

October News
2022



Important Dates:

Friday 28th October school will close 1pm for Staff Training.

Monday 31st October - Friday 4th November school closed for Halloween Break.

School re-opens Monday 7th November.

Annual Flu Immunisation Programme.

Our pupils will receive the Flu Vaccine on 12th October 2022. The School Nurse team will return in January to administer the vaccine to any children who were not in school on 12th October and whose parents had consented.



Sustrans Active Schools

We are taking part in the 'Sustrans Active Schools Challenge' and are working towards our Gold Award.

We will kick start the year by joining the Cycle to School Week which will run from Monday 3rd October - Friday 7th October. All pupils on bicycles/scooters must dismount and walk their bikes/scooters on the school ground.

School Code of Conduct

Throughout the year we like to remind parents and pupils of our School Code of Conduct and Golden rules. To help with the smooth running of the school we expect everyone in school to play their part in supporting these guidelines.

For a safe and happy school, we are expected to:

- Arrive at school on time
- Wear our school uniform
- Show respect to everyone in school
- Be truthful, well-mannered and kind
- Take pride in our school building and keep it litter free. Look after property
- Walk sensibly and quietly in the corridors
- We work hard and always try our best

October is the month of the Holy Rosary

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Children will pray a decade of the Rosary every day in school assembly.

How to pray the Rosary

Starter Prayers: Our Father, 3 x Hail Mary,
Glory be to the Father.

Followed by 5 decades 1 Our Father and 10 Hail Mary's



After School Clubs

Mondays

Multi Sport Club

P1 - P3 2.15pm - 3.15pm

P4 - P7 3.15pm - 4.15 pm

Stay & Play/Homework Club

P1 - P7 Until 4.15pm

Tuesdays

Stay & Play/Homework Club

P1 - P7 Until 4.15pm

Wednesdays

Traditional Music Club

P4 - P7 3pm - 4pm

Thursdays

Dance Club

P1 - P3 2.15pm - 3.15pm

P4 - P7 3.15pm - 4.15 pm

Gardening Club

P4 - P7 3pm - 4pm

All children should be collected from the Front Door. Please ensure you collect your child promptly as the coaches need to leave promptly.

Friends of St Matthew's PTA

The links with our PTA are very important to us. We rely on them for fundraising activities to provide extra resources help with transport costs etc for all of our children. If you would like to join the Friends of St Matthew's PTA please email: akealey695@c2kni.net

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 13th October at 6pm we welcome new members.

Split the Pot.

Our school fundraiser will re-started with the draw taking place **monthly**. The first draw was Thursday 29th September (due to the school closure on the Friday). Place your £1 in an envelope with your name clearly marked and return to school for a chance to win half the money collected that month. Conor O'Neill was this month's winner



Schools NI App

Please Note: Our school monthly newsletter will now be uploaded to our school website and Schools NI App- please download the App and follow our school.

As part of our Eco – friendly goals we will no longer be printing our newsletter.

School Day

All children should be dropped off to school between 8.45am and 9am. Thank you to everyone for following our "pick up" rules. Our children's safety is our first and main priority.

P1 children finishing time will be 2.30pm from Monday 3rd October.



Nut Allergies

We must ask that you do not send nuts or nut products into school (either for healthy break or packed lunch). This includes peanut paste, nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts such as cereals and muesli bars. Thank you for your co-operation.

Absences

Please remember to keep school informed should your child be absent for any reason, including the need to self-isolate. Please also make us aware if your child develops COVID -19 symptoms, if you have booked a COVID test and are awaiting results. Teachers will communicate homework etc via Seesaw.



Are you entitled? Applications for free school meals can be made online on the EA website at <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants/apply-for-free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

Mental Health Day

Action Mental Health will mark Mental Health Day on Monday 10th October. We are asking children to wear something Purple on this day and to make a donation if they can. All funds raised are for local mental health charity Action Mental Health.

One in five of us will experience a mental health problem at some point in our lives and half of all problems begin **before the age of 14**. Action Mental Health is committed to promoting resilience and fostering positive mental health and wellbeing for future generations.

If you would like to donate send the money in an envelope marked AMH (Action mental Health).

Maths Week Ireland begins Monday 17th October.

Children will carry out fun activities in Maths this week.

Altar servers

Thank you to everyone who responded to our call for new Altar servers.

Breaks & Lunch Times

Thank you for making healthy break and lunch choices for your child/ children. Please only send sugary snacks, chocolate crisps etc on a Friday as an extra treat.

New P1's

Welcome to our New P1's who are now settled in school.

