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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a happy and holy Easter and an enjoyable Spring Break. Welcome to the last term! There are **lots** of events happening in the school for everyone and so there is a list of dates for your diary at the end of this Newsletter.

Easter

Throughout the Easter period we continue to reflect upon the Gospel message of the Risen Christ. During this month of May the children will be reciting the rosary in class. Perhaps you could continue this at home too.

Sacraments



Please continue to keep our P4 and P7 children in your prayers as they continue on their journeys of faith. We feel very fortunate that we have Fr John, and now Fr Thomas, to guide us as we strive to support our children in these important times of their lives. Fr John and Fr Thomas have been working with the children of P4 and P7 over the last term to enhance the preparations for receiving the Sacraments. Please help continue this by having your child attend Sunday mass.

God's Loving Plan—Relationships Education

This term each class will be learning about developing healthy and respectful attitudes to their bodies and to relationships with families and friends, using the *God's Loving Plan* resource. This resource connects children's learning about who they are and how they relate to others, to their learning about God and their relationship in faith. It helps children to understand how love can be at the heart of their lives.



Photographs

Photographs have been sent home and orders should be returned to school by Friday 12th May.



Primary 7

Thu 11th May 17 Bishop John will visit Primary 7 to help them prepare for Confirmation.
Wed 17th May 17 P7 receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** in **St Mirin's Cathedral** during Mass at **7pm**.
Sun 4th June 17 Fr John and Fr Thomas will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for our Confirmandi and their sponsors, families and friends in St Patrick's Church on Sunday 4th June 2017 at 11am. We are delighted that Father John has requested our children lead this Mass. Please save the date. Children do not need to wear uniform.



Primary 4

Staff and parent volunteers have begun taking children down to Church to practise for First Holy Communion and this will continue over the coming weeks to ensure children are fully prepared.

Tue 9th May 17 Final meeting for parents/carers of our First Communicants in School at **3pm**. At this meeting albs will be given out. Pupils should accompany parents to allow sizes of albs to be double-checked and then albs, tabards and cinctures can be taken home.

Sat 20th May 17 P4 receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** during **10am Mass** in **St Patrick's Church**.



At the end of the First Communion Mass, we ask that everyone leaves the Church for a short time so that staff can gather children to the Altar for a group photograph. The Parent Council will organise this group photograph and then present it to each P4 pupil as a gift. Staff will then escort children to the Church Hall for their 'Communion breakfast'. The Parish Committee will prepare a drink and snack for children so they can celebrate this special day together. **Two family members are invited into the hall for a 'cuppa' while the children enjoy their Communion Breakfast.**

Any family who wishes to have family or individual photographs taken in the Church should organise this themselves for after the Communion breakfast has finished. Fr John will leave the Church open all day on Saturday, 20th May and Sunday, 21st May so that families can take photographs when it's less busy, if they wish.

Wee Box Appeal



Many thanks to all of you who supported our SCIAF Wee Box fundraising during Lent this year. We raised £543.46.

P7 Induction Days



Our Primary 7 pupils have participated in a number of Cluster Transition Events which have provided the children with the opportunity to meet new friends from St Mary's Primary and All Saints Primary. They have 2 Induction days: **Thursday, 8th June** and **Friday, 9th June**. Pupils should come to St Patrick's as normal on Thursday 8th June and will be accompanied to Notre Dame by school staff. They will be dismissed from Notre Dame at **2.45pm**. They should make their own way to Notre Dame on Friday 9th June for 9am. They will again be dismissed from Notre Dame at **2.45pm**.

Primary 7



The P7 Leavers' Dance will be on **Thursday, 15th June from 7pm-9pm** in the school hall. Our fabulous Parent Council will cater this event. A ceilidh band has been booked for the night and children have been practising their 'hoolie' steps! Dress code is smart. Please be mindful footwear needs to be safe for dancing ... no 6 inch heels! Children should be inside ready to dance for 7pm, so please come early if you wish to take photographs before coming inside.

