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| T:\logo\Capture.JPG***Principal: Miss R Robinson******B Ed (Hons) M ED PQH******Tel: 028 38851778******Fax: 028 38852568*** |  **St Mary’s Primary School****84 Maghery Road****Maghery****Dungannon****Co Tyrone****BT71 6PA**  |
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27th May 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope this finds you well.

As usual, we have quite a full schedule in St Mary’s this Summer term.

On Monday we re-started our Breakfast Club. It is operating in bubbles with children from the different classes being spread out 2 metres apart. Staff are wearing masks and sanitiser will be available. This starts at 8.15 am with last order being at 8.50am. It will be at a cost of £2 per child.

On Tuesday 25th May we participated in the Global Daily Mile. Children were all awarded with certificates and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Today we all partook in Junk Art and some super creations were produced. Both these activities will support the upkeep of our Green Flag award.

In supporting this also will be our annual sale of recycled uniforms. If you have any uniforms for the school or playgroup, please can these be left in the school before 14th July or given to Mrs Aileen Guy. We will also be selling football kits and boots. Please spread the word to relatives and friends who may have clothing we could sell. All donations will be welcome.

Tuesday 15th June sees us keeping up our good relationship with Birches Primary School. Our Primary 5,6&7 class have been invited to Birches for the morning to participate in a football match. They will be back in school for lunch. Please make sure your child brings a healthy snack and water. Please also ensure they are wearing sun-cream, a sunhat and the School Sports Gear of navy plain bottoms and white polo shirt. **No football strips or gear will be permitted.** Your child will also need a gum-shield. Our appreciation to Birches Primary School for the invite.

On Thursday 17th June our school will participate on the zoom Cumann na mBunscol Quiz. There will be an online practice organised previous to this. Best of luck to all.

The school year has been tough for all our children. As a reward for trying so hard throughout the year, we are having a pizza and ice-cream day on the 17th June. If your child has any allergies, please let us know by Monday 7th June and we will organise an alternative for them should you wish. We do not intend to have school dinners this day.

We are hoping to run a Summer Scheme from 5th July onwards for two weeks and await confirmation from DE with our application. There has been a huge interest. Again further details and a programme of events will follow.

On Tuesday 1st June there will be a Primary 7 Transition day by Clover Cloggers. This is aimed at supporting Primary 7 with their transition in to secondary level education. We acknowledge SLNRA who have organised this for our children.

On Friday 18th June we will sadly say farewell to our Primary 7’s, Rory, Tadhg, Ailbhe, Nicole, Emma, Cormac, Thomas and Darragh. They have been a credit to our school and their families and they will be truly missed. Fr Garrett has agreed to celebrate a Mass on that Friday at 10.30 am in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church Maghery. Unfortunately, only parents can attend this Mass. All the Primary 7’s must come to school that morning in full school uniform. On that day children will be presented with their portfolios of work and hoodies. Thank you to our PTA who have agreed to cover some of the costs of the hoodies with the tractor draw money from last year.

School will finish for Primary 1-6 children at 11.00 am on Friday 25th June. On that day we will have Induction for our new Primary 1 intake. Further details will follow. There will be no school bus on the return journey home that day.

This past while there have been a number of children wearing chains and earrings to school. As a school, we advise against this in compliance with general Health and Safety regulations. We cannot accept responsibility if an injury is caused to your child whilst wearing this jewellery, or if jewellery is lost. We would appreciate if this jewellery remained at home. Simple stud earrings are acceptable.

As the weather is getting warmer, please also ensure that your child brings water and a sunhat to school, and that sun cream is applied every morning before coming to school.

With the money from last year’s tractor draw we were able to buy Dictionaries and Thesaurus’. We are also using some of this money to purchase and develop a whole school writing scheme. As our school pitch has now been re-shored and re-seeded, we will now also be able to fund the development of our Eco Area. On that note I cannot thank you enough for your support, your voluntary efforts and donations to our school. It is your enthusiasm and support that staff find invaluable.

Unfortunately, we will be also saying goodbye to Mrs McAvera who has received a permanent post in Dubai. Mrs McAvera is sad to leave St Mary’s and has really enjoyed her time in Maghery. We are hoping to acknowledge her hard work for St Mary’s over this past three years. Therefore, should you wish to make a monetary donation it would be greatly appreciated. (Inclusion of name on envelope is optional). Please can this be brought in no later than Friday 4th June? We wish her all the best for the future.

Congratulations to Mrs Copeland who gave birth to a baby girl, Hannah Kate, on Saturday 8th May 2021.

I am pleased to announce that our new Parent Governor is Mr Stephen Murray, dad of Martha in Primary 1.

School will resume for all children on Wednesday 1st September. Primary 1’s will return to school from the 1st September to 15th September from 9.15 until 12 noon. From then on in, it will be a full school day until 2pm. There will be staggered intake and Primary 1 parents will be contacted individually.

Please check our website over the Summer. We remain optimistic regarding the situation with Covid.

Miss R Robinson