



June 2024 Newsletter

Our final month of the school year has arrived...please read through carefully all the information put together in this month's newsletter.



I would like to take the opportunity to share with our school community that Mrs Maria McCormack will be retiring at the end of June. Mrs McCormack has been teaching here in Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School since 1994. Her kind and gentle ways will be sorely missed by the children, parents and staff. We wish her every happiness as she begins the next chapter of her life and thank her for everything she has given to the Waterside Community over the years.



We will be holding sports day for P1-P7 (weather permitting) on Thursday 13th June. Please see attached timetable of events below.

- Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend from 9.30am onwards.
- Lunch time for the children is between 12-1pm, we ask for Parents/Guardians to leave the school premises during this time.
- P4-P7 Sprints and relay races will be held from 1pm onwards- parents/guardians welcome to return for these.
- **Please note that in the interests of health and safety, that all children must remain with their class teacher. It is a full school day as normal.**
- Children should wear their own appropriate sports gear/footwear and suncream if the weather suggests necessary.

We look forward to a day of celebrating achievement and the participation of all with our school community. There will also be a special treat for each child on Friday 14th June for their participation.

**Good Shepherd Primary and Nursery School
Sports Day Timetable of Events**

Time	P1, P2, P3	P4, P5, P6, P7
9.30-10.15	P1-P2 Sports Activities - Lower Playground P3 Sprint/Relay Races - Top Playground	9:30 - 12 noon Basketball shoot (PE hall)
10.30-10.45 (BREAK)	Break	Standing long jump/Tug O War (Grass below Nursery)
11.00-11.45	P1-P2 Sprint Races - Top Playground P3 Sport Activities - Lower Playground P1-3 Sports Day Activities conclude by lunchtime	Penalty kick (Grass below Nursery) 7-a-side football (Football Cage)
12.00-1.00	LUNCH	
1.00-2.00	P1-P2 Play activities in class	1.00 - 2.45
1.00-3.00	P3 Play activities in class	P4-P7 Sprints & Relay Races



ParentPay

As we approach the end of the school year, please ensure any outstanding balances on ParentPay are settled, including dinner money.

Thank you!



Our uniform swop shop is back! Children can wear their own clothes from Monday 24th June until the end of the school year in order for uniforms to be donated. **However, Primary 7 children will need to wear their uniform on Thursday 27th June for their leavers mass.**

Please leave any donations of clean, good quality uniforms into school on Monday 24th June to the school office. We welcome Nursery- Primary 7 uniforms.

We welcome donations of: any uniform items, coats or shoes and school book bags which are in good condition.

Uniforms will then be organised for parents/guardians to browse and collect on **Tuesday 25th June & Wednesday 26th June 9-4pm** from the school assembly hall. All Free!

Any uniforms donated which have not been collected will be donated to a local charity.

We also ask for everyone to have a hunt at home for any school books and return them. Thank you!

Sun Safety Reminder:



We would encourage Parents/Guardians to apply sun cream on their child before they start school each day if the weather indicates a risk. Children can bring a sunhat to school (please label with their name). We would also encourage the children to bring water each day to stay hydrated.

Date	What's On?
Monday 3 rd June	After School Mini Professors P1 & P2: 2-2.50pm, P3 & P4: 3-3.50pm Week 6
Monday 3 rd June	After School R9 Sports P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm. Week 7
Tuesday 4 th June	P1 Stay and Play @ 2.15pm- for children who are new to our school and did not attend our nursery previously
Tuesday 4 th June	Afterschool Singing Lessons Week 8 P1 & P2 2-2.45pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-3.45pm
Tuesday 4 th June	Girls Soccer @The Bay Road
Wednesday 5 th June	North West Swimming Gala
Wednesday 5 th June	After School Guitar Lessons P5, P6 & P7 Make up lesson for week cancelled- FINAL WEEK
Wednesday 5 th June	After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 9
Thursday 6 th June	Primary 7 Fan the Flame Mass in Celtic Park
Thursday 6 th June	After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 8
Friday 7 th June	P7 Cricket Finals Day
Friday 7 th June	P5DW Swimming- make up lesson for week of First Communion- FINAL SESSION
Friday 7 th June	P7 boys transitioning to St. Columb's visit
Monday 10 th June	After School Mini Professors P1 & P2: 2-2.50pm, P3 & P4: 3-3.50pm Week 7 FINAL WEEK
Monday 10 th June	After School R9 Sports P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm. Week 8 FINAL WEEK
Tuesday 11 th June	Primary 4 visit Sperrin Fun Farm
Tuesday 11 th June	Afterschool Singing Lessons Week 9 FINAL WEEK P1 & P2 2-2.45pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-3.45pm

