

St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh

10 Whites Road, Cabragh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 3AN

Telephone: (028) 8776 7356

Principal: Mrs Louise Quinn



March Newsletter

World Book Day

World Book Day is on **Thursday 3rd March** and aims to encourage a love of reading in children. The day is a celebration of everything books, including the authors, illustrators and the children who read them. To celebrate World Book Day we encourage the children to either come to school dressed up as their favourite book character (or dressed in their pyjamas) and bring along their favourite book! This year Mrs Poacher has organised a very exciting **competition** called "The Masked Reader"! You've all heard of 'The Masked Singer', the surreal and surprising singing show that asks: "Who is behind the mask?" Well now at St. Mary's we have 'The Masked Reader'!

In readiness for [World Book Day](#) on Thursday 3rd March, some of our staff have donned a virtual mask (or filter) whilst they read an extract from a favourite book. Our pupils' task? Guess who is behind the mask! Mrs Poacher has challenged the children to view the Masked Reader video and to correctly identify who each reader is. Those children who guess correctly are in with a chance of winning a prize! There are 3 prizes up for grabs! The names of the children who guess correctly will be put into a hat. There will be a prize for a Foundation Stage child, a Key Stage 1 child and a Key Stage 2 child! This competition promises to be lots of fun and we hope you all enjoy watching "The Masked Reader" video and having a go at revealing the identity of each of the masked readers. The children are asked to **donate £1** to enter the competition. **All money raised will go to the Air Ambulance Charity.** Good Luck to everyone taking part in the Masked Reader Competition! Keep reading everyone!

Friends of Cabragh Coffee Morning

'Friends of Cabragh', our Parent Support Group are hosting a Coffee Morning fundraiser on **Sunday 13th March 2022**, in Killeeshil Community Centre. All proceeds in aid of school funds. Donations of cakes, scones, buns, pastries, cupcakes, tarts, tray-bakes etc would be greatly appreciated. All baked goods can be left at St. Mary's Primary School on Friday 11th March or in Killeeshil Community Centre, on Saturday 12th March between 2.30pm – 3.30pm

St. Patrick's Day

A **"Green Day"** is planned for **Wednesday 16th March** to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We encourage the children to come to school dressed in green. The children will take part in a range of St. Patrick's Day art and craft activities and will find out about our patron saint. This year we plan to bring our St. Patrick's Day's celebrations to you! Keep an eye on our school website for our Virtual St. Patrick's Day Concert!

School Holidays

St. Mary's will be **closed on Thursday 17th March and Friday 18th March** to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

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World Maths Day

World Maths Day takes place on the **Wednesday 23rd of March 2022**. This day aims to get children excited and enthusiastic about learning Maths. The teachers have lots of fun and exciting activities planned for the children. More information to follow soon!

First Confession

First Confession for our Primary 4 children will take place on **Wednesday 23rd March at 7pm** in the Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen.

Relax Kids

Primary 5-7 children will begin their Relax Kids Programme on **Friday 4th March**. Relax Kids uses research-based mindful and relaxation techniques alongside values and positive psychology (positivity, strength-building, gratitude, resilience and compassion) to help support children's emotional health and wellbeing. The children in P5, P6 and P7 should come into school in their PE uniform on 4th March, 11th March, 25th March, 1st April, 8th April.

Creative Music After-School

Funding has been secured through the Extended Schools Programme for a Creative Music After-School. Primary 3 children will have the opportunity to attend this After-School, commencing Wednesday 9th February – 27th April 2022.

Music has numerous benefits for children including; activating both sides of the brain, improving listening, concentration and problem-solving, improving working memory, confidence building, promoting creativity and self-expression and promoting well-being - reducing anxiety and stress.

The Creative Music After-School will be facilitated by a trained Music Specialist, Mr Donal Gormley, and will be offered to P3 pupils from 2.45 pm until 3.45 pm.

Primary 3- Group 1 (Wednesday 9th Feb, 23rd Feb, 2nd March, 9th March)

Primary 3- Group 2 (Wednesday 23rd March, 30th March, 6th April, 27th April)

Multi-Sports Afterschool Dates

Primary 5 - Monday 28th February, 7th March, 21st March, 28th March, 4th April.

Primary 7 - Monday 25th April, 9th May, 16th May, 23rd May, 30th May, 6th June, 13th June.

Basketball Afterschool Dates

Primary 7 – Wednesday 23rd February, Thursday 3rd March

Primary 6 – Thursday 10th March, 24th March, 31st March, 7th April

Primary 5 – Thursday 28th April, 12th May, 19th May, 26th May, 9th June

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Hurling Dates

Primary 5- Wednesday 2nd March, 9th March, 16th March, 23rd March, 30th March, 6th April

Primary 6- Commence Hurling in Term 3

Swimming Dates

Primary 7 - Friday 4th March, 11th March, 25th March, 1st April, 8th April.

Primary 4 - Friday 6th May, 13th May, 20th May, 27th May, 10th June

WordShark

St. Mary's has invested in the expensive Wordshark programme for all Primary 2 and Primary 3 children, to help bridge the gaps in learning, due to school closures during Lockdown. "Wordshark" provides a fun and effective games-based solution for pupils learning to spell and read. It includes everything that pupils need in order to achieve their spelling targets. The children have received their usernames and password details for the spelling programme which will reinforce the spellings the children are learning in school.

It is vital that your child uses this resource to consolidate and reinforce their spellings.

The link for "wordshark" is:

<http://onwordshark.com/stmaryscabragh/login>

You can find a shortcut to Wordshark on the school website. (Kids Area / Wordshark) Click on the 'Wordshark' button.

Wordshark

Accelerated Reader

As you are aware, your child was set an individual AR (Accelerated Reader) target in January. It is so important that your child uses this fantastic resource for reading, to improve fluency and comprehension skills. The end date for this term's target is 8th April 2022 and every child in the class should now be approximately 50% towards meeting their target. Please encourage your child to keep reading and taking AR quizzes to ensure he/she reaches 100% by 8th April 2022. Prizes will be awarded to those children who reach their target.

First Holy Communion

Father Hannigan has set a date for First Holy Communion for Primary 4 pupils. First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 11th June 2022** in The Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen, at 11.00 am.

Confirmation

Father Hannigan has set a date for Confirmation for Primary 7 pupils. Confirmation will take place on **Wednesday 18th May 2022** in the Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen, at 5.00 pm.

**** PLEASE NOTE- School will close half day on Wednesday 18th May due to Confirmation****