

# St Therese of Lisieux Primary School

## Prospectus



Principal: Mrs Siobhan McTaggart B.Ed, M.Ed, PQH (ND)



‘With a smile and a helping hand we inspire the children of today to become the adults of tomorrow.’

# Mission Statement

**We, the Governors and staff of St Therese of Lisieux Primary School, are committed to providing our pupils with a positive attitude towards Catholic education.**

Christ's values and gospel message are an intrinsic part of our ethos, daily running of the school and our curriculum. We try to ensure that we work in partnership with the home, parish and the wider community to strengthen our pupil's vision of their role as part of the Catholic community

Chairperson of the Board of Governors



## Our Vision

‘With a smile and a helping hand we inspire the children of today to become the adults of tomorrow’

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We aim to promote high achievement and learning for life by:

- 🌹 providing a Catholic education within a caring, safe and friendly environment
- 🌹 developing our children’s individual needs and talents to their full potential
- 🌹 fostering positive caring relationships within the whole school community where children are encouraged to recognise and respect the feelings and attitudes of others
- 🌹 encouraging children to accept responsibility for their own behaviour, through promoting self-discipline and increasing independence
- 🌹 providing a broad and balanced curriculum delivered with support and encouragement to succeed
- 🌹 continually striving for improvement, working together toward common goals.



# Staffing 2019-2020

<b>Principal</b>	Mrs Siobhan McTaggart
<b>Vice Principal</b>	Mr Fergus Coyle
<b>P1 Teachers</b>	Ms Denise Dorman Mrs Gemma McDaniel
<b>P2 Teachers</b>	Mrs Corinna McWilliams Mrs Anne McClurg/Mrs Rita White
<b>P3 Teachers</b>	Miss Pauline Gargan Mrs Grainne Black
<b>P4 Teachers</b>	Ms Claire McClenaghan Miss Shannon O'Neill
<b>P5 Teachers</b>	Miss Eimear McMullan Mrs Jennifer Hamill / Mrs Julie O'Prey
<b>P6 Teachers</b>	Mrs Oonagh McIlwaine Mrs Christine Quinn
<b>P7 Teachers</b>	Mr James McFerran Mr Neil Reynolds
<b>Additional Support Staff</b>	Mr Fergus Coyle (SEN CO) Mrs Patricia Mulholland Ms Aoife Scannell Mrs Julie O'Prey

# School Uniform

Each child is expected to wear the school uniform which consists of:

## Girls

- 🍁 Brown skirt/pinafore
- 🍁 Light blue shirt  
Brown v-neck pull over or cardigan
- 🍁 Brown and blue striped tie
- 🍁 Fawn or brown socks/tights
- 🍁 Outdoor shoes brown/black (no trainers)
- 🍁 Summer dress in third term

## Boys

- 🍁 Brown trousers
- 🍁 Light blue shirt  
Brown v-neck pull over
- 🍁 Brown and blue striped tie
- 🍁 Fawn socks
- 🍁 Outdoor shoes brown/black (no trainers)
- 🍁 Brown knee length shorts in third term



## P1 Physical Education Uniform

- 🍁 Dark trainers, tracksuit (available through school)
- Parents are asked to clearly mark all their child's belongings.



# About our school

**St Therese of Lisieux Primary School is one of the parish schools of Holy Family Parish. The school is situated on the Antrim Road and the present bright and well maintained building opened in September 1988. It has been furnished with a purpose built lift catering for those children with mobility difficulties.**

The main school consists of a two storey building containing 14 classrooms, two specially dedicated Special Needs Rooms, a Reading Room, a Library, a Computer Suite, a P.E. Hall, Canteen and Staffroom. Classrooms are grouped in clusters of three or four and open on to a shared learning area where children have access to a number of resources. Play areas are central to the Foundation Stage classrooms and create a stimulating, interesting and inviting area for Foundation Stage children. The P.E. Hall is well equipped to meet the demands of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. All classrooms in the school are connected to the C2K network and all rooms contain Interactive Whiteboards.

A new extension to the school opened in September 2008. The unit contains three classrooms, a medical room, two main storage areas and has self contained cloakroom facilities, including a disabled toilet.



In September 2011 a new modular unit was opened as a self-contained 'Nurture Room'.



St Therese of Lisieux Primary School places in the forefront the development of its children. We are a Catholic school and as such provide an atmosphere where the pupils are part of a Christian community. Children are respected as individuals and helped to develop to their full potential. School policy emphasises the maintenance of high standards of behaviour and attitudes. We are dedicated to the creation of a caring believing community with Christian values that can be carried to the world outside.

We aim to provide an education that gives each child the opportunity of achieving the highest possible standards with a staff that have developed the best professional methods to enable each child to reach his/her full potential.

We have a highly motivated staff who work as a team to ensure the highest possible standards and are well able to meet the challenges of the revised curriculum.

Music and Drama are highly valued in the school, with choir, recorders and traditional and orchestral tuition taught by a talented staff both from within our own school

and from the City of Belfast School of Music. Musical productions of the highest standards are performed by all KS1 children in December and March, and in June by our KS2 children. Our school orchestra currently has 75 members.

Children have the opportunity to learn another language at St Therese of Lisieux Primary School. Currently, all children in the school are learning Spanish as part of the curricular day. We also offer tuition in French and Irish.

We have been an Eco school for 10 years and our Eco Green Flag was renewed in 2019. We work hard to maintain an eco-friendly environment by engaging in a number of activities such as recycling and saving energy. We are part of the Sustrans Bike It Project and encourage our children and families to walk, cycle or scoot to and from school every day. In June 2015 we were the first school in Northern Ireland to be awarded the Sustrans Gold Award.