Date	What's On?
Wednesday 12 th June	After School Dance P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3 P4 P5 P6 P7: 3-4pm Week 10 FINAL WEEK
Thursday 13 th June	Sports Day P1-P7
Thursday 13 th June	After School Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2: 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7: 3-4pm Week 9 FINAL WEEK
Friday 14 th June	Nursery Sports Day
Wednesday 19 th June	Nursery end of year reports distributed
Wednesday 19 th June	P5 visit Sperrin Fun Farm
Thursday 20 th June	Nursery visit The Play Shed
Friday 21 st June	Nursery Graduation in the Assembly Hall- Parents/Guardians welcome! Mrs Kyle's Class @9.30am Mrs Warne's Class @11am Nursery children finish for the summer on this day and leave with their parents/guardians following their graduation ceremony.
Friday 21 st June	P1-P7 School reports distributed
Friday 21 st June	P7 Trip to Carrowmena
Monday 24 th June	Children can wear their own clothes all week. Please donate any uniform items for our swop shop today
Tuesday 25 th June	Uniform Swop Shop open 9-4pm Please take what you need!
Tuesday 25 th June	Primary 3 visit Tropical World, Letterkenny
Tuesday 25 th June	P5 visit Foyle College
Wednesday 26 th June	Uniform Swop Shop open 9-4pm Please take what you need!
Thursday 27 th June	Primary 7 Leavers Mass @ 1pm in St. Columb's Church Chapel Road. Parents/Guardians welcome to attend. P7 Children leave from the Chapel with their Parents/Guardians. This can also be watched via the Parish webcam: https://www.youtube.com/@WatersideParish
Friday 28 th June	School closes at 12noon for P1-P7 Children Those entitled to free school meals can avail of a dinner only
<p>School reopens for children on Monday 2nd September 2024. Nursery and Primary 1 children will have individual start times. School reopening information will be communicated in due course via the school website and schools NI app.</p>	



Teaching and learning starts at 9am every day. It is important that your child is punctual for school. School gates open from 8.45am. **Breakfast club**

is open from 8.10am. No need to book in for the breakfast club- £1 a day per child. Please enter the school grounds via the Nursery pedestrian gate. In the interests of health and safety, children should not be left unsupervised at the school gates before they open.

Safeguarding Information



In the interests of health and safety we now ask that children do not bring any shellfish products or nut products to school for either break or lunch. This includes Nutella.



We would like to take the opportunity to remind parents/guardians that **no cars are permitted inside the school grounds at any time** unless this has been pre-arranged with Mrs McCafferty or you are a blue badge holder. Please share this information with grandparents and childminders as refusal often causes offence.

Please ensure that the school gates are kept clear. Cars should not be parked on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school gates at any time. Please talk to your child about general road safety. Enter and exit the school using the pedestrian gates only.

Once your child is collected from school, please keep them beside you at all times. These measures are in the interest of everyone's health and safety. Thank you!

Members of the Schools Safeguarding team are:

The Chair of the Board of Governors (Mr P. Duffy)

The Designated Governor for Child Protection (Dr M Gormley)

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs Maria Harley)

Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs S. McCafferty).

Other members of Safeguarding Team:

Mrs P. Houston/Mrs R Warne /Mrs Kyle/ Mrs A Kivlehan/Mr D Herron.

School policies can be found on the school website under the 'My School' section. There is also a wide range of support information for parents in the 'Parents Section' of the school website. This is updated regularly.

The school holiday lists can be accessed here:

<https://www.goodshepherdps.net/parents-area/holiday-list/>

The new school dinner menu can be accessed here- please check which week we are on as there is a 4 week menu:

https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/475/docletter/20240320013334_91_PS_Spring_Summer_24_P1-P7.pdf



Please ensure that you download the Schools NI App which is linked to our website. Click on the ? on the app and ensure that notifications are turned on. This is our central means of communication.

PRAYER TO END A SCHOOL YEAR

God of Wisdom, we thank you for all the gifts you have given us throughout this school year. We praise you for giving us life, for saving us in Christ, and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace. We praise you, God, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.



On behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish our entire school community a safe and happy summer break. Thank you for all your support throughout the year. *Mrs S. McCafferty*