Leavers' Mass

Our Leavers' Mass will take place on **Monday 26th June at 1.15pm**. P7 parents/carers are invited to

join us here in the school as we celebrate seven fabulous years and pray for our young people as they progress to high school. Refreshments will be served.

New Entrants

We will be welcoming children of next year's Primary 1 to the school very soon. Our P6 pupils are working hard to become the best Buddies they can be! They have received training and advice from the staff of Wellpark Children's Centre. P6 have completed their application forms and have undergone interviews for the position of Buddy.



P1 Play Dates

The staff from Whinhill Nursery, Wellpark Nursery and Wellington Pre-5s will bring our new P1s to have a play date with our current P1s. A letter with details will follow. Children who are coming to us from any other nurseries will be invited to come for a play date too. A letter with details will be sent to parents.

Nursery Visits

Mrs Ogilby is busy out and about visiting all our new entrants in their nurseries. The P6 pupils who are successful in becoming Buddies will visit their infant Buddy in the Nurseries over the course of this term.

P1 Induction Days - Thursday, 8th June and Friday, 9th June

Children will visit their Primary 1 classroom and meet their Primary 1 Teacher, from **1:15pm to 2:30pm**. Parents/Carers are asked to stay on Thursday, 8th June to meet myself and Mrs Ogilby, as we will have a lot of information to share with you. Parents/Carers are most welcome to also stay on Friday, 9th June for a less formal chat with Mrs Ogilby and myself, if you are able to stay.

Sports Day



Our Sports Day this year is planned for **Friday 23rd June** on the pitch at the school. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. P4-P7 will have their Sports Day in the morning and P1-P3 will have their Sports Day in the afternoon. If the weather is not good then we would try to reschedule. Fingers crossed for good weather!

Outdoor Learning

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us throughout this term so that the learning can be taken outside as often as possible. Please consider protecting your children from the sun by sending



them to school with a hat/cap and using sun cream. Even when it is cloudy, the sun can still damage skin.

New Pupil Voice Group - Playground Team

We have a newly formed Pupil Voice Group. Each class has a representative on the Playground Team. The Playground Team will work with Mrs Alison Dorrian from Active Schools to focus on making the most of our playgrounds. The Team will be liaising with Mrs Dorrian and their fellow classmates to create a Playground Charter and to develop games and activities for in



the playgrounds. They will even be given a budget to spend! I'm really looking forward to meeting with the group to listen to their proposals. This group will also organise training for themselves and others who volunteer to become Playground Helpers ... of course the children will come up with a better name, I'm sure!

School Funds



A polite reminder that 50p for School Funds is collected every Monday. Families with more than one child pay £1 weekly. School Funds helps us to cover the cost of a variety of events to enhance the experiences of our children. If there are any outstanding School Funds can I ask you to send it in as soon as possible, please? Every class has been on (or has plans to go on) an educational trip and we are only able to fund these events if all school funds are paid. We cannot subsidise the cost of the trips/events for families who do not contribute fully to School Funds.

The Future of Inverclyde

Inverclyde Alliance are currently in the process of assisting in the development of the future Inverclyde locality plans. A Survey Monkey questionnaire has been set up for people to give their views of the local area. The link for the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OurPlaceOurFuture>

Parent Council



The final Parent Council meeting of the school year is **Tuesday, 6th June at 7pm in the school.**

Focus on Children's Rights

Article 31. The right to play and learn.



Breakfast Club



Please remember that our Breakfast Club is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8am-8.45am. Thanks to Mrs McClement, Mr O'Brien and Mrs Dunlop for getting up so early in the morning so we can have a Breakfast Club. And Mr McDonald too ... although he's always up so early in the morning!

Car Park

I must remind everyone that the car park is for **staff use only**. Parents/Carers and families should **not** park in the school car park. This is to ensure our children are safe. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.



