



### Visit by Lifeguards from Portrush RNLI

A group of Lifeguards visited the school on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March to talk to the children about the dangers of the sea and how to keep safe.



### Congratulations to our Primary Three Pupils

The P3's celebrated their First Confession on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. It was a lovely ceremony and the children were a credit to their families and to Miss McConvey, their teacher.



### Hurling & Camogie Tournaments

Our hurlers played in a tournament at Grosvenor Leisure Centre on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We also entered our first ever camogie blitz at Bunscoil an tSléibhe Dhuibh where the girls put in a great performance.



### Waste Recycling

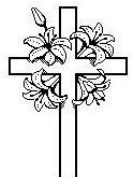
The Waste Recycle Bus visited the school on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Everyone got the chance to go on board and learn about ways to protect our environment.

Congratulations also to Shannon and Leah from P.7 who gave an excellent presentation at Lisburn Environmental Youth Speak on 9<sup>th</sup> March.



### Mass for Diarmuid's Third Anniversary

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, at 11.30am, a special Mass was held in St Peter's, the Rock in memory of our much loved pupil, Diarmuid Frazer, who tragically died three years ago. Staff and pupils also attended the excellent inaugural Memorial Gaelic tournament held at Lamh Dhearg on Saturday, 25 March.



## Celebration of Sport

The P6/7 pupils took part in a Celebration of Sport on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at Lisburn Leisureplex. The day was organised by the Department of Communities and the children had a fantastic time!



## Superhero Day

On Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March the children took part in a Superhero Day to promote Numeracy and Literacy. Several members of staff dressed up as Superhero characters, as did the children, and a great learning experience was enjoyed by the all.



## Sainsburys Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsburys vouchers in order to select useful equipment for the children from the Active Kids catalogue. They will cease being given out at tills on Tuesday 2 May and we would be grateful for your support in gathering in as many as possible by the middle of June.

## Confirmation

Congratulations to the P7 pupils who were Confirmed on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in St Joseph's Church, Hannahstown, by Bishop Walsh, who was most impressed by their level of attention and involvement in the ceremony, including their wonderful singing! He commented on the fact that there were 12 apostles and twelve of them – but no Judas! (Missing from photo: Sinead).



## Volunteers

Thanks are due, as always, to those who give so generously of their time to help provide additional opportunities for the children. **We are currently appealing for additional volunteers for Breakfast Club and Waiting Class.** Please contact the Office or Mrs. Smyth if you could spare some time to support these vital activities.

## Surveys

We have been working on our School Development Plan for 2017 – 2020 and it is very important that we hear your views on a wide range of issues. A number of surveys and policy documents will be brought to your attention at the beginning of Term 3. The Annual Report of the Governors for 2015/16 is being sent home to you today.

## After School Activities for Term 3

Monday: P.6 Support Classes (on-going)

Tuesday: Spartan Coaching: Tennis – begins on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. (P.1 –P3 & P.4 – P.7)

Wednesday: Glee Club: - begins on 3<sup>rd</sup> May for 6 weeks (P.1 – P.7)

Thursday: Cycling Proficiency – begins on 27 April (9 yrs+)

**Calendar:** (a number of events have yet to be timetabled)

Thursday 27 April: Hurling Blitz (1.30pm – 3pm St. Teresa's GAC)

Sunday 30 April: P.4 'Do this in Memory' Mass (11.30am, Hannahstown)

Monday 1 May: School Closed

Saturday 6 May: Light into Darkness walk (4.15am, Lamh Dhearg)

Sunday 14 May: First Holy Communion (11.30am, Hannahstown)

Monday 15 May: School Photographer

Friday 19 May: Bun Sale to fund raise for P.6/7 trip to Greenhill Activity Centre (2pm – 3.15pm)

Saturday 20 May: P.4/5 to take part in Lisburn Mayor's Carnival Parade

Wednesday 24 May: Welcome meeting for incoming P.1's and their parents (11.30am)

Thursday 25 May: Sports Day and Fun Day (1pm – 4pm)

Friday 26 May: School Closed for Staff Training

Monday 29 May: School Closed

Tuesday 30 May: School Closed: Staff Training

Friday 2 June: Pre-school sports day (11am)

Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 June: P.6/7 residential visit to Greenhill Activity Centre, Newcastle.

Monday 12 June: P.7's to present their STEM project at Sentinus Young Innovators, UU Jordanstown

Wednesday 14 June: P.6/7 to take part in an archaeological dig on Divis (1pm – 2.30pm)

Thursday 15 – Sunday 18 June: Hannahstown Festival

Tuesday 20 June: School Show & Prize Giving (11am - rehearsal & 7pm)

Friday 23 June: P.7's last day (they leave at 12 noon)

Friday 30 June: School closes for the summer holidays (12 noon)

## Wedding Bells!

As you may be aware, Miss Martin will be getting married during the Easter break. We wish the happy couple every blessing for the future and look forward to welcoming Miss Martin back as Mrs. Yakdan.

## Easter Holidays

Ballymacward Primary School will close at 3pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017 for the Easter Holidays and will re-open on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 9.15 am.

Best wishes, *Brendan Sadlier* Principal, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017

