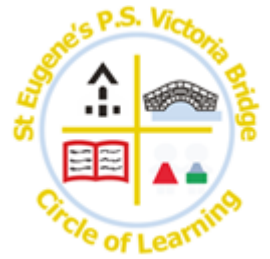


# St Eugene's PS, Victoria Bridge

## Newsletter

September 2024



I would like to begin by welcoming everyone in our school community to the academic year 2024/2025 at St Eugene's PS. It is great to see so many new families joining our circle of learning. We have an action-packed year ahead, there is so much happening at our wonderful school. Be sure to read all details carefully to stay up to date with all that is going on.

### Staffing

R/P1	Miss Gormley & Mrs McDermott supported by Mrs McBride & Mrs O' Kane
P2/3	Mrs O' Donnell supported by Miss O' Brien
P4/5	Mrs Connolly supported by Mrs Preston
P6/7	Mr Donnelly supported by Miss Mullen

### Speaking with your Child's Teacher

If you need to speak with your child's teacher, you can call the office and leave a message with Mrs Gallagher for your child's teacher to get back in touch with you, alternatively you can write a short note to your child's teacher asking for them to contact you. Please be aware that we are not always able to return calls on the same day unless the concern is an urgent safeguarding matter. If you feel that issues are unresolved after speaking to your child's teacher, you can then request to speak with Miss Gormley. These procedures are clearly outlined in our parental code of conduct and in our complaints procedure policies which are available 24-7 on our website and on request from the office.

### Telephoning the Office

Please be advised that Mrs Gallagher does not start work until 9.30am and finishes at 3.15pm, therefore, there is no one available to take calls outside of these times. Other staff are tied up in briefings, meetings, planning and other duties. If you are calling outside of these times a recorded message can be left on the answer phone.

### Seesaw

Seesaw is our online learning platform and is a great tool for allowing adults at home to see what is going on in our classrooms. We know that so many of you love it! You can have multiple children on your Seesaw app and switch between them using the top left-hand corner. If you get locked out of your account, simply click forgotten password and you should be able to reset and gain access again.

### Reminders!!!

#### School Uniform

We are delighted to see the children looking so smart in their school uniform as the new term begins. Our uniform is an important part of developing our sense of belonging and we hope that our boys and girls wear the uniform with pride. Mondays and Wednesdays are PE DAYS and children should come to school in PE uniform on these days. P5-7 can also wear PE uniform on Fridays as they will be attending swimming lessons.

#### Credit Union

Sion Mills Credit Union will be collecting savings each Tuesday. If you or your child are members, you can send books and savings in on Tuesday mornings. If you would like to become a member, please contact Mrs Gallagher who will arrange to get you an application form.

#### After School Provision

Provision for P2 and P3 children has already commenced. We also look forward to welcoming RM Multisport on Monday afternoons: P2/3 2.15-3.15 and P4-7 3.15 until 4.15. After school provision for P1 children will commence from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. We hope to add to our range of clubs as the term progresses.

#### Important Dates

5<sup>th</sup> Sept - Musical Pathways to Learning commenced.

13<sup>th</sup> Sept — School Swimming Lessons P5-P7 will commence.

16<sup>th</sup> Sept — PM Multi Skills After School Clubs begins.

18<sup>th</sup> September - School Counselling Service will resume.

20<sup>th</sup> September — Good Relations Event at Melvin for P5-7 (pm).

23<sup>rd</sup> September — 2.15 Provision available to P1

#### Advance Notice:

30<sup>th</sup> October: Reporting to Parents Day (school closed to pupils)

Halloween Holiday: 31st October — 4<sup>th</sup> November inclusive.

Christmas Show — 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Full holiday list is on the 'files' section of the website.

Some highlights from the first days back at school:

P6/7 GAA coaching, P1 learning to line up, some P4 girls working hard, KS1 Musical Pathways to Learning, P2 with new reading books.



## Breakfast Club

We are delighted to be able to continue to offer Breakfast Club daily from 8.15am at the very reasonable cost of £ 1 per pupil per day. The club is available to all year groups. Please be aware that the last breakfast is served at 8.45am as staff need to be tidied up for 9am. Only those attending Breakfast Club should be on the premise before 9am.

## Special Educational Needs at St Eugene' s PS

Teaching staff will be working on personalised learning plans for children who are on our special needs register throughout this month. Parents of children on the register will be invited to discuss these plans when each teacher has them ready. Please understand that these take time to prepare and some of our teachers have up to eight pupils in their class to prepare these for. We want to do all within our power to best meet the needs of these children.

## Wellbeing at St Eugene' s PS

We pride ourselves on the provision on offer to help with pupil physical and mental wellbeing. This year we look forward to a range of sports opportunities, school counselling, Relax Kids, workshops with Justin Logue and workshops through our Extended Schools Cluster to name but a few. We also have a new Calm Corner and our Sensory Snug which are amazing facilities for the children.

## Good Relations Week

To celebrate Good Relations Week our P5-P7 children will travel to Melvin on the afternoon of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of September to engage in a cross-community project with local schools in the area. The children will learn about other cultures and countries through a series of workshops. We continue to promote and celebrate diversity at St Eugene' s PS as we welcome families and children from all abilities, cultures, faiths, and those of no faith. This is such an exciting project which has been organised and funded through Rural Housing and Habinteg Housing 'Housing for All' . A letter with full details will go home next week.

## Congratulations to Mr Donnelly

We congratulate Mr Donnelly and his wife, Megan, on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Olivia Grace. Please be aware that Mr Donnelly will be taking one-week Paternity Leave at the end of the month. Mr J Colton will be covering the class for the week. Mr Colton will also be releasing Mrs Connolly for Special Educational Needs provision twice per month.