Twitter

Please follow us on Twitter. It is a great way to keep up to date with school life as staff photograph as much as they can so Mrs Ogilby can update Twitter!

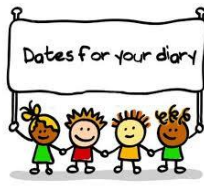


<https://twitter.com/StPatricksPS15>

You can also follow Miss McDade's P6/7 class and Mr McGregor's classes too ... **@missmcdade123** and **@mrmcgstpats**

Other useful information such as lunch menus can be found on our website at

<http://st-patricks.inverclyde.sch.uk>



Mon 1st May**HOLIDAY**

Tues 2 nd May	9.00 am 1.25 pm 3.00 pm	Morton Literacy Trail P5 - every Tuesday until 16 th May P5 & P6 Swimming - every Tuesday until 13 th June After school athletics - every Tuesday until 19 th June Childsmile Flouride Varnishing P1 - P4
Wed 3 rd May		Netball after school P6 & P7
Thurs 4 th May	3.00 pm	P5 Swimming - every Monday until 19 th June
Mon 8 th May	10.50 am	P4 Toy & Book Sale
Tues 9 th May	3.00 pm	Meeting for Parents/Carers of First Communicants -School
Thurs 11 th May	11.00 am 3.00 pm	Bishop John to visit P7 Netball after school P7 and tournament players
Mon 15 th May	9.00 am	P2 to Newark Castle
Tues 16 th May	9.00 am	P1 to Glenlee Tall Ships and Transport Museum
Wed 17 th May	7.00 pm	P7 Confirmation St Mirin's Cathedral
Thurs 18 th May	9.00 am 2.00 pm 5.00 pm 7.00 pm	P2 & P3 Football Festival at Cappielow Notre Dame Concert Band performance for whole school Cluster Instrumental Showcase Concert Notre Dame Cluster Vocal Showcase Concert Notre Dame
Sat 20 th May	10.00 am	P4 First Holy Communion
Mon 22 nd May	10.00 am	P4/5 Finlaystone Country Estate
Thurs 25 th May	10.00 am	Feast of the Ascension Mass - St Patrick's Church - all welcome - any volunteers to walk with us to Church and back please contact the School Office.
Fri 26th May		Local Holiday - School Closed
Mon 29th May		Local Holiday - School Closed
Tues 30th May		In-service for Staff - School Closed to Pupils
Wed 31st May		Pupils return
Fri 2 nd June	9.00 am	P6 to West College Scotland - Science
Sun 4 th June	11.00 am	Mass of Thanksgiving for P7 Confirmandi
Thurs 8 th June	9.00 am 1.15 pm-2.30pm	P7 Transition Day - Notre Dame Infant Induction - Day 1 of 2
Fri 9 th June	9.00 am 1.15 pm-2.30pm	P7 Transition Day - Notre Dame Infant Induction - Day 2 of 2
Mon 19 th June	9.30 am 10.30 am	Boozebusters P6 Boozebusters P7
Tues 20 th June	9.30 am 10.30 am	Boozebusters P6 Boozebusters P7
Fri 23 rd June		Sports Day
Thurs 15 th June	7.00 pm-9.00pm	P7 Leavers' Dance - School Hall
Mon 26 th June	9.30 am	Boozebusters P6

	10.30	Boozebusters P7
	1.15 pm	Leavers' Mass in school hall
Wed 28 th June	2.00 pm	The McDougalls Show - whole school
Thurs 29 th June	10.00 am	Feast of Saints Peter and Paul Mass - St Patrick's Church - all welcome - any volunteers to walk with us to Church and back please contact the School Office.
	1.00 pm	School closes for Summer Holidays



May 2017 Newsletter

We value your views.

Please let us know if you are particularly pleased about something or have any suggestions or comments.

Child's Name _____ Child's Class _____