

ST CONOR'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018

Thursday 1st February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feast of St Brigid • 9.45 am: Grandparents' Assembly for Years 1 – 3 • Boys' Football In Station Centre
Friday 2nd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Gaelic Competition in Station Centre (County Board) P 6 / 7 boys • 7.30 pm: Service of Light & Pledge Mass for children in Year 7 (Sacred Heart Church)
Monday 5th February	11 am: Peter Thompson (PSNI) to talk to pupils regarding Internet Safety
Tuesday 6th February	"SAFER INTERNET DAY"
Friday 9th February	Cross Country Event in Strabane
Saturday 10th Feb	6 pm: Do This in Memory Mass in Sacred Heart Church for Year 4 children
Monday 12th Feb	ANNUAL FREDDY FITNESS Day of exercise and fun in aid of School Funds
Tuesday 13th Feb	School Photographer: individual photographs for Years 2 – 7 / Siblings
Thursday 15th – Friday 16th February	SCHOOL CLOSED – MID-TERM BREAK
Monday 19th Feb	STAFF TRAINING DAY School closed for pupils
Tuesday 20th Feb	"Bee Safe" initiative for Year 7 pupils in Omagh Leisure Centre
Friday 23rd February	"Travelling Book" Machine delivered to school – opportunity to purchase books to read at home



St Conor's PS & Nursery Unit.

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Newsletter

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter there will be some available from the school office.

All newsletters are also available on our website.

Why not have a look?

www.stconorspsomagh.com

Reminder: Money

All money coming into school to pay for trips, dinner, tin whistle etc. should be brought into the class teacher by your child, in a **sealed envelope**, clearly labelled with your child's name, class and what the money is for. The **exact money** is required: organising change can eat into your children's valuable teaching and learning time. Special money pouches are available from Christine in the office priced £2.50 for a book of money pouches.

Important Health & Safety Notice: Staff Car-park

It has come to our attention that some parents are using the staff carpark at drop-off and pick-up times. Whilst we recognise that parking is difficult on the road at the front of the school, in the interest of your children's health and safety, cars are **not permitted** to use the staff car-park.

Dates for Sacraments

First Confession: Wednesday 7th March 2018 @ 7 pm

First Eucharist: Sunday 20th May 2018 @ 12.30 pm

Confirmation: Saturday 10th March 2018 @ 11 am

Principal Award Winners – January 2018

The following children were awarded a Principal's Certificate during January:

<p>Nursery</p> <p>Isabella Dillon Cole Gallen Max Glackin Fianna McElroy Brian Archer Cara Darcy-Donnell</p>	<p>Year 1</p> <p>Jack McKenna Noah McCann Jamie Ardolino Alanna Murray Finn McAleer Amelia Connolly</p>	<p>Year 2</p> <p>Roise O'Neill Ronan Barton Orla Donnelly Conor Bowes Danny Corry Aaron Breen</p>	<p>Year 3</p> <p>Cora McAteer Naomi Given Jack McCain Eowyn McElhinney Oisin Duffy Aoibhe Collins</p>
<p>Year 4</p> <p>Shauna Strain Anna McCann Cailin Kennedy Emily Pancott Eabha Coyle Luke McGoldrick</p>	<p>Year 5</p> <p>Callum Devlin Sean O'Donnell Airidas Zakas Niamh Kelly Donal Franey Rebecca McPhillips</p>	<p>Year 6</p> <p>Lauren Andrews Cillian McCrory Savannah Devine Genevieve Norris Liam McGuigan Ronan McSorley</p>	<p>Year 7</p> <p>Meabh Iannon Lorcan McGrath Fionn Collins Caitlin Slevin Emma McCrossan Sean Duke</p>

Catholic Schools' Week:

Catholic Schools: Called to be a Family of Families

During catholic Schools week all over Ireland Catholic schools are called to reflect on and celebrate the relationship that exists between home, school and parish.

This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Families of Faith". We recognise the fact that parents are the primary educators of their children and that school complements and build on what is done at home.

