

"Mighty oaks from little acorns grow"



IN THE LOOP

November Edition 2024

Open Days

Open Days for prospective Nursery and P1 pupils for September 2025 will be held on:

Nursery: 10th December 2024, and 8th January 2025, from 2.30 – 3.30pm

Primary 1: 11th December 2024 and 9th January 2025, from 9.30-10.30am

Reminder: SEAG Transfer Test

Assessment Paper 1: 16th November 2024
Assessment Paper 2: 23rd November 2024

Parent Teacher Meetings: Friday 29th November 2024

Please note the school will be closed to all pupils on this day.

To accommodate job share arrangements, parent teacher meetings may be scheduled for alternative dates.



Anti-Bullying Week 2024 takes place from 11th – 15th November. This is always an important week in the life of our school, when we can build on the strong anti-bullying culture, we foster within St Anne's. This year's theme is 'Choose Respect' and the Anti-Bullying Alliance's call to action is:

- From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones, this Anti-Bullying Week let's 'Choose Respect' and bring an end to bullying which negatively impacts millions of young lives.
- This year, we'll empower children and young people to not resort to bullying, even when we disagree and remind adults to lead by example, online and offline.
- Imagine a world where respect and kindness thrives — it's not just a dream, it's in the choices we make.

Tuesday 12th November is 'Odd Socks Day'. To take part, all you must do is wear odd socks. It could not be simpler!

On **Friday 15th November**, we will mark the end of the week with 'Crazy Hair Day'. Pupils are encouraged to tease, twist, gel, braid their hair or wear colourful scarves, bows and clips.

Both events are a chance for everyone to express themselves and their individuality and to celebrate what makes us unique.

Click on the following links to access further information in relation to bullying: [Anti-bullying week 2024 choose-respect - Parents and Carers Pack](#)

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PTA Voluntary Subscriptions

The subscription fund is still open for contributions. Scan the QR below or click on the following link:

<https://gofund.me/56dc1aa2>



Any donation, that you could make, would be amazing.

The PTA is a registered charity, so please tick the gift aid box as the charity will be able to claim 25p for every £1.00 collected.

PTA Halloween Coffee Morning

A grand total of **£880.85** was raised at the PTA coffee morning. A huge thank you to all who organised and supported this fundraising event.

Come along...

The next PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th November 2024 @ 6.30pm in the Birch Building.



Christmas Fair - Sunday 24th November from 12.00 -3.00pm. Volunteers required. Please contact: stannesparentsassoc@gmail.com

Young Enterprise Scheme

Young Enterprise is an Education Charity based in Northern Ireland who offer a range of programmes to help pupils enhance their knowledge and understanding of business, finance and trade.

On the 4th and 11th November our Primary 4 classes will participate in workshops entitled 'Our Community'. They will discover how people and business operate within their community. They will look at the people, shops and services which make up a community, what contributes to a good community and get introduced to tax and voting.

On the 18th and 25th November, our P5 classes will participate in the 'Our City' workshops. Within these, students are introduced to the idea that cities are made up of zones which serve different purposes, vital for city life. Students are also introduced to the steps needed in setting up their own business.

Dot to Dot Programme

We were over the moon to learn that the 'Dot to Dot' Programme had been granted an extension of funding by the Department of Health and the Community Foundation Northern Ireland.

This means that our 'Dot to Dot' Club can continue to support some of our autistic and neurodivergent pupils with bespoke weekly sessions.

Gaelic League Finals

We are delighted to announce that both the girls' and boys' football teams have made it through to the Cumann na mBunscol Belfast League, Division A finals, beating St. Bernard's girls and St Ita's boys in the semi-finals at Rossa Park on 23rd October.

The girls will meet St. Ita's in their league final with the boys battling against St. Michael's.

Finals which were due to take place on Monday 11th December have now been postponed until after Christmas.

Certificates for the Month of November

To celebrate the children's great work and to encourage good behaviour this month's certificates will be awarded for:

- **Fabulous Friendship Award**
- **Showing Kindness and Respect to Others**
- **Looking After School Property**
- **Making a Fantastic Effort in Class**

Business in the Community

Thank you to the team from the Survitec Group in Dunmurry and another team from BT for volunteering. Their generosity of time and effort have helped both our staff and pupils.

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Care Home Friends

Some of student councillors enjoyed a short visit to Kilwee Residential Home on Friday 25th October.

Wearing their Halloween costumes, our pupils relished in the opportunity to treat the residents to some creative performances and cards. The residents and staff made them feel very welcome.

This intergenerational connection fosters understanding about different generations and building on our community links.

Nursery News

Library

Miss Barbara, Librarian at Finaghy Library, will visit the nursery classes on Tuesday 5th November for her monthly story and rhyme session.

