



Autumn 2023 Newsletter



Thank-you to everyone in the St Mary's community for working together to make this another successful half-term. There have been lots of exciting learning opportunities along with friendship building and of course, some fun. Please sit back, relax and enjoy a journey through just some of the news from St Mary's.

Halloween Fun

There is a lot of excitement around the school at this time of year. Some strange and eerie figures appeared on Friday 27th, just before the mid-term break!



Welcome to our new P1 pupils, who are settling in so well!





Congratulations to all the pupils who won awards at Lisnaskea Feis. We still excitedly await the handwriting and own poetry results.

Feis Winners



PIC•COLLAGE

Please don't park in the bus stop when I'm arriving or leaving school. It makes it dangerous for me to use the bus.



The Eco Council says, 'Save our planet! Remember to turn off your engine'



Coaching

We are delighted to welcome Pat our Gaelic Coach and Nathan from Core Kids. Next half-term the Core Kids lessons will focus on gymnastics and after-school will be Fundamental Skills and Gaelic for P2 and P6. We can provide Core Kids coaching and subsidise after-school costs (reduced from £5 to £3 per hour), thanks to the generous support for our Exercise-athon.



Thank-you Friends of St Mary's

Thank-you to everyone who supported our fundraising last year. We are delighted to have sourced some much-needed additional ICT equipment to ensure our pupils access a 21st Century curriculum and the most up to date technology. We purchased 4 desktops and 6 i-pads with the money raised. We look forward to targeting the physical and mental health of the school community this year and we have had a great start with almost £2,000 being raised through the recent street collection. Thank-you to everyone involved!



Maths Week Ireland

There has been a mathematical buzz in the school recently, as we celebrated Maths week. Pupils participated in several fun activities to promote interest and confidence in Maths.



**P7 won our
Mathleticsathon**

Mathletics

Using Concrete Materials



Measuring Everyday
Objects



Maths Buddies



Problem Solving in our
Environment



**Top 10
Mathletes**





Our new School and ECO Councillors have been elected in KS2. All classes have council meetings to discuss how we can continue to make St Mary's and the wider world better.

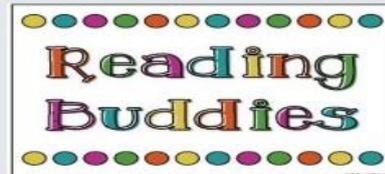
School Council Impact

Two of the most impactful initiatives which our school council has led this term, have been the reintroduction of our morning ICT club and a review of Golden Time. Aine supervises our morning ICT Club, allowing pupils to work on LEXIA, Mathletics, Accelerated Reading and many other teacher directed activities between 8.45 and 9am. P4-7 Golden Time now allows for more choice. Outdoor play includes, the lower or upper playground, with access to the mud kitchen, Gaelic, basketball, polytunnel area or play equipment. Indoor activities include, ICT, Art, board games and Lego.



Healthy Eating

We continue to encourage healthy eating and as part of this, we continue to link with the Fare Share Charity to provide free breakfasts, brunches and snacks to pupils. Teachers normally inform parents via Seesaw when their class will be benefiting from this initiative.



Thank-you for supporting Cash for Clobber. Final drop off is Mon 6 Nov



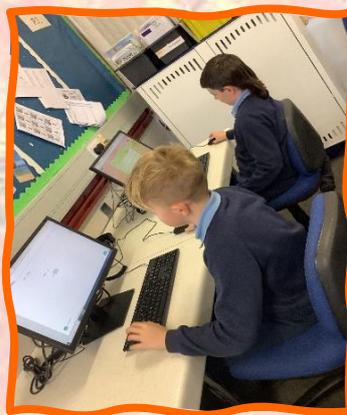
Many thanks to Newtownbutler Credit Union for their generous donation of £1,000 towards school funds.

Other Learning Experiences in St Mary's

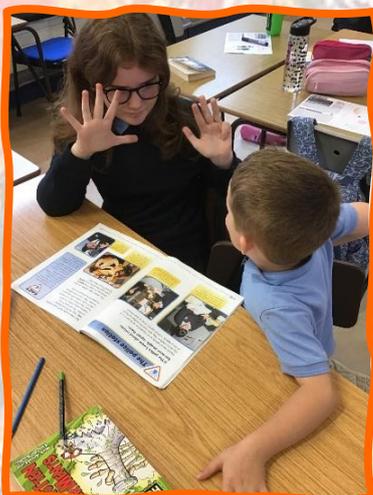
S.T.E.M.



I.C.T



Book Week NI



Sport



Music Tuition



Active Learning



Firework Safety Awareness Raising

Classes have been learning about Firework Safety. P6 and 7 attended a talk from PSNI officers Sarah and Colin. We ask everyone to remember the key messages over mid-term: **'Never Throw Fireworks!' and 'Never Stand Close to a Bonfire!'**



Certificates of Achievement

Well done to all the pupils who have been awarded 'Student of the Week'. Teachers select pupils for a range of reasons, both academic and non-academic. We are also pleased that a high number of pupils, have been awarded certificates for full attendance this half-term.



Help support us when you shop online:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryspsnewtownbutler/>

100% Golden Time

All pupils from P2-7 who have earned 100% Golden Time so far this year, have been awarded a certificate, to acknowledge their good behaviour. Well done to all of them!

As always sincere thanks to parents for your support and co-operation.



Remember if you do have any concerns, we are always available and eager to discuss them. Your concern is our concern!