



We care

We share

We learn

Week beginning Monday 14th January 2019: ONLINE SAFETY WEEK 2

****Congratulations to last week's winners of Class of the Week! Junior: Year 1 Senior: Year 6****

Mon 14 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent & Toddler Group starts again 9.15-11am. Everyone welcome School Council Meeting Y4 PE begins (in school) Remember to bring in PE gear – all items labelled! Swimming for Y7 – remember £2, swim gear and goggles (& hat for girls)
Tues 15 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly & Awards Open Afternoon for Sept 2019 enrolment 1.30-3pm: Online applications (See below) Y5 & 6 Hurling & Camogie (in school) Bring PE gear & track bottoms (may be outside)
Wed 16 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE in hall with class teachers: Y2: 9.10am, Y1: 10am, Y3: 10.45am Hive Hackers Training for staff (pm in PWC, Belfast) Y5 Speedwell afterschool in CPS (7 of 7)
Thur 17 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat Thursday. Children can bring a <i>small</i> packet of crisps/bar (no chewy sweets) Digital Leaders Training at Apple Regional Centre, St Peters & St Pauls PS Foreglen
Fri 18 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly & Awards
Mon 21 st Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P4 PE: Remember to bring in PE gear – all items labelled! Friends of New Row meeting 6pm – EVERYONE welcome!
Sun 27 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Mass 3 (For Y4 children making First Communion) 9am Church of St Patrick
Wed 30 th Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grandparents & Others Afternoon – information to follow next week
Thur 31 st Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing Date for Applications to P1 Sept 2019 – complete online before then

Important dates for Y6&7 pupils & their parents

St Patrick's Col	Wed 16th Jan 4.30 - 6pm St Mary's Building, Sat 19 th Jan 10-1.30pm St Patrick's Building
Rainey ES	Thur 17 th Jan at 7pm (For pupils from NRPS)
St Mary's GS	Tuesday 22 nd & Wednesday 23 rd January 2019 at 7pm
Sperrin IC	Wed 23 rd January at 7pm

Class assemblies–diary reminders. All assemblies will begin at **9.30am**. Y4 don't have a specific date.

Fri 25th Jan	Fri 29th Mar	Fri 12th April	Fri 10th May	Fri 14th June
Year 7	Year 6 (new date)	Year 3	Year 2	Year 1

- **Staffing Update:** Mrs Emer Scullion will now begin her maternity leave on Monday 21st January. We wish her well at this exciting (and tiring) time! Mrs Denise Gunning will take over teaching duties in Y4. As always, there will be a hand-over of information about the children's learning and school life.
- Do you know someone interested in **temporary kitchen work**? Mon-Fri 10am-2pm. Please see Marie in the school kitchen or call 02879468927 for more information.
- See overleaf for info on the recently reconstituted **Board of Governors** and a **parking & traffic update**
- **PWC Hive Hackers:** We are delighted that our Y5 & 6 pupils have been selected to participate in PWC's programme which enables us to Code in a fun, structured and supportive environment. What is Hive Hackers? 7 Week Coding Programme created by PwC for Primary Schools. Learning to code is similar to learning a second language. Our teachers will receive great training and coding is a school target this year.
- **Friends of New Row:** meeting next week to share ideas about fundraising & social event for Term 2. Everyone welcome – come along...and bring a friend!
- **Afterschools reminder:** places need to be pre-booked and paid.
- **Winning classes:** Y1, 4 & 7 enjoyed a popcorn party last Friday as a reward for winning *Class of the half term*. They demonstrated excellent behaviour in and around school.

Many thanks for your continued support

Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

Online Safety Week 2: All classes will have specific lessons to learn more about how we can stay safe online. Ask your child about learning and how to stay safe online when at home.

Open Afternoon: **Tuesday 15th January 1.30-3pm**

Is your child due to **start Primary 1 in Sept 2019**? A new online application system is in place for all schools. Online registration runs from 2nd - 31st January. Visit www.eani.org/admissions to apply. An additional opportunity has been arranged to offer online application support and for a look around if you missed our open day in December.

Access to School: Update & Reminders

Planning permission to upgrade the pedestrian and vehicular access to school has been granted. DENI assure us that work will now progress asap. In the meantime, can I remind everyone:

- Parents/carers are NOT permitted to drive up the school lane for drop offs or collections
 - All Y1-5 pupils must be collected from the arranged points (front door, classroom door, back gate). They cannot be collected by an older sibling in Y6 & 7
 - Parents need to exercise caution when escorting children down the lane, particularly at the bottom
 - Due to its gradient, children should not travel on bicycles, scooters etc down the lane
 - Respect the residents. Do not block access or pavements around pedestrian gate/Chichester Ave
- We had a few incidents last week where parents/carers had forgotten these procedures. Remember they are to ensure the safety of all our school users.

Reconstituted Board of Governors 2018-2021

Following a ratification process conducted by DENI, EA & CCMS, our newly-reconstituted Board of Governors met in December for their first meeting. Feedback from the last parent survey in May 2018 indicated that parents feel that the management of the school at governor level is working very well. However, feedback also suggested that parents were unsure of the role of the governors. This is not unusual in schools. We hope the information below is useful.

School governors

The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the school principal, supported by the vice principal and leadership team. The overall management responsibility for the school falls to the Board of Governors. These volunteers come from within the school and wider parish community and reflect the various parts of the school community e.g. representatives from the parent group, teaching staff, school trustees, Education Authority and Dept. of Education.

The role of the Board of Governors

Every school is managed by a Board of Governors. They work with the school principal to meet the educational needs of the school pupils in a secure and safe environment. The role of the Board of Governors is to make sure that the school provides pupils with a good education.

Boards of Governors meet approximately once per term, although there may be a few other additional meetings as necessary throughout the year. However, the day-to-day running and related decisions are managed by the professional lead – i.e. the principal, assisted by the vice principal, senior school leaders and other staff.

What does a parent representative do?

Just as the teacher rep is expected to contribute to discussions and decisions at governor level considering things through the eyes and ears of a teacher, the parent rep is expected to contribute as any parent might. The Board of Governors meetings are not somewhere that specific concerns of parents are discussed. If such concerns exist, they should not be directed to the parent representative (or indeed any specific governor) but brought to the principal, as normal, using the recognised and appropriate channels of communication. It is very important for all parents to understand this role.

Mrs Mary White (DENI rep & Chair)	Mr Dean Mooney (EA rep)
Mr Maurice Diamond (Trustee Rep)	Mr Bill Watson (EA rep)
Very Rev John Gates (Trustee Rep)	Mrs Ciara Shivers (Parent Rep)
Mrs Clare Heaney (Trustee Rep)	Mrs Karen McElroy (Teacher Rep)
Mr Noel McKenna (Trustee Rep & Vice Chair)	Mrs Deirdre Graffin (Principal)