



Fortnightly Friday Note Friday 9th March

Last Week's Closures

We seem to be having one of the coldest and stormiest winters in recent years and last week the snow, high winds and severe cold led to conditions around the school which made opening very unsafe. Thanks to everyone for your understanding about the need to close on Thursday and Friday last week.

World Book Day!

Even though we celebrated it one week late it was wonderful to see so many children dressed up for World Book Day yesterday. P7s ran a wonderful assembly telling everyone about favourite books, favourite characters and one of the P7s, Oli, even writing a super short play all about who killed Humpty Dumpty with a variety of villains in the dock including The Big Bad Wolf, Cruella de Vil and the Evil Queen from Snow White to name but a few. Thanks to all the mums and dads for doing such a great job helping the children to dress up and making for a really memorable World Book Day.



We were also joined at our assembly by Aisling who works for the Cancer Fund for Children. Aisling told the children all about Daisy Lodge, the purpose built therapeutic centre for families affected by cancer. As we mentioned in a previous newsletter the school is going to raise some funds for Daisy Lodge through asking the children to do a sponsored 'Read On.' Details about the fundraising have just been sent home.

P4 Assembly Change of Date

If you didn't know already the P4 class assembly will now take place on **Thursday 22nd March at 9-30am**

First Confessions

Congratulations to all our Primary 3s who took part in First Confession on 28th February at Our Lady of the Assumption. Well done to all of them for their behaviour, singing and attention throughout. I know they also appreciated the cupcakes kindly sent up by the church as well!



Downpatrick Rollercoaster

Good luck to all the P3s to P7s taking part in this Saturday's East Down AC annual Rollercoaster Races at Downpatrick Race Course. We will have a report in the next newsletter about how our young athletes get on. A huge thanks to Mr Rodgers who has again organised all the boys and girls. Head to www.eastdownac.co.uk if you want to read more.

Football Success!

Congratulations to both our football teams who took part in the first round of a new 'World Cup' competition organised by Acti-Sport on Thursday morning. All Children's 'United' won all their games and All Children's 'City' put in a series of sterling performances and had the accolade of producing the best goal of the day by Xavier in P6. Clearly all that practice with Mr Houlahan and Mr McClelland at football club on Mondays is paying off!

Disco Fundraising

A sincere thanks to our dedicated and hardworking Parents Council who have raised another £542-00 from the disco held before half-term. The Council who have also been helping out at class assemblies, serving teas and coffees and are busy getting ready for a children's art exhibition on Friday 23rd March. Further details to follow.

School Uniforms

Following the difficulties that we encountered with the online uniform orders in August last year, we have decided to go back to our original uniform provider and intend to make two orders per year (usually just before Easter and in May/June). Next week, we will send home an order form with your child and if you wish to order uniforms, you should complete the form and return it to school with payment. We will also keep a small stock in school throughout the year for emergencies.

ADHD County Down Parents Support Group

For any parents/carers who have a family member that has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) there is a Parents Support Group that meets on the first Tuesday of every month in Newcastle Parish Centre. The group offers fantastic support and all are welcome.

Up and Coming Events

Saturday 10 th March	Downpatrick Rollercoaster Races
Tuesday 13 th March	P3/4 Shared Education lessons at St. Mary's
Wednesday 14 th March	P6 Library Visit
Thursday 15 th March	P7 visit to Rockwell Collins
	Whole School St. Patrick's Day Assembly at Shimna IC
Friday 16 th and Monday 19 th March	School closed (St Patrick's weekend)
	First Aid classes at Newcastle PS (4 x P7s and parents)
Wednesday 21 st March	Service of Commitment for First Holy Communion (10am)
Wednesday 21 st March	P6 Library Visit
Thursday 22 nd March	P4 Assembly (P4 parents invited)
	P7s to Tollymore - session 4
	Internet Safety play for P6s and P7s
Friday 23 rd March	Parents Council Art Exhibition
Tuesday 27 th March	School finishes at 12noon for Easter holidays (re-open Monday 9 th April)