



Hollybush Primary and Nursery School

May/June 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parent/Guardian

This newsletter is intended to give you an overview of things that are happening here at the school in May and June, and to highlight important events and activities that are planned for the near future. Please keep an eye on our app and Facebook page for other day-to-day events/information.

Art and Crafts:



The team from the Culmore Hub are currently working on arts and crafts activities with all classes from Primary 3 to Primary 7. Some of the finished products will be on display at this year's festival at the end of June. A sincere thank you to Una Cooper, Kiera O'Donnell and all at the hub for giving our children this experience.

New Pupils:

It's a healthy sign that our school continues to grow, helped in part by the new housing in the area. Four new pupils have started in the last couple of weeks, and our pupils are helping them to settle in really well. It's great to see our Primary 7 pupils helping the younger kids out in the canteen, including our new pupils.

Nature/Gardening Club:

Gardening Club, with Mrs Patricia Mc Cormack is happening during the school day with Primary 7 pupils. They have done a fortune of work in the school grounds, and they have even done some planting out along the road. They're definitely not afraid of manual labour!



Loughs Agency:

Staff from the Loughs Agency will be here on May 16 doing a show for Key Stage 1 pupils and some pond dipping workshops with Key Stage 2 pupils.

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Sunflower Planting:



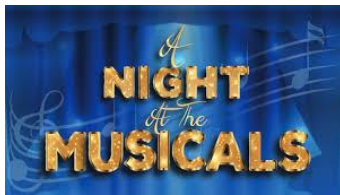
Geraldine Mullan from the Hope Centre in Moville will be visiting the school on Thursday, May 2 armed with hundreds of sunflower seeds. Every child will be planting a seed. Some plants will be transplanted to parts of the school grounds and some will go home. Many thanks to Geraldine for her kind offer and donation.

Lego Appeal:

You may have seen on our Facebook Page that we are appealing for donations of Lego for our Breakfast Club. Lego is quite expensive, so we are hoping that some of our families have some that they are no longer using.



A Night at The Musicals:



The excitement is growing here as preparations begin for our whole school Night at the Musicals. This is the first show we have done in a long number of years which involves all our pupils, a bit of a logistical challenge for the organising staff of course, but it'll be alright on the night no doubt!

Walk to School:

Our next walk to school will be from the Culmore Country Park, right along the new Greenway, which stops at our school. It is a distance of exactly one mile. We normally walk from the Nearby shop, but we are trying to promote the use of the new Greenway, especially as Derry City and Strabane Council were good enough to bring it up as far as the school. Date to be confirmed.



Verbal Well-being:

We have signed up to a new programme of well being which is being provided by the Verbal Arts' Centre and APEX. We are delighted to be part of this initiative, which comes at no expense to the school – always a welcome relief! More details later.

“Bonum Videre Optimum Educere”

Primary 7 Cake Sale:

On Monday, June 3, the Primary 7 pupils will be holding a cake sale, the proceeds of which will be used to pay for a fun day out. The kids will be delighted that this annual tradition is returning (not sure about the mummies!). More details soon.



End of Year Trips:

Keep an eye out on the school app for details of the end-of-year school trips.

Culmore Big Litter Pick:

Culmore Community hub have organised a litter picking event for Saturday, May 11 at 11.00 a.m. Gloves, high-vis and litter picking equipment will be provided. If you are willing to take part in this very worthwhile event, please contact the Hub by email; admin@culmorehub.org or by phone; 71163713.

First Communion:



As you know, our First Holy Communion Mass takes place on Saturday June 8 at 11.30 a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes, Steelstown. There will be light refreshments and photos back at the school afterwards. The Primary 4 pupils are busy preparing for this important day.

Hollybush Swimming Gala:

This year, our Hollybush Swimming Gala, open to swimmers in Primaries 6 and 7 who are confident in the deep end of William Street's big pool, takes place on the afternoon of Thursday, May 23 from 2.00 until 4.00 p.m. More details later.

North West Swimming Gala:

This takes place on Wednesday, June 5. Unfortunately, the organisers do not allow spectators at either of the galas.



Gaelic, City Finals:

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We have three teams who have qualified for the Cuman na mBunscoil gaelic finals in Celtic Park in May. Two girls' teams compete on May 17, and the Steelstown Cup winning boys' team competes on May 24.

Fan The Flame:



The diocesan Mass for all Primary 7 pupils takes place on Thursday, June 6. This Mass is a very important annual event for our Primary 7 leavers. More details closer to the time.

Netball Success Continues:

Our congratulations to our netball team who had another storming performance in the North-West league on Wednesday. The girls remain undefeated, and in fact, did not concede one goal throughout. A special word of thanks to Mr Mc Nulty, Ms Kelly, and to Mrs Roisin Lynch who gives freely of her time and expertise to get the very best out of the girls.



Important Reminder:

We are a nut free school and products containing nuts are not permitted at break or lunch time.

Safeguarding/Child Protection:

The summary of our Child Protection policy and procedures is available on our website, and in paper form in our leaflet holder in the school foyer. Anyone with a child protection concern can speak to Mr O'Connor, Designated Teacher, Mrs Grace and Mrs Mc Gurren, Deputy Designated Teachers, Mr Friel or any adult at the school.

Kind regards

Mr Friel

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