

Weekly Update: Friday 9th October 2020

Dear parent or carer

We are blessed to have made it through another week. I know the levels are rising but we can all keep doing our best, we hope everyone will stay safe. We can also keep everyone in our prayers – the children are doing really well when praying the Rosary together. Please take time to read over the information and reminders, including news from Friends of New Row.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Mrs D Graffin

Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

Dates for your diary	
Mon 12 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling collection at 9.30am
Wed 14 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music lessons (Violin) with Mrs. Mullan
Thur 15 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Photographer for Y1 & 7 pupils only. Other classes/families later in year
Fri 16 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEON DAY! How bright can I be? More info below. Special NEON DAY TAKE-AWAY (dinner in rooms) Y7 Transfer Club 8am Music lessons (flute/clarinet) with Mr Tohill 'Flu Vaccination in school GL registration closes for Y7 pupils at 2pm
Mon 19 th – Wed 21 st October: Y1 Baseline Interviews (in Recobox)	
Mon 19 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road of Hope collection begins
Fri 23 rd Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hallowe'en Dinner!
Mon 26 th Oct – Fri 30 th Oct: School Closed - Mid Term Break	
Mon 2 nd Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Development Day – pupils do not attend
Tues 3 rd Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term 1B begins Make sure milk and break are paid for via ParentPay. If not paid online, we will assume you wish to cancel and no milk/break will be sent to your child's room

Recycling Collection



Recycling Collection: Get filling those bags!

We will accept all types of clothes, curtains, bedding, handbags, belts, shoes (paired)

Please leave all bin bags (secured) inside the RECOBOX (outdoor classroom) at the back gate

Friday after 2pm and before 5pm (Can drive up school lane from 2.30pm)	Saturday 10am – 12 noon (Can drive up school lane)	Mon before 9am (No access via school lane)
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Updates

Circuit breaker?

There has been much speculation about whether this will happen. Please do not panic about what it might mean. **IF** this happens, we are in a much stronger position than last time. Children will be prepared for the break and staff will make sure learning is continued at home in a practical and supportive way.

Laptop loans for pupils

DENI have allocated a small number of laptops for children in Y4 & 7 to borrow as part of the school restart programme. These have been designated to pupils based on information DENI hold about our school. If this scheme is extended to other classes, I will of course apply for additional devices to help families out.

New Row PS in conjunction with Friends of New Row...

NEON DAY

Fri 16th October



How bright can I be? Sponsor me and see!

2 Prizes per class - for the brightest outfit & a raffle for all sponsor forms returned

Wear something that will make sure you are seen on the dark evenings – a hi vis vest, bright jumper, socks, hairband...you decide!

Sponsor forms will be sent home Fri 9th October.

Please send all money and forms in a sealed envelope by Friday 16th October.

These will be put into a collection box for each class.

A winner will be selected out of the box at random, just like a raffle ticket!

2 prizes in each class: Brightest pupil & sponsor form raffle

FAMILIES: Please complete one form and return money with the oldest child. We will make sure to include 'raffle tickets' for younger children in the class box

Money raised will go towards our funding our final Interactive Panel as we work to upgrade our learning spaces

Helping others...

Y7 pupil Niamh Diamond is getting her hair cut to help children who lose their hair. She was inspired when a family member recently experienced alopecia. *Do you want to join me in making a difference? I'm raising money in aid of The Little Princess Trust and every donation will help. Thank you in advance for your contribution to this cause that means so much to me.*

Niamh's - Little Princess Trust



More information about The Little Princess Trust: When a child loses their hair to cancer, we'll be there with a free, real hair wig to help restore their confidence and identity. You can help us give hair and hope to children and young people.

To donate, click on:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/niamhs-little-princess-trust?fbclid=IwAR2LmYUxG92gqmrSOO84vLG2wQTyLYs-cRKD8Jrwf7uwVfRqKus2NfvQFXc>

Walking bus – on its way back!

We are planning to safely reintroduce our monthly walking bus and will encourage all families to join in. The past months have helped us appreciate the benefits of being out and about, making active travel choices.

More info to follow.

Friends of New Row AGM 2020

Chairperson's Update

In a year of many, many firsts, our 2020 AGM went virtual, taking place on Tuesday 6th October. You'll see below a breakdown of the money raised for the events held since our last AGM in June 2019, none of which would have been possible without the unwavering support of our pupils, staff, families and local businesses. We are so very grateful to you all, as every penny raised goes towards equipment, resources, activities and extras for the children.

A couple of highlights I'd like to mention. The School calendar is now in its third year, and is proudly displayed in homes throughout Castledawson and further afield. Once again we were delighted to benefit from the support of many of our local businesses, who took adverts in the calendar. I'd like to express my sincere thanks to all of our sponsors, and to Madeleine from Moyola Photography for capturing the images used.

Secondly, December 2019 brought our first Christmas Disco to New Row, and we were blown away with how successful the night was. The event was so well supported by families, and the children had a ball.

