



St. Colman's Primary School
and
All Saints' Nursery Unit
(Annaclone)

Banbridge,
Co. Down
BT32 5LS

Progress Through Partnership, Leading To Excellence



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Vision statement: To be an inclusive, caring School where childhood and community are valued; one which inspires learning for life and develops the personal qualities needed to succeed in a rapidly changing world. This vision will be best realised as we undergo a continual journey of ***progress through partnership, leading to excellence.***

September Update

Accelerated Reader – Book Donations

Thank you very much to those children and families that have been donating books throughout the month of September. Our AR initiative relies on have good quality books that our children are motivated and want to read. If you have any books (particularly for children aged between 8-13) that are gathering dust on the shelf, please do donate them to us and you can be sure that they will be well received.

Look too at our recommended reading list at the back of the update.

Breakfast Club

Continues to be a huge hit with our children and is the perfect start to the school day.

Single child: £1.00

Two or more children from the same family: £2.00

ASC - Fee £2.00/day for each child.
(NURSERY – P3 1.45pm – 2.35pm)

EASC (NURSERY – P7 2.35pm-6pm) - Fee £10 per session (2.35pm up to 6pm)/6 per ½ session (2.35pm up to 4pm.)

P7 Literacy and Numeracy Booster

Afterschool classes will now continue as per dates on the website/app.

Parental Curriculum Engagement Meetings

As part of our aim to improve home school partnerships and communications this year you are all invited to a curriculum engagement meeting with your child's teacher. Teachers will use the opportunity to give you all a learning overview for the year ahead and how best to support your child at home. It is also your opportunity to ask questions about what your child will face over the next ten months.

The meetings will take place in your child's classroom from 1.45pm - 2.35pm.



Silver





Pupil Absences

If your child is absent for whatever reason during the school year - could we please ask that you send in a note with the child upon their return to school explaining the reasons for the absence.

Opening School Year Mass

Our mass will be celebrated by Canon Kearney on Friday 19th October at 1000. All are welcome.

Swimming

Swimming begins for P6 on Thursday 5th September.

Swimming begins for P7 on Thursday 17th October.

Swimming begins for P5 on Wednesday 8th January (PROVISIONAL).

Gaelic Dress Up Day & McGreevy/Farrell Tournament

Both events will take place on Friday 20th September. Let's make the school a sea of colour and celebrate our national sport.

Library Van - (P2 to P4)

The van will be visiting the school on both the 9th and 23rd of this month.

**Free
School
Meals**



Are you entitled?

Please contact Mrs Dale in the office to see if your child is eligible for Free School Meals.

Did you know that each child on the register for FSM can add almost **£700** to the schools' annual budget from DE. So even if you don't avail of it every day, you can still make a significant difference to your school and the quality of learning on offer just by filling out a form and testing for eligibility.

Provision of sliced or chopped fruit and vegetables to children under five. (FULL LETTER ON WEBSITE)

Following concerns raised regarding the potential risk of young children choking on grapes, the Public Health Agency is issuing guidance to all primary and nursery schools in relation to the provision of grapes and other small fruits and vegetables to children up to the age of five years. In order to prevent a risk of choking, we recommend that all fruits offered to P1 and nursery school children should be sliced or chopped. Examples include apples, bananas, pears, kiwi fruit, grapes, cherry tomatoes and other seasonal fruits. This advice also applies to vegetables.

This advice is already incorporated into the leaflet 'Healthy Breaks for schools - A guide for pupils and parents'.

Current recommendations remain that children should eat five child-sized portions of fruit and vegetables every day as part of a balanced diet.

New Playground and Daily Routines

The new upper playground and the new markings on the lower playground have made a significant difference to our playtimes in school and is a big achievement ticked off in terms of School Development.

The new play space has also meant that after 7 years of three break-times and lunches, we can now revert to two break times and lunches. This allows for greater social cohesion in the school and for a better designed classroom timetable.

School Council Elections

Elections for P3-P7 school council will take place throughout the month of September.

House Cup

The school house system will resume with our x4 provincial houses from Monday 16th September. Four children from P7 will be appointed House Captains for the year.

School Safeguarding Children Team

Designated Teacher for Child Protection: **Mrs A Morgan**

Deputy Designated Teacher NU: **Mrs A Hanna**

Deputy Designated Teachers: **Mrs C Burns/Mrs E McCann**

Governor for Child Protection: **Mrs C Morgan**

Upper Key Stage Two Reading List

The English sections in the GL/AQE transfer tests are in some ways the **easiest** (not as many topics to revise) and **hardest** (The people who prepare the test have almost unlimited words to choose from!) to **prepare for**. The biggest indicator of success in the English is how much a child reads. This exposes them to a range of vocabulary, sentence structures, knowledge which just cannot be covered solely in school. **Get them Reading!!!** After listening to some feedback from P7 parents last year we have attached a list of books we think are both enjoyable and worthwhile for your child to read.