We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities including Gaelic, Soccer, Judo, Dance, Choir, Arts and Crafts, Tin Whistle and Orchestra.

We operate a Breakfast Club from 8.00am – 8.45am and an afternoon club, the '123' Club from 2.00pm – 3.00pm for P1 – P3. We also offer a variety of Parent Evening Classes.

We offer a Wraparound Care Service in the school from 8.00am to 6.00pm during school and during school holidays facilitated by 'Sleepy Hollow'



# Activities

## Football



## Orchestra



## Bike It Project



## Gaelic Football



## Arts and Crafts



## Judo



## Tin Whistle





# Learning and Teaching

**In St Therese of Lisieux, our Learning and Teaching Policy is at the heart of everything we do, setting high expectations for ourselves and others to ensure that our children are provided with high quality experiences which will lead to a consistently high level of pupil achievement.**

This policy reflects our class room practice, our core values and the ways in which we have incorporated the key principles of the revised curriculum. We value teamwork, shared ownership and the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders. Our vision statement says 'with a smile and a helping hand we inspire the children of today to become the adults of tomorrow'. Everyone in the school community continually strives to ensure that the experiences we offer our children will prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of adult life.

## **Core values of our Learning and Teaching policy**

- ✿ To provide a Catholic education within a caring, safe and friendly environment.
- ✿ To promote and develop the individual needs and talents of each child to their full potential.
- ✿ To foster positive, caring relationships within the whole school community by encouraging children to accept responsibility for their own behaviour through promoting self-discipline and increasing independence.
- ✿ To produce happy, confident, outgoing children who show respect and care towards others and themselves.
- ✿ To have a consistent approach to behaviour throughout the school with parental cooperation and involvement.

## **Aims of our Learning and Teaching policy**

- ✿ To ensure all our children achieve high standards in all areas of the curriculum.
- ✿ To develop independent, confident, enthusiastic learners who take increasing responsibility for their own learning and progress.
- ✿ To provide a safe, calm and happy learning environment where all children feel safe, included and respected.
- ✿ To challenge the children to do their best by setting high expectations, involving them in setting their own targets and encouraging them to be reflective learners.
- ✿ To ensure children enjoy learning.
- ✿ To develop pro-active children who make a positive contribution to the school and global community.
- ✿ To work with parents, professional colleagues and outside agencies to enhance our children's learning.





## Links with Parents



**Parental involvement ranks high in our priorities. A number of parents assist in a number of ways in the school. Their help in escorting the children on educational visits and to weekly Masses is greatly appreciated. A number of parents have trained in the Better Reading Partnership Programme (BELB) and are supporting reading at KS1. The views of parents are sought out key points our School Development Planning cycle and inform our strategic aims of improving the standards and achievements of all our children.**

We are extremely fortunate to have a thriving parents' committee who are always engaged in fund-raising. Examples of recent financial assistance include: funding for iPads, playground markings and a stage for the school hall. All of the functions they organise not only give children great enjoyment and raise much appreciated funds for the school, but they also help to give parents the opportunity to meet each other, learn more about and become more involved in the life of the school.

The school has a website which is currently being updated but can still be accessed at [www.stthereseoflisieux.co.uk](http://www.stthereseoflisieux.co.uk). The website helps to keep parents and friends informed of many aspects of their children's school life and also contains important information on Policies and Procedures. We also include our Newsletter which is sent out to parents each month.





# Pupil Involvement

**We value the voice of the children at St Therese of Lisieux Primary School. The children have the opportunity to become involved in a variety of personal development programmes including the School Council, the Eco Council and the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Team. Children can also volunteer to become Digital Leaders, Break Time Personal Trainers, Library Helpers and Lunch Time Buddies.**

We are an Eco School and each class works hard to maintain our Eco Flag.

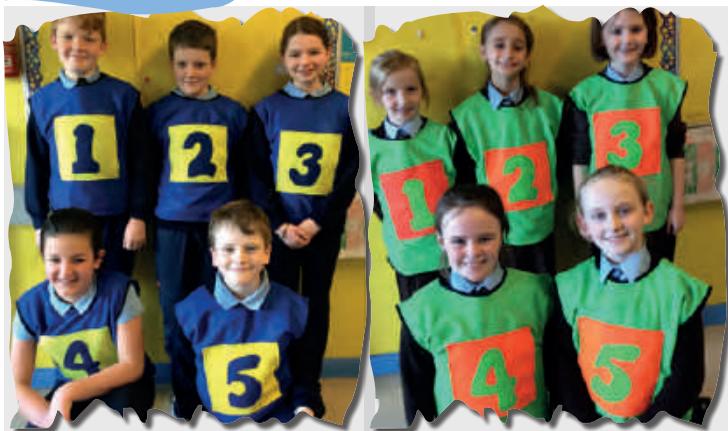
## Eco Helpers



## Digital Leaders



## Break Time Personal Trainers



## School Council



It is our overall aim that all of our children will be welcomed into a happy and safe learning environment where they will be provided with a wide range of learning and teaching opportunities to help them achieve to their full potential. We value highly the role of our parents in achieving this overall aim.



**Principal**

Mrs Siobhan McTaggart

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**Website:** [www.stthereseoflisieux.co.uk](http://www.stthereseoflisieux.co.uk)

**Twitter:** @sttheresepts

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the school office at any time to arrange an appointment with the Principal.