



November 2025



IMPORTANT DATES

Mon	Nov 17 th	Flu vaccinations offered to all children in school
Thur	Nov 27 th	Parent Teacher Consultation. <u>School closed for pupils.</u>
Wed	Dec 3 rd	P2 Christmas Show 10am
Wed	Dec 10 th	P3 Christmas Show 10am
Thurs	Dec 11 th	Open Day for prospective P1s starting in Sept 2026
Wed	Dec 17 th	Children's Christmas Dinner day
Thur	Dec 18 th	KS2 Carol Service in St Therese Church at 1.30pm
Fri	Dec 19 th	Little Bo Peep's Christmas Mix-Up Panto in the school hall (P1-7)
Mon	Dec 22 nd	School closing at noon for the Christmas holidays
Tue	Jan 6 th	School reopening for Term 2
Thur	Jan 22 nd	P7 Service of Light 11am St Therese Church
Mon-Fri	Feb 9 th -13 th	Half term holiday
Thur	Feb 19 th	Families Connect -session 1
Tue	March 17 th	School Closed for St Patrick's Day
Thur	March 26 th	P3 First Confession 11am St Therese Church
Sat	May 16 th	P4 First Holy Communion -time to be confirmed

P7 PUPILS

We wish all our boys and girls who are sitting the transfer tests over the next few weeks every success. Our thoughts and prayers will be with them all during this time.

Parents/carers of P7 children should look out for information in the local press/social media on Post Primary Open Days which will be taking place over the next few months and attend as many as possible to get a flavour of the different schools in the locality. Information will be sent home as we receive it.

Parents of P6 pupils should strongly consider attending some Open Days this year, to ensure a range of schools are considered.

FAMILIES CONNECT PROGRAMME

Families Connect is a six-week programme taking place on Thur mornings starting on Feb 19th 2026, aimed at parents of P1 and P2 pupils. Each workshop lasts 2 hours and focuses on language, literacy, mathematics, numeracy as well as social & emotional development. The sessions, delivered by Ms Dorman and Mrs McDaniel, are informal, relaxed and hugely beneficial to your child's learning. Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested and can commit to the six weeks, as places are very limited.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Thur: 8.30am-4.15pm

Fri: 8.30am- 3.15pm

PTA

Huge thanks to our very hardworking PTA for the two very successful Halloween discos. They were wonderful community events and raised £1643 which will be put to very good use in funding additional resources.

PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Parent Teacher consultations will take place in Nov and Dec, with the majority taking place on Thur Nov 27th **when the school is closed for pupils.** We know that many parents found the phone consultations very convenient over the past few years, so we are giving parents the option of a face to face or telephone consultation again this year. A form will be sent home for parents to indicate their preference.

PARENT CARER SURVEY 2024/25

During the last school year we surveyed parents/carers about our emotional health and wellbeing provision in the first term and on a wider range of issues later in the year. A summary of the last survey is available [here](#). The amount of homework set was an issue for a significant number of parents/carers with 40% saying too much was given, 59% saying it was just about right and 1% saying too little was given. We will survey parents again during parent teacher consultations to see if this is an issue across all year groups. Any parent who feels that their child is getting too much homework should prioritise reading and then do whatever is feasible for the child.

FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS

Being a parent can be very rewarding but can also be very challenging. Occasionally it's hard to know where to turn to for support. The local Family Support Hubs (FSH) bring together community, statutory and voluntary organisations. Each Hub has a Co-ordinator who has a deep knowledge of local support services and will connect families with the most appropriate supports. A FSH leaflet is available on our website [here](#). Family Support Hub Newsletters can be accessed [here](#). Edith McManus coordinates the Lower North Belfast Hub-02890749986. Julie Kinnear coordinates the Upper North Belfast Hub-02890351020. Parents can self-refer to the Hubs in total confidence.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Huge congratulations to our newly elected Student Council Representatives! They kicked things off with a brilliant assembly, each member confidently introducing themselves to the school and sharing the qualities they will bring to the role. A student council filled with leadership, creativity and a real passion for making a difference. Their ideas for the year ahead are exciting and imaginative. We can't wait to see them in action. Well done!

CYCLING/SCOOTING

The Spooky Cycle was a frightfully fun success! A huge thank you to everyone who took part—all of the bikes and scooters were decorated so brilliantly, they were truly a treat to see. Your creativity and spirit made the event a real Halloween highlight!

Remember to wear a helmet when cycling or scooting to school and to wear something bright/fluorescent/reflective as the evenings get darker.



ORCHESTRA

Orchestra will start back on Thursday 6th November for P5-7 pupils from 2.45 - 3.30pm in the hall. We look forward to welcoming the Primary 5s to the orchestra for the first time!

DIGITAL LEADERS/DREAM SPACE AMBASSADORS

We are delighted to have recruited 30 new Digital Leaders from Primary 7. They completed a thorough application process to demonstrate how they will work as a team, to support and enhance the delivery of ICT in our school. We were also successful in our application to become a Microsoft Dream Space Ambassador school for a second year. Fifteen new Dream Space Ambassadors have enrolled and will participate in a variety of training opportunities via Microsoft and Maynooth University as the year progresses. Well done to our new Digital Leader and Dream Space Ambassador teams- we are excited for what lies ahead for these teams!

MATHS WEEK IRELAND

The children participated enthusiastically in many events throughout the week: problem solving, creating mathematical designs, and competing in online quizzes and Izak9 events. There was a great buzz about the school! As part of our celebrations, we had a visit from St. Malachy's College students, some of whom were past pupils. The boys gave up their time to plan challenging algebraic problems for our P5 pupils. The day was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all! It is wonderful to see the children becoming confident, competent problem solvers, developing a range of thinking skills and personal capabilities. Keep up the great work!

SPORTING NEWS

The boys and girls from Primary 6 and 7 took part in the Cumann na mBunscol football league group events during October. The girls gave a great performance finishing 3rd in their group. The boys gave an excellent performance finishing top of their group and have now qualified for the Division 5 final in November.

The BPSFA Cyril Murray 7-a-side Cup saw St Therese take on Holy Family PS in the 2nd round securing a 2-1 victory and progressing to the next round.

The Belfast City Council Relay took place at Victoria Park, Sydenham with 16 P6 and P7 children representing the school against all other Belfast primary schools. The boys' and girls' teams in both year groups gave excellent performances all securing top 10 finishes.

Well done to all who took part and thanks to all our parents for your support, especially those who have been to help with transport.



DIGITAL SCHOOLS
AWARDS NORTHERN IRELAND

