelic football  
soccer  
hurling  
camogie  
swimming  
cycling  
dancing  
music  
drama  
art  
reading  
Computer games

## Song for the Month

### Molly Malone

In Dublin's fair city  
Where girls are so pretty  
It was there that I first met sweet Molly Malone  
She wheeled her wheelbarrow  
Through the streets broad and narrow  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Alive, alive, oh  
Alive, alive, oh  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Now she was a fishmonger  
And sure, t'was no wonder  
For her father and mother  
Were fishmongers too  
And they both wheeled their barrow  
Through the streets broad and narrow  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Alive, alive, oh  
Alive, alive, oh  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Now she died of a fever  
And no one could save her  
Was then that I lost sweet Molly Malone  
Now her ghost wheels her barrow  
Through streets broad and narrow  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Alive, alive, oh  
Alive, alive, oh  
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

## Grammar for the Month

My iPad broke	√ correct
My iPad is broke	X incorrect
My iPad is broken	√ correct
We were beat by Banagher	X incorrect
We were beaten by Banagher	√ correct

## Class Assemblies

Class Assemblies will take place on the following dates and can be viewed via Dojo.

- Friday 26 January - P4 class
- Friday 1 March - P3 class
- Friday 22 March - P2 class
- Friday 3 May - P1 class

## Use of Children's images

The school has a number of parents who have not given permission for their child's image to be used or reproduced by members of the public.

## Allergies / Medical Needs

As you are aware a number of children within the school are allergic to nuts and or eggs. As an anaphylactic reaction to these foods can be potentially life threatening we ask that all parents ensure that no nut products (e.g Kinder eggs/ bars) or egg (such as egg sandwiches) be brought into the school.

## Administering Medication

If your child has a medical condition and requires medication, please ensure the medication is in date.



## Helping Your Child Make Healthy Food Choices



No matter what their age, it's never too late to help your children develop healthy mealtime habits. Offering a variety of foods helps them develop more flexible preferences. If you have a picky eater, start by incorporating new items alongside things your children are already eating. For more information on healthy eating ideas click on the link below from the Public Health Agency

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8198914>



## During/Afterschool Clubs



<b>Mondays</b> 2-3pm		<i>Mrs Bradley - Choir P4-7</i>
<b>Tuesdays</b> 3-4 pm	<i>16 Jan -20 Feb</i>	<i>Quiz club for P6 &amp; 7</i>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<i>Once a month</i>	<i>Adoration for P5-7</i>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<i>10 Jan- 27 Mar</i>	<i>Swimming for the P7 class</i>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<i>Jan -June</i>	<i>Gaelic with Gavin</i>
<b>Thursdays</b> 3 - 4pm	<i>18 Jan - 29 Feb</i>	<i>Study Club for P6 with Mrs Ball</i>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<i>20 April - 22 June</i>	<i>Swimming for the P6 class</i>

## Dates for Term Two & Three

<b>Thursdays</b>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Each class will attend the library once every 7 weeks</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12 noon	<i>9 January</i>	<i>Applications for admission to primary school opened</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>11 January</i>	<i>EA published information on website about post-primary schools.</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>18 January</i>	<i>Strike Action - School closed</i>
<b>Sun- Sat</b>	<i>21-27 Jan</i>	<i>Catholic Schools' Week</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>26 January</i>	<i>P4 Assembly KRD Credit Union Quiz for P7</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12 noon	<i>26 January</i>	<i>Applications for admission to primary school close at 12 noon.</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12 noon	<i>30 January</i>	<i>Post-primary application process opens online</i>
<b>Wed</b>	<i>14 February</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
<b>Wed - Fri</b>	<i>14 - 16 Feb</i>	<i>School closed for mid-term</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 4 pm	<i>22 February</i>	<i>Post-primary application portal closes</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>1 March</i>	<i>P3 Assembly</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>23 March</i>	<i>Confirmation at 11am in St Mary's Ballerin</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>18 March</i>	<i>School closed- For St Patrick's Day</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>22 March</i>	<i>P2 Assembly</i>
<b>Friday - Friday</b>	<i>29 Mar - 5 April incl.</i>	<i>School closed for Easter Holidays</i>
<b>Monday - Friday</b>	<i>6 - 10 May incl.</i>	<i>School closed for mid-term</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>18 May</i>	<i>First Holy Communion at 11am - Venue TBC</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>3 May</i>	<i>P1 Assembly</i>
<b>Fridays</b>	<i>24 &amp; 31 May</i>	<i>P7 Day Visits to Woodhall Residential Centre, Kilrea</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>27 May</i>	<i>School closed</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>3 June</i>	<i>School closed</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>28 June</i>	<i>School closes at 12noon for summer holidays</i>

## Post-Primary Open Days

<i>Loreto College, Coleraine</i> <i>Saturday 13 January -</i> <i>Information letter sent out to P7 pupils</i>
<i>St Conon's College, Kilrea &amp; Clady</i> <i>Saturday 13 January 9.30-11.30am &amp; 12.30-2.30pm</i>
<i>St Patrick's College, Maghera</i> <i>Open Week -St Mary's building Mon 15 - Fri 19 -</i> <i>Invitations to follow.</i> <i>Saturday 20 January - 9.30 - 1pm -</i> <i>St Patrick's building</i>

# Key Dates for Primary & Post Primary Applications

## Primary

Date	Activity
Tuesday 12 December 2023	Admissions criteria for Primary schools published on the EA website.
Tuesday 9 January 2024 – at 12 noon	EA Connect opens for online applications for Primary 1.
Friday 26 January 2024 – at 12 noon	EA Connect closes for online applications for Primary 1.
Wednesday 31 January 2024 – by 4pm	Deadline for submitting verification/supporting documents via EA Connect. Final date for late paper applications.
Thursday 25 April 2024	Parents/carers will receive application outcomes via email (where one is held) or by letter.

## Post Primary

Date	Activity
Thursday 11 January 2024	Admissions criteria for Post Primary Schools published on the EA website.
Tuesday 30 January 2024 - at 12 noon	EA Connect opens for online applications for Post Primary.
Thursday 22 February 2024 - at 12 noon	EA Connect closes for online applications for Post Primary.
Monday 4 March 2024 – by 4pm	Final date for late applications.
Saturday 18 May 2024	Parents/carers will receive application outcome via email (where one is held) or by letter.