



## ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ESKRA

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**Principal: Mrs. Keira McCallan BA (Hons), PQH**

Monday, 19th January, 2015.

Dear Parent,

- As you are aware, on occasions that we have to close our school due to exceptional circumstances, such as adverse weather conditions, parents are informed through our text messaging service. I also e-mail details of any closure to BBC Northern Ireland.

This information can then be accessed by googling **BBC Northern Ireland-School Closures** or by visiting <http://bbc.co.uk/ninews>. I am aware that some parents do not receive text messages promptly due to having a poor signal and that some parents don't have access to the Internet to check the BBC Northern Ireland website. If you don't receive text messages promptly, please complete the slip attached so that arrangements can be made to inform you by telephone in the future. Alternatively, you could make arrangements for another parent to contact you to inform you of any closures. Please return the slip by Wednesday, 21st January, 2015.

- Next week is **Catholic Schools Week** and the theme this year is- **Catholic Schools: Called To Serve**. Please find attached a timetable of events. As you will see, we intend to bring pupils to **Mass** on **Wednesday, 28th January** as it is **Grandparents Day**. Everyone is welcome. Following the success of last year's event we have decided to invite **grandparents** into school for **Afternoon Tea** from **1.15pm to 2.00pm** on Wednesday afternoon. To help us cater for light refreshments, please indicate on the slip attached whether your child's grandparents will be attending. If you have any photographs of grandparents, including those who are now deceased, please send them into the school office in a clearly marked envelope and we will display them. Please write the pupil's name on the back of the photographs. Photographs will be returned.
- Parents of pupils in Years 5-7:** I am delighted to inform you that I have secured **Mrs. Carol O'Sullivan** to teach **Year 6/7** on a Thursday and **Years 5-7** on a Friday. Mrs. O'Sullivan has lots of experience teaching Years 5-7. She also has Foundation and Level 1 coaching qualifications in hurling and Gaelic. I know that

'We learn to love and love to learn.'

she will be a great asset to our school. We welcome her and wish her every happiness and success.

- **The Year Six** after-school **Homework Club** commences this Tuesday afternoon from 3.10pm to 4.30pm.
- **Year Six** weekend homework will commence this Friday, **23rd January**.
- Please find attached a **Dates For Your Diary** for **January/February**. Please check the calendar on our website for any updates.
- **Parents of pupils in Year 6/7 travelling to Edinburgh in June 2015:** A non-refundable deposit of £50 per pupil is required by the end of January to secure our booking. Please send monies in a marked money wallet.
- **P.E.** arrangements for this term are as follows:  
**Year 1/2** will be having P.E. on a Friday so pupils are asked to wear their P.E. uniform on a Friday only.  
**Year 3/4** will be having P.E. on Thursdays. Pupils are asked to wear their P.E. uniform on Thursday and Friday each week.  
**Years 5-7:** Our school has been offered 4 weeks free sports coaching by Kerri-Ann Tenner on a Monday afternoon. This will commence on **Monday, 19th January**. Gaelic training will take place every Thursday. Until then, pupils are asked to wear their P.E. uniform on **Monday, Thursday and Friday** until notified otherwise.
- **Parents of Pupils in Year 7:** A letter regarding Transfer Meetings was sent home on Thursday. Please indicate whether you wish to attend the meeting. If you are undecided about which Post-Primary school to send your child to until after the Open Days/Evenings simply leave that section blank. Information regarding the dates of Open Days/Evenings has also been sent home.
- **Parents of pupils in Year 6:** Both Year 6 and Year 7 pupils and their parents have invited to the Open Days/Evenings of local Post-Primary Schools. Details of dates and times can be found on our Dates For Your Diary attached.
- The mobile library van will be at school next **Monday, 26th January** and every fortnight thereafter. Please make sure that your child brings any outstanding books and their library card with them to school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Keira McCallan  
(Principal)

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## **Unexpected School Closures- Text Messaging Service**

I don't receive text messages therefore I would prefer to be contacted by telephone in the case of an unexpected school closure.

Signed:

Date: