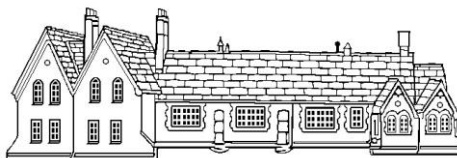


Principal  
Emma McGuinness



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# February Newsletter

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## ***Dates for your diary!***

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan                                 | Year 4 Enrolment Mass 5:30 pm at Thornhill Chapel |
| Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb                                 | Swimming Programme commences - Y5-7 (15 weeks)    |
| Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> February                            | Safer Internet Day                                |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb          | Half Term Break                                   |
| Fri 23 <sup>d</sup> Feb                                  | Doctor Bike - Year 5-7                            |
| Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb                                 | Circus Skills Afterschool Club                    |
| Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb                                 | Chinese Culture Afterschool Club                  |
| Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> March               | Cycle Training - Y6-7                             |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> March                               | Energy Efficiency Talk by Bryson House - Y6-7     |
| Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> March                               | Music Evening - 6pm                               |
| Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> March                               | School Closed (St Patrick's Day Holiday)          |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> March                               | Year 4 First Confession                           |
| Thur 22 <sup>nd</sup> March                              | Year 1 Health Check - School Nurse                |
| Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> March                               | End of Term, Easter Service – (Y 5/6 Parents)     |
|  | All pupils home at 12.00 noon                     |
| Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> April                                | Summer Term begins                                |
| Thur 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> May           | Residential Trip - Y6-7                           |
| Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> May                                  | May Day - Bank Holiday                            |
| Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> May                                 | First Holy Communion - Y4                         |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup> /30 <sup>th</sup> May | School Holiday                                    |
| Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> June                                | End of Term!                                      |

## **HALF TERM BREAK**

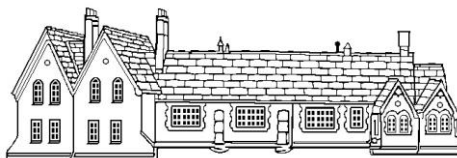
School will be closed for 1 week from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, for half term. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## **ATTENDANCE**

There has been a lot of illness in recent weeks and we greatly appreciate parents keeping children away from school when they are unwell. When children return to school all absences must be explained by a note so we can authorise the absence on our school records.

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Please ensure your children are in the classroom by 8.55 am so that teachers can start the day promptly. Children arriving late is very disruptive to class.

### **NEW AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

I am delighted to announce the addition of 2 After School Clubs beginning after half term. Both of these clubs will depend on the number of children participating and will operate on a 'first come first served' basis.

**Circus Skills** - Two sessions will run (times listed below) on a Monday afternoon, starting Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February,

- 2-3 pm for children in Years 1- 3
- 3-4 pm for children in Years 4-7

This club is subsidised by the Northern Ireland Executive and will only cost the children £1 per week. The club will run for 8 weeks. The £8 must be paid before the club commences in order to secure your place. Please complete the booking form and return it to school, with the correct fee, by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**.

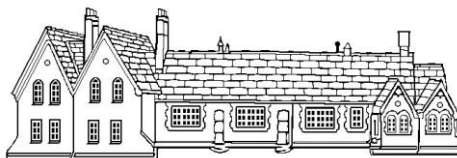
**Chinese Cultural Workshops** - This club will run on a Wednesday afternoon, starting Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, for children in Years 4-7.

The children will learn:

- Chinese Mandarin language
- Listen to stories and music from Chinese Culture
- Participate in a number of practical activities including making lanterns, letter formation, and paper folding and cutting.

This club will cost £2 per week and will run for 10 weeks. The £20 must be paid before the club commences in order to secure your place. Please complete the booking form and return it to school, with correct the fee, by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**.

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### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – BOOKING FORM**

**Please choose from the list below and return to school with the appropriate payment to secure your place.**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Childs name) would like to attend:

- 1)  **Circus Skills for Year 1, 2 and 3. Cost £8 for 8 weeks**
- 2)  **Circus Skills for Year 4, 5, 6 and 7. Cost £8 for 8 weeks**
- 3)  **Chinese Culture Workshop for Year 4, 5, 6 and 7. Cost £20 for 10 weeks**

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### **GOLDENTIME**

As you know, all children have Golden Time for the last half hour of the day on Friday; this is a special treat for children who have worked hard all week. Children are permitted to bring a small toy which is not going to cause disruption to the class. It would be greatly appreciated if parents could bear a few small requests in mind when children are choosing their toy.

- It should fit inside a carrier bag
- It must not disturb work in the classroom (random noises throughout the day)
- A quiet toy, as you can imagine 20+ children all with buzzers and bells etc. (the poor teacher!)

### **GOVERNORS**



The Education Authority is keen to attract new people to the role of school governor and would ask that suitable persons within their communities to apply for the various governor positions.

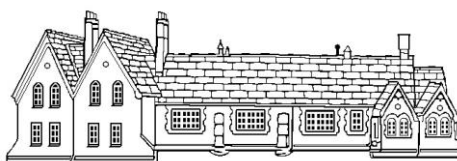
The 'Becoming a School Governor' booklet and an EATV programme provide information on the role and responsibilities of school governors. The booklet and the programme can be viewed on the governor's section of the Education Authority website at:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/schools/school-governors/>

**Please note this is not for recruitment of parent governors, this will take place in March.**

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### **NON-UNIFORM DAY**

The School Council have arranged another themed non-uniform day to take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February (£1 contribution). The School Council would like the children to come to school dressed as their 'dream job' or what they would like to be when they grow up! That should spark a few interesting conversations parents!

### **YEAR 6 PARENTS' MEETING**

I would like to invite the parents of all **Year 6** children to a meeting, on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, at 3.15 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to share information with regard to the transfer process to post-primary schools, and to answer your questions about the procedure.

The meeting will take place in the Year 7 classroom. Please complete the slip below and return it to school as soon as possible.

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### **YEAR 6 PARENTS' MEETING**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (person/s with parental responsibility) am

**\*able/unable\*** to attend the meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15 pm.

\*Delete as appropriate

\_\_\_\_\_ (Child's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent's Signature)

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