Fundraising swiftly came to a halt in March of this year, along with school life, as we found ourselves in the midst of a global pandemic. Understandably, the focus since that time has been on ensuring the safety and well-being of our families and loved ones. Without adequate words to describe it, I won't attempt to summarise the past few months. I would, however, like to say thank you, to all of the staff of New Row, for all of their hard work in navigating us through a homeschool system, and for the support they gave to parents and pupils throughout.

I'd like to take this opportunity to give my sincere thanks to all of the FoNR committee for their ongoing support and help over the last year. I'd also like to say a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Graffin and all of the staff at New Row. At every event we hold, we are given their support, both in preparation, and on the day itself. Our children are so, so blessed to have a team of staff here that truly care. We have many, many others who have kindly given up their time to volunteer at our events over the year, thank you all.

We of course hope to continue our support of the School's work over the coming year. We remain in uncertain times, amid changing government restrictions. We are extremely mindful of the additional pressures families may be facing, but when the time is right, we look forward to resuming our events and working together to improve the school for all of our children.

Mrs Marianne Cushley **Chairperson**

Summary of accounts for 2019-20

Carry-over from 18/19: £7,760.55 Income: £6,888.85 Including Quiz, Calendar sponsorship & sales, Christmas disco & Coffee Morning	Expenditure: £13,403.75 Including 4 Interactive panels, Printing of calendars, Membership of Parentkind & Leavers' hoodies Remaining balance: £1245.65
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Friends of New Row Committee 2020-2021

Chairperson	<i>Marianne Cushley</i>	Vice Chairperson	<i>Rachael Hassan</i>
Secretary	<i>Orlaith Heaney</i>	Vice Secretary	<i>Lisa Martin</i>
Treasurer	<i>Pat Hanson</i>	Vice Treasurer	<i>Elaine Johnston</i>
P.R.	<i>Carmel Diamond</i>	<i>Madeleine Gribbin</i>	

I would like to simply add sincere words of thanks for all that FoNR have done for our pupils. Other schools remain envious of the level of both financial and practical support and encouragement. Here's to another year – keeping connected will be challenging and fundraising even more so during these difficult times, but I have every confidence that our school community – of which FoNR is such an integral part - will be stronger as a result of what we have come through – together.

Mrs Deirdre Graffin **Principal**

Faith development and promotion

Month of the Holy Rosary



In **October** we continue to learn to pray the **rosary**. We will begin by focussing on the Joyful mysteries and pray together.

How to pray the rosary

- Starter prayers: Our Father, 3 x Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father
- For each story, think about what was happening.
- While you are thinking, pray Our Father, 10 x Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.
- You don't have to pray all 5 stories (mysteries) at once – just pick one, think about it and say OF, 10xHM & GB (can you work out what this means?)

The Mysteries of Light (This set of mysteries have only been included since 2000)

1. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan by his cousin John the Baptist
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana – the first miracle. Mary asked Jesus to help provide more food and drink at a wedding as there were more guests than expected
3. Jesus' Proclamation of the Kingdom of God: when Jesus started sharing God's messages
4. The Transfiguration: the only miracle that happened to Jesus. He was surrounded in light and God said, "this is my son – listen to him"
5. The Last Supper

Why not pray a decade at home? The children should be able to tell you a little about what they know.

Road of Hope

Once again we would like to show how we care for others less fortunate by supporting a charity around Christmas. This is the 6th year we will support the great work of **Road of Hope** who transport gifts and essentials to those who need it in places far from home. The traditional shoebox appeal will not take place. Instead, they charity are asking for donations. We will arrange for a collection box to be left in the foyer **w/b 19th October** and gifts can be dropped off into this.

Suggested gifts include:

All classes: SOCKS! For all ages from child to adult, male and female

Y1, 2 & 3: A small toy for ages 3-6 years

Y4 & 5: tennis ball or bouncy ball

Y6 & 7: Hand cream/sudocrem, Farm animals, Pretend jewellery sets

Although the collection will not begin for a few weeks, we thought it might be useful to know when out and about over the next few weekends. Fiona from Road of home is very grateful for any support we can give to the work of their charity.



Community & other notices

St. Mary's
Grammar School, Magherafelt.



Registration for GL Assessment Test

Closing Date Friday 16 October 2020

**Download from stmarysmagherafelt.com
or contact School on 028 79632320
for a Registration Pack**

Inspiring Excellence, Fulfilling Potential



Rainey Endowed School

Rainey Endowed School

Transfer Arrangements 2021

Entrance Assessments for entry to Year 8 in September 2021

Closing Date for Registration 16 October 2020 at 2.00 pm

Pupils who wish to apply for a place in Rainey Endowed School for 2021 should register to take the Entrance Assessments which the school is using as part of its admissions criteria. Pupils should be registered to take these Entrance Assessments and parents have until **2.00 pm on Friday, 16 October 2020** to register their son/daughter.

Pupils who have registered to take the Entrance Assessments at Rainey Endowed School will be invited to a **Familiarisation Afternoon on Wednesday 2 December 2020** where they will meet staff and find out more about the arrangements for the **Entrance Assessments** which will take place in the Rainey Endowed School on **Saturday 30 January 2021**.

A Registration Pack containing all necessary information can be downloaded from the Rainey Endowed School website raineyendowed.com or collected from the school office.

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