



St Patrick's Primary School

Dear St Patrick's Primary School Community,

As the crisp autumn days lead us into November, we are excited to share all the wonderful learning and activities happening in our school. This month brings opportunities for reflection, gratitude, and growth as we continue to work together to make St Patrick's a place where every child feels valued and inspired.

We have lots to look forward to, including upcoming events, achievements to celebrate, and reminders to keep everyone on track. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making our school a vibrant and caring community.

Let's make November a month full of learning, kindness, and joy!

Warm regards

Mrs Moore

Headteacher

Read all about it! Read all about it!



On the 17th of November
Patrick's are getting a new living wall!

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Construction begins on our school playground on **Monday 17th of November**. This long awaited work has been in planning for a few years. This work is in response to the quality of air and sound pollution that our children face because of our close proximity to the M8 motorway. We are all very excited that the time has finally arrived for this work to commence and look forward to observing our new living wall grow and develop!

Due to the nature of the work, some adjustments have had to be made and are as follows:

The breakfast club will continue to operate as normal via the **main gate from 8am**.

All children will enter the school grounds via **William Street from 8:45am**. There will be staff members, as normal, to usher the children to the playground. The procedures to exit at the end of the day will be as follows:

All **Primary 1** will exit the school via the **fire door into the front car park**.

Primary 2 & Primary 3 will exit via the **main school door into the front car park** and exit using the main gate.

There will be no cars in operation during this time and no child will leave without an adult.

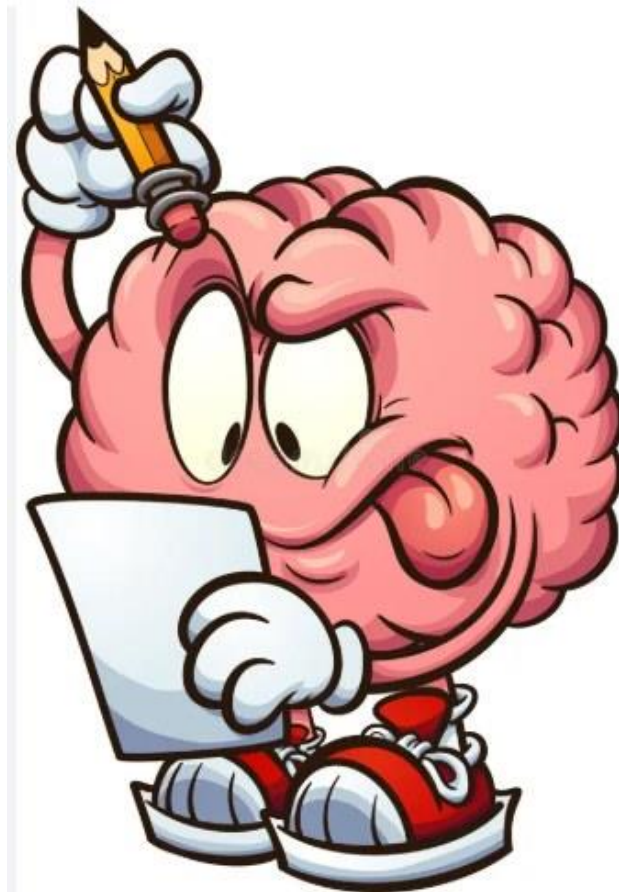
Primary 4-7 will exit via William Street. I know this is not ideal if you have siblings to collect but we will wait on you going from one side to the other or make alternative arrangements that suit your needs best.

The children will still be able to access the school playground for intervals as it is only the bottom half that will be fenced off. No construction work will be active during the times that the children are in the playground.

Due to where the construction work is, there will be no lock up storage for bikes and scooters and the new way of entering the school results in children walking up and down stairs. Consequently, **please refrain from bringing in scooters and bikes during the duration of the worksite.**

We are inviting parents/carers in on Thursday at 10am for an information session and a chance to discuss the construction further if you feel you need this.

Things we are forgetting but are so important to remember...



We have noticed a decline in our expectations of the children so here is a gentle reminder of what it means to be part of St Patrick's...

- Late coming. School starts at 9am. Some children are coming in after this time, some almost everyday, and some are not in a hurry either. We do not have staff available to

hang around and wait. This late coming is also a distraction to the class. Please work with your child to be on time as this is a life skill that will be required no matter what path in life they take.

- Full school uniform must be worn at all times except on PE days. If you need support with a school uniform please don't forget our free school uniform recycle shop which you have access to.
- PE days are different for everyone so you will see children with sports clothes on, on different days than your child. For PE days you are still required to wear your school jumper unless you are wearing a school tracksuit. This is black or grey jogging trousers and a white polo shirt. PE days are **not** non uniform days where children can dress as they please.
- Dangling/long earring are not appropriate for school. Earrings must be studs if at all. This is due to health and safety and your child will be asked to remove them. If they are unable to, we will call for your assistance to do this.
- False nails. There are some senior pupils who are attending with false nails on. Again, these are not allowed for safety consequently, if you feel these are appropriate for your child please keep these for long holiday periods that don't interrupt their schooling.

School Lunches



Choosing a lunch for each child is a parental responsibility. Thank you to those of you that already do this.

This communication between you and your child is invaluable as not only do you know what they are ordering and eating, it is an opportunity for conversations in this subject to take place. Please ensure you do this with your child and don't just order for them as we do get a few children saying it has been ordered for them and they don't like it!

Our teachers kindly offered to help out in the beginning to allow parents to get used to the way things worked in this new system however, there is now an expectation that this is part of the

morning routine and it isn't. This system has been going on for quite some time now and yet, teachers are reporting that more than ever parents are not choosing lunch for or with their child and this is taking up valuable learning time in classes each morning.

Additionally, due to the uncertainty, some children who have ordered from the second sitting have not got their choice as people who haven't ordered have gone in first and taken their order and to be penalised like this for doing the right thing is extremely unfair. Consequently, I must take this opportunity to advise you that if this continues, I will have no option but to change the structure of lunch which I do not want to do. This is something I hope to avoid so please work with us on this and together we can make the difference to ensure every child gets what they have ordered.

Important dates for December



The children have already started to prepare for our school Christmas celebrations. This year we have P3 - P7 children planning and rehearsing our new school show 'Oliver with a Twist' and P1-P2 working on Lights, Camel, Action.

Dates as follows:

- Oliver with a Twist - 11th of December Am & PM showings.
- Lights, Camel, Action - 8th and 9th of December.

Tickets are £2.50 and will go on sale at the end of November so please keep a look out for this as sadly, when these were sold out last year, people without a ticket were turned away; don't be in that situation this year!

Other important dates for the diary...

- 2nd of December - P1, P2 & P3 - Cinema @ The Pyramid
- 2nd of December - Flu Immunisation for pupil's
- 3rd of December - Christmas Fayre @ 3:15pm
- 4th of December - P4, P4/5 & P5/6 - Cinema @ The Pyramid

- 5th of December - First Friday mass @ St Patrick's Church
- 10th of December - Whole school Christmas Panto @ The Kings Theatre
- 19th of December - End of term mass @ St Patrick's Church

More important dates throughout the year



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| • 19th December | School closes at 2:30pm |
| • 5th of January | School returns |
| • 16th of February | School closed - Mid term break |
| • 17th of February | School closed - Mid term break |
| • 18th of February | In service day - No children |
| • 18th of February | P7 Blairvadach Residential |
| • 19th of February | P7 Blairvadach Residential |
| • 20th of February | P7 Blairvadach Residential |
| • 16th of March | P3 Reconciliation |
| • 1st of April | Parent's Evening |
| • 30th of May | First Holy Communion |