Upper Key Stage Two Reading List

- David Walliams - eg: Demon Dentist, Awful Aunty, Gangster Granny
- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle - The Lost World, Sherlock Holmes, The Hound of the Baskervilles
- Arthur Ransome - Swallows and Amazons and other books in this series
- C.S Lewis - All of the Narnia Series starting with The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe
- Frances Hodgson Burnett - The Secret Garden, A Little Princess
- William Golding - Lord of the Flies
- Brian Jacques - Redwall series
- J.R.R Tolkien - The Lord of the Ring (3 books: The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, The Return of the King) The Hobbit
- Mark Twain - The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
- George Orwell - Animal Farm
- Arthur Ransome - Swallows and Amazons series
- Gerald Durrell - My family and Other Animals, Birds, Beasts and Relatives, A Zoo in my Luggage, Encounters with Animals
- Malorie Blackman - Noughts and Crosses Trilogy, Tell Me No Lies, Thief, Pig Heart Boy
- Susan Coolidge - What Katy Did series
- Roald Dahl books - e.g. The BFG, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach
- Anthony Horowitz - Granny, Alex Rider series, Stormbreaker

- Robin Stevens - Murder Most unladylike
- Anne Holm - I Am David
- Lucy Montgomery - Anne of Green Gables and other books in this series
- Daniel Defoe - Robinson Crusoe
- Laura Ingalls Wilder - Little House on the Prairie series
- E. Nesbit - The Railway Children, The Phoenix and the Carpet, Five Children and It, The Wouldbegoods, The Treasure Seekers
- Michael Morpurgo books - e.g. The Butterfly Lion, War Horse, From Hereabout Hill, Why the Whales Came and others
- Lee Trenton Stewart - The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey, The Mysterious Benedict Society
- Louis Sachar - Holes
- Joan Aiken - Wolves of Willoughby Chase series
- Nina Bawden - Carrie's War
- Carolyn Keene - Nancy Drew mysteries
- Charles Kingsley - The Water Babies
- Clive King - Stig of the Dump
- Jonathan Swift - Gulliver's Travels
- Robert Louis Stevenson - Treasure Island, Kidnapped
- Paul Gallico - The Snow Goose, Scruffy
- Kenneth Graham - The Wind in the Willows
- Rudyard Kipling - Jungle Book, Just So Stories
- Eleanor H. Porter - Pollanna
- R.M. Ballantyne - Coral Island
- Anna Sewell - Black Beauty
- Erich Kästner - Emil and the Detectives (good for boy readers)
- Elizabeth Goudge - The Little White Horse
- Johanna Spyri - Heidi
- Noel Stretford - Ballet Shoes, White Boots (good for girl readers)
- Ian Serrailier - The Silver Sword
- Derek Landy - Skulduggery pleasant
- Mary Norton - The Borrowers and other books in this series
- Louisa May Alcott - Little Women
- Lewis Carroll - Alice in Wonderland
- Hugh Lofting - Dr Dolittle
- Eva Ibbotson - The Star of Kazan
- Eoin Colfer - Artemis Fowl series of books
- Richard Adams - Watership Down
- Richmal Crompton - Just William books
- E.B. White - Charlotte's Web
- Jules Verne - Journey to the Centre of the Earth, Around the World in 80 days
- Robert O'Brian - Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh series of books
- Anne Fine books - e.g. The Flour Babies, Madame Doubtfire
- James Herriot - All Creatures Great and Small

- Yan Martel - *The Life of Pi*
- Mark Haddon - *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*
- Charlotte Bronte - *Jane Eyre*
- H.G. Wells - *The Time Machine*
- Charles Dickens - *A Christmas Carol*
- D Adams - *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*
- J.K. Rowling - *Harry Potter* series of books
- John Boyne - *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*
- Eva Ibbotson - *The Star of Kazan*
- Jenny Nimmo - *Children of the Red King* series of books (*Charlie Bone*)
- Helen Dunmore - *Ingo adventures* series of books
- Terry Deary - *The Fire Thief Fight Back*
- Kate DiCamillo - *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*
- Snicket, Lemony - *A Series of Unfortunate Events* series of books
- Jeanne Birdsall - *The Penderwicks*
- T.H. White - *The Sword in the Stone*
- Philipa Pearce - *Tom's Midnight Garden*
- Susan Coolidge - *What Katy Did Next*
- Dick-King Smith books - e.g. *The Crowstarver*, *The Sheep Pig*
- Ted Hughes - *How the Whale Became*, *The Iron Man*
- Robert Muchamore - *Cherub* book series

September 2019

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------|
| 2. TERM STARTS P7 Booster 1435 - 1630 | 3. | 4. | 5. P6 SWIMMING | 6. |
| 9. P7 Booster 1435 - 1630 LIBRARY VAN | 10. | 12. | 13. P6 SWIMMING | 14. |
| 16. P7 Booster 1435 - 1630 | 17. P6 Parents 1345 - 1435 | 18. P5 Parents 1345 - 1435 | 19. P6 SWIMMING P7 ASSEMBLY | 20. GAELIC DRESS UP |
| 23. SCHOOL CLOSED AMMA PARTNERSHIP LIBRARY VAN STILL OPEN | 24. P7 Parents 1345 - 1435 | 25. P4 Parents 1345 - 1435 | 26. P6 SWIMMING P ASSEMBLY | 27. |
| 30. P7 Booster 1435 - 1630 | 1. P3 Parents 1345 - 1435 *P3 FULL DAY* | 2. P2 Parents 1345 - 1435 *P3 FULL DAY* | 3. P6 SWIMMING P6 ASSEMBLY *P3 FULL DAY* | 4. |

