



# April

## 2023

### IMPORTANT DATES

Thur	April 6 <sup>th</sup>
Mon	April 17 <sup>th</sup>
Mon-Fri	April 24-28 <sup>th</sup>
Mon	May 1 <sup>st</sup>
Mon	May 8 <sup>th</sup>
Tue	May 16 <sup>th</sup>
Thurs	May 18 <sup>th</sup>
Sat	May 20 <sup>th</sup>
Mon-Tue	May 29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup>
Fri	June 30 <sup>th</sup>

School closing at noon for the Easter holidays.  
School reopening for Term 3  
School Book Fair  
School closed for the Bank Holiday  
School closed for the Bank Holiday  
School Photographer to take P1 and P7 photos  
School closed for the Local Elections  
First Holy Communion St Therese church-  
10am Ms McClenaghan's class & 12pm Miss Norton's class  
School closed for the Bank Holiday  
School closing at noon for the summer holidays

### SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to our P3 pupils who made their First Confession last week in two beautiful ceremonies. Our thanks go to their families, Fr Michael Spence, Fr Robert Sloan and to the P7 choir who supported our P3s so well as they prepared for the sacrament.

### ILLNESS

We have a number of pupils with compromised immune system and coming into contact with infectious conditions, especially chickenpox, may have treatment implications. If your child may have come into contact with chickenpox, please let the office know so that we can pass on this information.

Please note that children with a tummy bug should not return to school until they have been well for 48 hours. Advice on children returning to school after illness is available online [here](#).

### SCHOOL COUNCIL BALLOT

Thanks to the McCready family for the fabulous Easter Basket they have donated. The School Council are selling ballot tickets at breaktime for the basket and some Easter Eggs at 50p per ticket. They will use the money raised to buy small games/equipment for lunchtime activities.

### NORTH BELFAST FOODBANK

We are a referral agency for the North Belfast Foodbank and can issue foodbank vouchers. If your family is in need, please email [info@stthereseoflisieux.belfast.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stthereseoflisieux.belfast.ni.sch.uk) for the attention of Mrs McTaggart, in complete confidence.

### SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Thur: 8.30am-4.15pm    Fri: 8.30am- 3.15pm

### FIRST COMMUNION TEA

The Communion Tea was a lovely community event that ran every year in school after the First Holy Communion, pre Covid. The PTA are looking for volunteers, new and old, to help out with this on Sat May 20<sup>th</sup>. Without volunteers this event cannot take place. If you are willing to help for an hour or two, please sign up [here](#).

### SCHOOL SAFETY

Parents are asked not to drive into the school grounds, with the exception of blue badge holders. Please park with care and consideration and be careful not to block gateways, drives and footpaths. Please be especially vigilant when reversing. Parking on yellow zig- zag lines is an endorsable penalty, which means three points and a £65 fine.

No dogs are allowed on the school grounds, other than assistance/ guide dogs. We also ask that dogs are not left unattended outside of the school while you collect your child, in case they are frightened if approached by excited children.

**Please note, to keep the children safe, small studs are the only type of earring suitable for wearing in school.**

Earrings must be removed for PE lessons. If earrings cannot be removed it is possible "to make them safe by taping, front and back, which may offer a measure of protection. Taping should be sufficient to prevent the stud post penetrating the bone behind the ear". AFPE 2017  
The Breakfast Club is open from 8am. Children should not be on the school grounds before this. **Children not using the Breakfast Club can arrive from 8.45am.**

## ST PATRICK'S DAY

HUGE congratulation to everyone involved in our St Patrick's Day celebrations. The school enjoyed the fantastic music, dancing, drama and songs provided by the children from P4-7. What a talented bunch!

## TROCAIRE APPEAL

We appreciate that we are all living through financially challenging times so any donations for the Trocaire appeal are greatly appreciated. All donations should be sent to school by Tue April 4<sup>th</sup>.

## TREK

Each year during the season of Lent, we take part in the TREK programme. TREK is a 2 week PDMU programme which focuses on recognising, respecting and accepting difference in our society. Each class have been talking about the 4 TREK values of Truth, Respect, Empathy and Kindness. Each day we look at simple ways in which the children display these values in and out of class. As part of the TREK programme, Mr Reynolds' P7 class visited Belfast City Hall, where they received a tour of the chamber and the museum.



## SPORTING NEWS

The girls took part in the Cumann na mBunscol Championship at Naomh Eanna. They played in a series of round robin games and gave a great effort in each game.

The P6 girls' soccer team played in their first ever tournament at the Shankill Leisure Centre. They gave an excellent account of themselves with a great overall team effort.

Our P6 and 7 girls and boys represented the school in the Belfast City Council Cross-Country finals at Mallusk. On a very long and technical course with 500+ children taking part, they showed grit and determination in challenging conditions. A super effort from everyone involved.

## SAFER SCHOOLS NI APP

The 'Safer Schools NI' app, funded by DE, helps parents navigate the digital world and protect children when they are online. The app is available in the App/Play Store. Follow the instructions to register and create an account, select St Therese of Lisieux PS and input 2030 when asked for a code to access content specific to our school.



## CREDIT UNION QUIZ FINALISTS

Congratulations to Mr McFerran's P7 quiz team who were overall winners in both the local Credit Union quiz and the regional Chapter Credit Union Quiz. They answered a lot of very tough questions at the all-Ireland National Final held at the RDS in Dublin. An amazing breadth of knowledge across the team!

## SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

We are delighted that the Book Fair will be visiting the school after the Easter Break. It arrives **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April-Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April** and there will be over 200 books to choose from! There will be great range of books for all age groups in our school. **The 3 for 2 offer** is running again and it proved to be very successful last year. We receive commission based on book sales and as a result, every class will be able to top up their class library. More details will be sent out soon.

## BUDDY READING

Our Buddy Reading Programme for all P3 and P7 children is coming to an end. This excellent programme encourages and establishes good reading practices among all the participants. Always a very enjoyable experience for everyone involved as well as giving a great opportunity to the P3s to develop their reading skills.

## SAFE CYCLING

Hopefully, we will see an improvement in the weather soon and more children will be able to cycle and scoot safely to and from school. We just wanted to take this opportunity to remind you all of a few safety tips:

- Please ensure your bike/scooter is locked during the day.
- Please wear a helmet when cycling/scooting.
- Please be aware of traffic.
- Please remember that school is a pedestrian zone-nobody should be cycling or scooting in school grounds.

## WORLD MATHS DAY 2023

Congratulations to all our pupils who made a super effort to participate in **World Maths Day**. They had great fun competing against their classmates and students across the globe. Huge congratulations must go to the following children for all their efforts:

**FS:** Jasmine, Odhran, James, Lily, Seamus, Emma, Leja, Sara & Matthew

**KS1:** Ameya, Jude, Sophia, Lily, Jaden, Annie, Joshua & Emma

**KS2:** Fola, Lucy, Alice, Clare, James & Phoebe

A special mention must also go to three boys in KS2 whose overall scores were phenomenal ~ Daithi, Joshua and Ejike ~ well done boys! It is wonderful to see the positive attitude and sense of enthusiasm for Numeracy in our school!

## HOLIDAY LIST 2023-24

The draft holiday list is available on the website [here](#).

## TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter to hear the latest news @TheresePS