During this week we will thank God for the pastoral guidance of our priests in our schools and for the support of parents, grandparents and the local Drumragh Parish community. On Thursday we will celebrate "Grandparents' Day" with a special assembly for the grandparents of children in Years 1 – 3; recognising the important role grandparents have in handing on the faith to their grandchildren.

Athletics Success: Flahavan's Cross Country Competition

Log onto www.stconorspsomagh.com for full coverage and photographs of the event

Twenty-two pupils from St Conor's P.S competed in the third and final round of the Flahavan's Northern Ireland Primary Schools' Cross Country event, held at Holy Cross College on Wednesday 24th January.

The 1200m course was tough; with cold weather and heavy ground, making conditions more difficult than usual. A huge effort was made by all the children to complete the course. Congratulations to **Emma Mc Crossan**, who ran another fantastic race in the girls' event. Emma finished in second place and has guaranteed her place in the 'Individual Girls' N.I finals in Mallusk. Special mention goes to **Jenna Mullan and Ciara Mc Ginn** who finished in the top ten positions for the second race in a row, giving the girls' team a fantastic chance in qualifying for the N.I Finals team event. Well done also to **Fionn Collins** who finished first in the boys' race. Fionn finished with a strong sprint, to clinch victory in a highly competitive boys' race.

There was great running from all the boys in the Individual Race. Congratulations to **Rory Dolan** who ran brilliantly, achieving second place overall. Close behind were **Conor Gormley, Cillian Mc Crory and Frankie Monk**; all boys finishing in the top ten places. Thank you to **Mr G McCrory** and to our caretaker, **Chris Mc Guigan**, who coach and prepare the children for their races

Upcoming Couch to 5K

Run for Enda Couch to 5K every Tuesday at Omagh Youth Sport, starting on Tuesday 30th January 2018 at 7 pm. Registration is from 6.30 pm. All welcome to attend!

Passports

Due to increased workload and administration, the school regrets that there will be a **minimum of 2 weeks turn-around** on Passports left for signing.

PTFA: Thank you

A big thank you to our parent, Mrs Naomi Devlin, mum of Aebha and Fionn, who applied for, and secured, an amazing £2,500 for school funds from Santander Bank. Well done and sincere thanks from us all, Naomi! Thanks also to Santander Bank for granting St Conor's this funding.

Pupil Attendance

Reporting Absence

In most cases it is **not necessary** to telephone the school on the first day of your child's absence. Rather, when your child returns to school you should send a **written note** to the class teacher explaining the reason for the absence. Children in Years 4 – 7 should use their **Homework Diaries** for notes of absence. (Even if you decide to telephone the school to explain your child's absence, you will need to follow this up with a written note).

On receipt of a note from the parent the attendance register can be updated accordingly. Self-reporting by the children is *not acceptable*.

Full Attendance

We realise that the recent sickness due to the flu has had an impact on attendance and we thank you for ensuring that your child attends school regularly.

In order to achieve his / her best your child needs to be at school every day: each day absence is a day's learning missed by your child. We will be rewarding pupils with full /excellent attendance at Assembly in the near future.

Safer Internet Day 2018

Safer Internet Day 2018 will be celebrated globally on **Tuesday 6th February 2018** with the slogan "**Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you**".

In school we will give your child the opportunity to reflect on the positive uses of technology and we will explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community.

Our children spend a considerable amount of time online at home and in school. We know this will continue to increase as technology advances. Pupils immediately consider this the key way in which to access information today.

However, while online, children can face the risk of seeing inappropriate content, face the risk of cyber bullying or being groomed. In school we continually revise our online safety policy in light of new technologies, or threats to help keep our children safe online. Filtering tools cannot provide 100% guarantee. Hence primary age pupils need to be using the internet in the **presence of adults** at school and at home.

Peter Thompson (PSNI) is running a workshop on internet safety in school on Monday 5th February for pupils.

On-Line Safety Talk for Parents

Cyber Safety Talk for Parents in Omagh Library on **Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 6 pm**. Booking is essential. Ask staff for details t: 028 8244 0733.

The training session includes information on:

- Cyberbullying
- Sexting
- Social Media Risks
- Adult Content
- Gaming
- Online Grooming

