



DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



It's hard to believe that we're approaching half term break already! It has been a busy term, with lots of events and trips taking place. To keep you updated the website is amended regularly and we would encourage you to download our school app, if you have not already done so.

Newry High Football Tournaments

Unfortunately, the tournament organised by Newry High School at Newry Olympic Hockey Club was cancelled on February 1st due to icy weather conditions. The tournament is due to be rescheduled later this term.

Sportshall Athletics Newry

The annual Regional Athletics competition took place on Monday 11th February at Newry Leisure Centre. 5 boys & 5 girls from P6/7 were chosen to represent the school in events like: 60m sprint, standing long jump, mixed agility relay & speed bounce. A big congratulations to all the pupils who participated and displayed great sportsmanship and team spirit. Thank you also to Mrs Cumming for assisting us with transport.

Safer Internet Day



On Monday 4th February, we celebrated Internet Safety week in school by holding a special assembly reinforcing how pupils can keep safe online by being SMART.

We were also delighted to welcome Michael from the NSPCC to deliver an informative Internet Safety Parent Workshop on Tuesday 5th. The hour-long workshop helped parents understand their child's online world and raised awareness of where parents can go for help and advice about online safety. One of Michael's key messages was the *importance of having conversations with your child about what they're doing online and being involved in their online world*. He also signposted some useful places to get support or guidance about keeping your child safe online:

- Visit the [NSPCC](#) and [O2 NSPCC website pages](#).
- Call the free **O2 NSPCC Online Safety Helpline** on **0808 800 5002**
- Download the NSPCC Net Aware app on the App Store or Google Play
- Pop into your local O2 store for online safety help from a [Guru](#) - you don't even have to be an O2 customer!
- Sign up to NSPCC [icebreaker email series](#).



NSPCC Speak out Stay safe programme

We were delighted to welcome Sylvia and Judith from the NSPCC to assembly on Tuesday 5th February. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they presented a number of child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops which focused on giving the children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries. We were delighted to be able to present the NSPCC with £200 raised through various fundraising initiatives before Christmas. Well done everyone for your kind generosity!



Habitat for Humanity

As part of our focus on recycling, we were delighted to welcome representatives from the charity Habitat for Humanity to school on Thursday 7th February. They delivered a practical workshop to the pupils in P4-7 looking at recycling and looking after our world. The children listened intently and interacted in an informative and mature way. They particularly enjoyed the recycled craft activity. On behalf of the school, our Eco-council presented a cheque for £50 to the charity to support the work they do with poorer communities.

Half Term Break

School is closed for pupils from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February. School reopens Monday 25th February. Have a lovely relaxing break!

Shared Education

After half term, Mrs McGrath's class will be involved in shared lessons with St. Bronagh's. The aims of this programme are to promote and develop friendships and learn about similarities and differences through ice breaker activities and play based learning. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Joyce's P2 class to Dromore Road on Tuesday 26th February.

SENTINUS ROADSHOW AND PARENT NIGHT

Sentinus is a not for profit educational charity that works with schools to raise awareness of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). We are delighted to be able to offer two events led by Sentinus after half term.

- **P4-7 will take part in a Robotic Roadshow on Tuesday 26th February.** This Roadshow introduces pupils to computer programming using either drag and drop or PBASIC programming. Pupils will work in pairs to learn to write their own programmes and download these to their robot to enable it to carry its tasks.
- **Family Digital Event will be held in school on Thursday 7th March at 6.45pm.** This event will be offered to pupils and parents in KS2 and aims to get us learning coding together. Further details will be sent home closer to the date.

STEM Celebration Event

As part of our Extended Schools work, some of our P6/7 pupils travelled to St Mark's on Monday 11th February to showcase STEM based work they have completed over the last few months. A big thank you to Lucas who did a fantastic job explaining to the other pupils about our display and the STEM work we have been completing in class.

Balanceability

Today, Thursday 14th February was P1's last session of Balanceability and we were delighted to get some of the class riding a pedal bike too. All pupils have made great progress with their balance and propulsion and it has been fantastic to see all their confidence grow. Thank you again to Mrs Cumming for providing the programme.



PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Thank you to all who attended parent interviews this week. We hope that you found the interview valuable and we value this home/school link. Thank you also for your positive response to our 'Book Look' initiative. I know from your feedback on the reply slips that you found this a valuable exercise in celebrating your child's achievements and allowing you to see how you can help at home.

P4/5 Egyptian Trip

On Wednesday 6th February, P4 and 5 had a fantastic day at the Navan Centre in Armagh, taking part in several Egyptian based workshops. They enjoyed finding out more about the Egyptian gods, hieroglyphics and the mummification process.



Credit Union Quiz

On Friday 1st February, we sent two teams to the Credit Union Quiz at St Dallen's PS. It was a tough quiz but congratulations to Lacey, Brody, Jamie, Christopher, Leah, Emilija, Lucas and Karim for representing the school so well.

First Aid

Congratulations to Mrs K. Graham on passing her First Aid exam last week. Following her training, she would like to remind parents on the potential choking hazard with grapes. Parents are advised to cut these in half long ways if sending these in for snack.

Newry High Taster Day

A big thank you to Newry High for providing our P6/7 pupils with a day in the life of a pupil in Newry High. The pupils enjoyed the opportunity to get involved in the various activities they'd organised.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

DON'T FORGET

World Book day is Thursday 7th March. Remember to come dressed up as your favourite book character.

Just a reminder that Dromore Road PS will be open as normal on Monday 18th March.