

Jan-Feb 2023 Newsletter

Living and Learning, Today and Tomorrow



Happy New Year

I hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday with your family and are refreshed and ready for term 2 at school. As a school community, I would like to thank you, again, for your patience and understanding as we dealt with the Strep A, Flu and Covid cases in November and December, in school and the community.

December was a busy time throughout the school and it was fantastic to have the return of our Christmas concert with our families and audiences. The children in P1 to P3 excelled in their roles and thoroughly enjoyed entertaining us all, some more than others! The Concert highlights are available to view on the school website -

<https://www.stpatrickspshollywood.com/news/christmas-concert-december-2022-320/>

Primary 7's had a very busy December singing at Tesco and The Bay Tree with our Shared Education partner pupils from Knocknagoney PS. The children in P4 -P7 made fantastic art baubles to share with our local sheltered housing residents.

We look forward to the rest of the school year with great anticipation and by working together, we will continue to provide fantastic learning opportunities for every child.

We welcome new members of staff to St.Patricks

Maternity Leave

Mrs Beagan (P2/3) is off on maternity leave, Miss Mc Leron will teach P2/3 to the end of June. We wish Mrs Beagan a restful few weeks before the arrival of her baby and wish her all the joys of motherhood.

Classroom Assistants

A number of SEN Classroom assistants have joined us on the staff to support our pupils with additional needs.

In Mrs. Tunney's P2, we welcome Gabriel Knight

In Miss Mc Keogh's P6/7 , we welcome Olivia Greenhill

In P3, Mrs Hamill/Mrs Mc Kee we welcome SERC NVQ Student - Sharon Ward

Crossing Patrol

Unfortunately, our job advertisement with the Education Authority did not garner any interest, it will be readvertised in due course by the EA.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK Celebrations

Sunday 22 January to Sunday 29 January.

As a school, community and parish, we will celebrate Catholic School week with a range of school-based activities and attend Mass on Tuesday 24th to celebrate Grandparents Day

The 2023 theme for Catholic Schools Week is Walking Together in Faith and Love

MONDAY 23rd Walking Together in Faith

TUESDAY 24th Walking Together to Celebrate (Grandparents Day)
Parents and grandparents are most welcome to attend 9:30am Mass to celebrate.

WEDNESDAY 25th Walking Together in Love

THURSDAY 26th Walking Together to Transform our World

FRIDAY 27th Walking Together in Hope

Primary 4 to Primary 7




BUG CLUB READING Challenge

For the next two half terms, Primary 4 to Primary 7 pupils have been invited to participate in a reading club using the BUG CLUB facility. The class who completes the most books will get a big Friday treat at the end of each half term.

BUG CLUB Login Issues - Please ensure that you are logging with Microsoft Chrome or Edge - Do not use Internet Explorer!

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Parent Teacher Meetings
P1 - P6 year groups

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-  Face to face PTMs will take place w/b 6th February.
 -  School will close at 1:45pm (P1-3) & 2:00pm (P4 -7) each day that week, for all pupils.
 -  Teacher-led clubs will not operate that week (Gaelic, Art, Orchestra, Film & Eco) BUT all other clubs will operate as normal, including Kids Club.

- ✚ Appointment times have been arranged around consecutive meetings for families with siblings in school.
 - ✚ Your appointment time and day will be sent home on Monday 16th
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Post-Primary P7 Placement Decisions and Applications

After all the P7's pupils hard work in preparation for transfer tests, the baton is now firmly being passed onto P7 parents.

P7 results will be posted to your home address for Saturday 4th February. If results do not arrive, I will be able to assist parents on the day of the results (details to follow).

The Application process is completed online via the EA portal for post-primary applications. I will send a power point presentation about the process in due course.

Face to Face meetings.

I will be available to hold face to face meetings with parents to give advice on the process and options for each child.

This will give parents/guardians an opportunity to discuss post -primary placement options for September 2023 and complete the application process (although this does not have to be completed on first meeting if required).

The closing date for online applications is **Thursday 23rd February**. It is essential that this deadline is met by parents.

P1 Applications September 2022

P1 Open Morning

Tuesday 17th @ 9:30 – 10:45 am

Please visit the school website www.stpatricksholywood.com for the information about P1 admissions, there is a video, power point and information tab available.

