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

Monday, 11th March, 2024.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

- A huge Well Done to all the pupils who travelled to Augher last Friday for the **Clogher Valley Primary Schools Cross Country Event**. Every pupil deserves credit for racing over a challenging course. Mud, hills and lost shoes did not deter our pupils. Every pupil finished their race in style and collected a hard earned medal.

Out of the 10 team cups to be won, **St. Patrick's Primary School, Eskra** brought home **6 cups!** This highlights the hard work the boys and girls have put into their fitness levels this year. What an achievement!

#### **School Team Winners**

**P3 Girls – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

**P3 Boys – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

**P4 Boys – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

**P5 Girls – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

**P6 Boys – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

**P7 Boys – St Patrick's PS Eskra**

St. Patrick's had a number of individual winners. P3 Girl - **Orla McCrory** - went out hard from the start and held the pace throughout to secure her **3<sup>rd</sup> place** position. P3 Boy - **Oliver McAnespy** - won gold. Racing with maturity beyond his years, he sat behind the leader until 100m to go, easily switched gears and sailed through the finish line in **1<sup>st</sup> place**.

P4 Girl - **Éabha Mullan** - confidently stretched the field and her **2<sup>nd</sup> place** position was never in doubt. P4 Boy - **Jamie Campbell** - had a battle on his hands in a frantic paced race, moving in and out of medal position throughout the 600m. He competed well to secure his **2<sup>nd</sup> place** finish.

P5 Girls - The race course now doubled in distance and **Lucia McKenna** made racing 1200m look effortless. She confidently led the race right from the start and crossed the line in a well - deserved **1<sup>st</sup> place**. **Saorlaith Shiels** used her cross country racing experience to hold her **3<sup>rd</sup> place** position throughout the race.

P7 Boys - Final race of the day and the race course changed to 1600m. The additional length suited our experienced Boys' Cross Country Team. Eskra narrowly missed out on taking all 3 places on the podium. **Oisín McKenna** secured the **lead** at the first hill and never looked back. A thoroughly deserved win by a very talented runner. Battling behind Oisín was **Ben Scullion**. He fought right to the finish line to a **2<sup>nd</sup> place** position.

Thank you to all the teachers who travelled with the children. Thank you to all the parents, carers and grandparents who travelled to Augher to support all our amazing athletes. Finally, Thank You to Knockmany Running Club for hosting a wonderful event.

- Well done to all the children who participated in **World Book Day** this year. Everyone made truly magnificent creations using toilet roll tubes. The imagination and creativity was amazing and a great effort was made by all involved. The winners in each class are:

**P1/2: Patrick Mullin - Stick Man**

**P2/3: Michaela McGirr - Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**

**P4/5: Leo Fox - Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**

**P6/7: Cormac McCarney - The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

**The Overall Winner: Elizabeth Mellon - Charlotte's Web**

- Our **Nature Rangers Clubs** continue this week, as follows:  
**Monday (2pm – 3pm):** Year 1/2 with Mrs. Barrett and Mrs. Dodenciu  
**Monday (3pm – 4pm):** Year 3/4 with Mrs. Mullin and Mrs. McGarvey  
**Thursday (3pm – 4pm):** Years 5, 6 and 7: Miss. Devine and Mrs. Shevlin  
**Friday (2pm – 3pm):** Year 1/2 with Miss. McNulty and Miss. O'Donnell

Please checkout **Forest School Families** on the **Forest School Website** – [www.forestschooolsni.com](http://www.forestschooolsni.com) and on our school website for fun ideas that all the family can get involved in the evenings and at weekends.

- **Parents of Pupils in Year Four:**  
The **Sacrament of Penance** (First Confessions) will take place on **Thursday, 14th March @ 7pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**.

The **Sacrament of the Eucharist** (First Holy Communion) will take place on **Saturday, 18th May @ 12pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in **Eskra Community Centre**.

‘We learn to love and love to learn.’

- **Parents of Pupils in Year Seven:**  
The **Sacrament Of Confirmation** will take place in **St. Macartan's Church (The Forth) in Augher** on **Sunday, 14th April @ 3pm.**

A **Confirmation Practice** will take place in **St. Macartan's Church (The Forth) in Augher** on **Thursday, 11th April @ 7pm.**

The **Year Seven Confirmation Retreat to Lough Derg** is taking place on **Wednesday, 10th April.** A separate letter has been sent home today.

- **Addressing Bullying Type Behaviour In Schools Parent Guides** in both poster and leaflet form are displayed on our school website. Please read these carefully as they include important information.
- Our school will be having a **Non - Uniform Green Day** on **Friday, 15th March.** Pupils, staff and parents are being encouraged to dress up in **green** to celebrate **St. Patrick's Day.** Pupils are asked to donate **£1** each towards our School Council Funds. Further information on how monies raised will be spent to follow shortly.
- Our school will be **closed** on **Monday, 18th March.** I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very **Happy St. Patrick's Day.**

Yours sincerely,

*Keira McCallan*

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)



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