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**P5 Fire Safety Talks - Staying Safe**

Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) will be visiting each of the P5 classes to educate our pupils on how to keep themselves and their families safe from fire. Pupils will discuss how to prevent accidental fires happening in the home and devise a fire safety plan with their families, along with lots of other activities from their interactive safety packs.

**Cool for School Photography**

Cool for School Photography will take class photographs of our P1 and Nursery pupils on **Monday 23rd May**.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to return to our Year Group Sports’ Day events, as well as being able to welcome parents and carers as spectators. Pupils will compete in a variety of track events, e.g. sprint, beanbag throw, egg and spoon within their class heats, and then in year group finals. P4 – P7 pupils will also take part in basketball and soccer tournaments against the other classes in their year group. Events will be held at Rathmore’s all-weather track, courts and pitch, beginning at 10.00 am.

The dates are as follows:

* **Nursery - 26th May 2022**
* **P1 – 25th May 2022**
* **P2 – 23rd May 2022**
* **P3 – 30th May 2022**
* **P4/ P5 – 31st May 2022**
* **P6/P7 – 1st June 2022**

Further information to ensure the smooth running of these events will be communicated closer to the time.

Kind regards,

Ciarán Conway

**Dates for your Diary**

* Monday 2nd May-School closed: Bank Holiday
* Thursday 2nd June – School closed: Bank Holiday
* Friday 3rd June – School closed: Bank Holiday
* School finishes on Thursday 30th June at 12 noon.

**Sunscreen**

Sunscreen use will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong to ensure our pupils are protected during break/lunchtimes and outdoor lessons. The responsibility to apply sun lotion to your child lies with the parent/carer. Please apply before school on these occasions.

**School Website**

You can keep up to date with the latest information posted on the school website:

<https://saintannesps.com/>

**MAY EDITION 2022**

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**First Holy Communion**

Our P4 children will be making their First Holy Communion on the following dates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **21st May** | Mrs Cavanagh's class |
| **28th May** | Mr Teague's class |
| **11th June** | Ms Fitzpatrick/ Mrs Niblock's class |
| **18th June** | Mrs Brown's class |

We wish all the P4 children and their families a very happy and holy day.

**Planting at Junior School**

The PTA are helping to improve the area outside the main school entrance in Block D, by introducing new planting and flowers.

**‘Wee Critters’ Nursery Visit**

On **Wednesday 25th May** the nursery pupils will have an opportunity to meet some wriggly friends known as “Wee Critters.” This is an interactive animal roadshow. The pupils can’t wait to join ‘Alan the Explorer’ as he introduces Flash and Speedy, the African Giant Land Snails, Stampy, the Giant African Millipede, Christopher, the stick insect and many more amazing invertebrates!

**Healthy Happy Minds**

This year, the Department of Education provided funding for primary schools to support Mental Health and Wellbeing. Here at St Anne’s we have used this funding to provide individual and class group programmes, aimed at supporting and enhancing pupil’s mental health, emotional wellbeing and resilience. As part of the ‘Healthy Happy Minds’ pilot scheme, pupils have had the opportunity to engage with both art and play-based therapeutic counsellors.

During the month of May our P1 and P2 year groups will continue to take part in their ‘Educalm Workshop’ which uses fun and interactive activities to promote self-confidence and positivity.

The ‘Paws B’ programme will begin this month for our P6 pupils. This programme, which was designed by the Mindfulness in Schools Project, is delivered for 1 hour per week for 6 weeks. Over the duration of the programme the children will explore a number of themes including: how to grow happiness, gratitude, sleep better, steadying themselves in times of uncertainty, tools for dealing with conflict and how to deal with strong emotions. The lessons are fun and interactive providing a variety of group and partner discussion, activities and mindfulness practices.

**The Eco-Agency**

Five hundred pounds, won by one of our P7 pupils in last year’s ‘Energy Efficiency Awareness Programme ‘Design an Eco-Hero’ Competition’, has been used to purchase timber to construct planting beds. These beds were made by Paul, our

Building Supervisor and have been placed around the school site. Money generated from our participation in the ‘Cash for Clobber’ Recycling Scheme will be used to buy seeds and plants.

Over the coming months our pupils will plant a variety of flowers and vegetables to attract pollinators. As well as learning about where food originally comes from, and engaging all their senses working in the great outdoors, this will hopefully encourage the children to eat healthy food and make them more aware of the importance of sustainable living and eating.

Please support our eco-activities by helping us raise vital funds by donating your unwanted textiles. Our ‘Cash for Clobber’ bank is located in the carpark, at the entrance to playground B, opposite the Parish Hall.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes please | No thanks |
| * clothes * shoes (pairs only) * handbags * household textiles such as curtains, blankets, sheets, towels | * duvets * pillows * Soiled rags * Carpet or rugs |

***‘Tidy Up Tuesdays and Thursdays’*** will recommence, with classes timetabled for litter picking around the school, carparks and along the one-way system route.

Rectangle

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**P4 – P7 Breakfast Club**

P4 – P7 Breakfast Club will run from 8.15 am to 8.55 am at a cost of £2.20 per child per day.

You must register and pay for the Breakfast Club via ‘School Money’ only. We would encourage you to register and pay for the club a week in advance.

Please bring your child to the Dining Hall Entrance at Block B.

Once the children arrive into the club, they will remain in the Dining Hall.

Whilst in the Breakfast Club, the children will sit in their year groups.

The children will remain in the Dining Hall until 8.55 am and then they will be dismissed to their classrooms.

By sending your child to the Breakfast Club you are agreeing to the procedures that have been set in place.

**Message from the PTA Committee**

The PTA meet at the Junior side of the school once a month. A text/email will be sent out when a meeting is scheduled.

At the moment we are a very small group who are trying to organise events and raise money for the school. We need more people to help us!

We welcome parents, carers, grandparents. In return we promise you will have fun, meet new friends and help your child and school community.

**P1 – P3 Breakfast Club**

P1 – P3 Breakfast Club will run from 8.15 am to 8.55 am at a cost of £2.20 per child per day.

You must register and pay for the Breakfast Club via ‘School Money’ only.

We would encourage you to register and pay for the club a week in advance.

Bring your child to the Dining Hall entrance at Block D, beside the Main Entrance.

Please do not drive into the Staff Car Park. It CANNOT be used as a drop off point for children attending the Breakfast Club.

Whilst in the Breakfast Club, the children will sit in their year groups.

At 8.55 am the children will be supervised as they walk to their classrooms.

By sending your child to the Breakfast Club you are agreeing to the procedures that have been set in place.

**May the month of Mary**

Pupils will honour Mary by having a May altar in their classrooms, saying prayers, and listening to stories linked to the mother of Jesus.

**Certificates for the Month of May**

To celebrate the children’s great work and to encourage good behaviour in St Anne’s we have a range of awards that are presented each month. This month’s certificates will be awarded for:

* **Showing Kindness and Respect for Others**
* **Looking after School Property**
* **Making a Fantastic Effort in Class**

We wish all the children well in their efforts. *It would be great if you would also discuss these with your child and encourage them to do their best.*

**Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Colour Run**

The PTA in Association with St Anne’s Athletics Club are holding a Colour Run around the grounds of the school on **Sunday 8th May 2022 @ 2pm.**

It costs £2.50 per child, £5 per adult or £10 per family. We will be selling white t-shirts which will look great covered in the coloured paint, as you run along.

You will also be able to buy sunglasses and powder paint to make the event extra special.

The event is open to all, so bring along family, friends and neighbours. You can run, jog, walk or push a pram/wheelchair.