

# DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## APRIL 2018 News

### New Intake Letters

New Primary 1 admission letters were posted on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April. We look forward to welcoming them to our school community in September 2019.

### ECO COUNCIL

On 18<sup>th</sup> April our Eco Council visited St Bronagh's PS to learn from and share good practise. The boys and girls enjoyed seeing around their new school and learning about how their building had been adapted to incorporate & attract wildlife to the area.



### Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to all the parents who returned their Parent Questionnaire to help with the formulation of our new School Development Plan. In total 31 out of 66 were returned and the feedback will be used in shaping our future priorities.



### Hockey Tournament

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April the boys' and girls' hockey team travelled to Newry to take part in the Northern Ireland Qualifying Tournament. All the boys and girls represented the school superbly but unfortunately were knocked out at quarter final stage, after playing four tough games each. Well done to all involved!



### ASSESSMENTS

From the 8<sup>th</sup> May to 18<sup>th</sup> May, pupils in P3-7 will be completing computerised standardised tests in English and Maths. These tests are useful in allowing you as parent to track your child's progress against similarly aged children and to ensure that your child is making progress each year. They are also useful as a school in helping us to identify areas that we need to focus on in the future. The results of these tests will be on your child's annual report. We would encourage your child to attend regularly and to give of their best.

### Cabbage Patcher Event

We were delighted to attend The Cabbage Patcher event on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April at St. Joseph's. Two groups of pupils attended a series of intergenerational workshops and demonstration on self-sufficient horticultural food production. The pupils enjoyed working with members of the community to plant herbs, fruit and vegetables and all of the pupils got to take home what they had sown.



Please note an additional staff training day has been added to the end of May. Pupil will be off Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May for staff training. The school will now be closed from Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May inclusive and pupils will return to school on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May. This will also be our **Sports Day** (weather permitting!).

### Y5/6 Orienteering

On 20<sup>th</sup> April, Primary 5 and 6 travelled to the Palace Stables in Armagh to develop their orienteering skills. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed learning how to read maps and applying their skills to the orienteering challenge. The pupils were complimented on their exemplar behaviour and their keenness to learn. They ended their day with a well-deserved visit to the park to burn off any excess energy, before returning to school!

**THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED**  
**Next MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> May & also**  
**THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY to**  
**TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MAY inclusive**  
**and reopens on**  
**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May**



On **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April** we welcomed Sean Keogh from the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland to school to provide a farm safety talk. This is a recent campaign that has been launched to help to reduce and eliminate accidents on farms. He advised the pupils on the dangers associated with farm machinery, farm animals and falling objects. He also showed a very informative DVD which helped demonstrate some of the dangers in a more real context.

### PTA NEWS

The PTA plan to hold a sponsored walk and BBQ evening on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** at 6.30pm. This is normally a lovely family event and we hope that you will be able to attend. Details & BBQ order form to follow shortly.



**Board of Governors:** Over the next number of months, we will be reconstituting our Board of Governors. The Board of Governors play a vital part in the life of the school and have considerable responsibility for making decisions about financial management, curriculum, maintenance of premises, staff appointments, admissions and enrolments, community links and pastoral care including child protection and discipline. As part of our reconstitution we will be seeking two parent representative. Further information regarding this process will be sent home in the next few weeks. If you feel that you have valuable skills, knowledge or experience which would benefit the school we would encourage you to consider this role. More information regarding the role of a School Governor and how Governors add value to the work of the school in raising standards can be obtained from <http://www.esags.tv/governor-support/>

### **Sun Awareness**

As the weather improves, please remember to apply sun cream each morning and send a hat and water with your child to school. We will be focussing on sun safety during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> May.



### **Best Kept School Competition**

As part of our endeavour to educate the pupils on the importance of looking after their environment, our Eco Council decided to enter our school into the Best Kept School Competition. Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April was judging day and we showed the judges the practical ways we have made a difference to our school and community. We look forward to hearing the outcome!

### **Uniform**

Due to the difficulties that we encountered with our uniform this year, we have decided not to renew our contract with School Trends. This will mean that next year O'Hare's in the town will be our sole supplier. E. O'Hare's are aware we have changed our badge and I have agreed with O'Hare's the change to the new logo will be implemented in 2 stages.

#### **STAGE 1:**

- Next year 2018/2019 our formal uniform will be the focus and all pupils should have a jumper or cardigan with the new logo. Old logos on jumpers and cardigans should not be worn.
- The tracksuit and polo shirt will continue to carry the old logo.

#### **STAGE 2:**

- By September 2019 the old logo will be totally phased out. All jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts & tracksuits should have the new badge.

### **TALENT SHOW**

Year 7 would like to invite any pupil who has a special skill or talent to showcase it during our 'Dromore Road Has Talent' event on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Mrs Graham and Year 7 will form a panel to audition on Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> May, during school hours, and the best acts will go forward to the evening show. We look forward to showcasing our very talented pupils!

THE  
ALL STAR  
TALENT  
SHOW

### **Year 7 – Post Primary**

A letter informing you which Post Primary School your child has been placed will be posted on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May. If your child has not been accepted by any of the schools listed on the Transfer Form, you will be asked to nominate other schools drawn from a list of schools with places still available. These letters will also advise on how you can appeal against an admissions decision.

If your placement letter does not arrive on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2018 you can contact the EA between the hours of 3.30pm and 5pm. Staff will be available to confirm placement details *only*. Contact details will be published on the EA website in early May 2018.

The PTA would like to say a big thank you to all the pupils for returning their Smarties tubes filled with 20p coins. Altogether the classes raised over £310 pounds and each class will be given their amount to spend on new playground equipment. Well done to everyone!