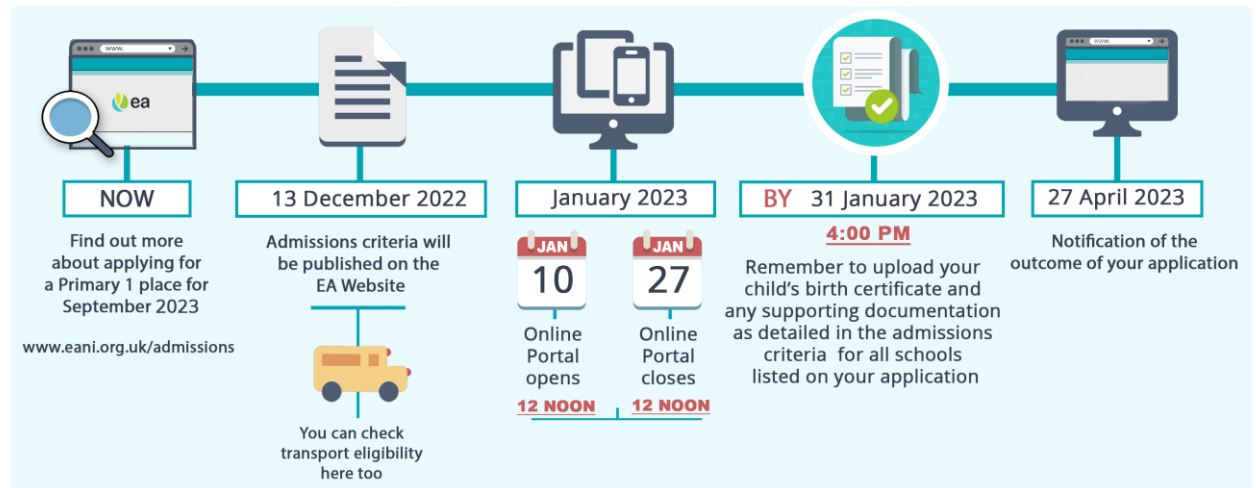
I would ask parents with siblings in school already to process an application as soon as possible. If you would like to visit the school with your child, please book an appointment via the office.



KEY DATES FOR PARENTS – APPLYING FOR PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION – SEPTEMBER 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2018 and 1 July 2019 are compulsory school age in September 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2019 and 1 July 2020 can apply for a place in a reception class



Car Parking and accessing school grounds before

and after the school day



Please kindly note the following procedures, pedestrian access is by the Ean Hill and Church View gates only. Access via the main gate is for vehicle access only and anyone accessing this gate does so at their own risk.

Parents should not block this gate or access the car park in their vehicles.

I would ask all school users to remain vigilant with respect to road safety in around the school grounds and the local neighbourhood.

Allergy Reminder



Please note that due to nut allergies in school, snacks and lunches should be nut free.



Class disruptions for toilet breaks

Please note that all classes from P3 to P7 are focusing on using the toilet facilities before class, at break and at lunch time, in order to reduce the number of disruptions to class teaching time. Children with any medical issues will be exempted.

After Schools Programme - Term 2

TIMETABLE

WEEK DAY	Activity	Venue	Teacher or External Provider	Time	Year Groups	Contribution	Places available	Tick to Reserve a place
Mon	Gaelic Games Boys	Hall/ St.Pauls	Mr. Sherlock	3-4pm	p5-7	£10 Per term	24	
Mon	Film Club	P5	Mrs Orr	3 to 3.50pm	P4-7	£10 Per term	20	
Mon	Junior Dragons	Resource Room	<u>External Ellie</u>	3-4pm	P5-7	Pay directly	20	
Tues	Irish Dancing Restarts 10th	Hall	<u>External Denise Catney</u>	2-3pm 3-4pm	P1*-3 P4 -7	Pay directly		
Wed	Art & Craft Club	P2/3 Crm	Miss McLernon	3-3.50pm	P4-7	£10 Per term	16	FULL
Wed	Orchestra	Hall	Mrs Mc Sorley	This club is by invitation only. Mrs Mc Sorley will contact parents/pupils directly				
Wed	Eco Club	P6/7 CRM	Miss Mc Keogh	3-3.50pm	P4-7	£10 Per term	16	

Thurs	Speech & Drama	Staff Room	Sarah Steen	2-3pm	P2-3	Pay directly ***		
Thurs	Speech & Drama	Hall	Sarah Steen	3-4pm	P4-7	Pay directly ***		
Fri	Gaelic Games Girls	Hall/ St.Pauls	Mr. Sherlock	2-2.50pm	p5-7	£10 Per term	24	



Sacramental Dates

Our P3 Children will celebrate their First Confession on w/b Wed 20th March 2023. The exact date tbc.

Our P4 Children will celebrate their First Communion on Saturday 10th June 2023, at 11.00am with Fr Stephen.

Our P7 Children will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation Thursday 20th April 2023, at 4:00pm