Jo Jingles Music class

The final two sessions of our six-week programme will take place on Monday 4th November and 11th November.

Make a sound

The pupils will enjoy a series of interactive music and movement classes on 13th 20th and 27th November. The 'Make a Sound' series emphasises exercise, dance and fun! The children are sure to have a great time.

Peace Proms 2025

Peace Proms is a free music education resource which brings the magic of music to almost 35,000 children in 700 primary schools across Ireland.

Peace Proms is more than just a music program – it promotes 'peace through music' and empowers young minds to make a positive impact on the world around them. The highlight of the program is a spectacular large-scale production featuring up to 3,000 choir members and our full symphony youth orchestra, all coming together in iconic venues throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland.

We are delighted to announce that our choir will represent our school at the Peace Proms Concert in Belfast on Sunday 9th March 2025 at 7.00pm.

Audience tickets for Belfast's Peace Proms Concert can be purchased on the ticketmaster website.

In preparation for this concert, our choir will attend a number of workshops, the first of which is Wednesday 6th November in the SSE Arena.

Music Mornings

We are really looking forward to hearing some of year groups perform a variety of seasonal and themed poems/songs at their year group music mornings:

P3: 18th December

P4 and P5: 10th December

Success in Belfast School Relay Tournament

Competing against primary schools from all over Belfast, we were thrilled that one of our girls' team won their event, with one of our boys' team finishing third in theirs! A huge congratulations to all our relay teams and Mr Gribben.

Titanic Excursion

To compliment the current P6 World Around Us topic 'Titanic', the P6 classes are off to the very place where the Titanic was designed, built and launched.

Visit 1: Wednesday 20th November 2024 - P6JP and P6DT
Visit 2: Thursday 21st November 2024 - P6AL and P6PG.

The tours and workshops will take place in the dedicated Education Suite in the main building of the Titanic Centre or across the road in the Engine Room on board Titanic's sister ship the 'SS Nomadic'. The children will receive tours of the 'Titanic Experience', 'SS Nomadic' and an Exploration of the Titanic Slipways.

Flu Immunisation Programme

The School Health Team will be on site to administer the Fluenz Nasal Spray to pupils on 26th November 2024.

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Let's celebrate and Move with Us!

Two of our Key Stage classes will have the opportunity to enjoy an interactive workshop exploring celebrations from around the world. These workshops will give our pupils the opportunity to engage with and experience different cultures through music and dance, led by experienced and culturally diverse artists. It is a great way for our pupils to engage with the Arts and contributes to their Personal Development and Mutual Understanding focusing on Respect and Tolerance towards others.

'Let's celebrate and Move with Us' is facilitated by the Grand Opera House working in partnership with Arts Ekta, a multi award winning cultural organisation that works to develop intercultural relationships at the heart of the community.



NI Basketball Blitz

Following their ongoing weekly coaching programme with Coach Carla, the P5 classes will travel to Lisburn Racquets Club, on 28th November, to take part in the Cleveland NI Basketball Blitz, competing against local schools.

Eco-Update

Eco-Code: 'Mission Possible'

A huge thank you to the four dads who volunteered on Saturday 19th October to help manage our wildflower meadow sites around the school. We will run another date in late November and hope that others can get involved.

The eco-agents will meet with River Ridge Waste Management Company on 8th November. They will carry out activities to help them gain a better understanding of the waste treatment process as well as explore how we can improve our waste management in school and at home.

We hope to plant a variety of fruit bushes in our raised beds providing lots of environmental benefits....sustainable food source, air purification, animal habitat to name but a few!

We are also delighted to announce that we will working in collaboration with Father Peter and the parish to enhance the parish grounds.

We have been successful in our application to Belfast Healthy Cities: Walking Bus. The first stage of this pilot scheme involves some of our KS2 classes exploring topics such as air pollution, sustainable and active travel and to gather some baseline data. We will keep you posted.

The Halloween Costume Swop Shop was a great success. We will be facilitating a 'Christmas Jumper' Swop Shop over the coming weeks.

Advance Notice of December Events:

3 rd December	Nativity Play P2AC & P2COB
4 th December	Nursery Christmas Dinner
5 th December	P4/5 Panto – Waterfront
	P6/7 Panto - Lyric P1-P3 Christmas Dinner
6 th December	Nativity Play P2AMG/P2AS
12 th December	Festive Songs: Kilwee Nursing Home
	Nursery Nativity Play
13 th December	P4-P7 Christmas Dinner
	Christmas Jumper Day Whole School
13 th December	P1CM & P1EC Christmas Music Morning @ 9.30am
16 th December	P1MH & P1EOR Christmas Music Morning @ 9.30am
17 th December	P4-P7 Christmas Service @2pm

Further details of these events will follow in due course.

Scan the QR code below to go directly to the school website.

