










Saint Vincent de Paul Primary School

April 2022



1	Principal Letter 
2	New School Site 
3	Attendance Matters 
4	Diary Dates 
5	Sacramental Dates 
6	Online Safety PSNI 
7	Help Hub 
8	School News 
9	Class News 

Click to link to Parish of Saint Vincent de Paul.

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Saint Vincent de Paul
Ligoniel





14th April 2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians

It has been another busy and action-packed Term. Our classes have enjoyed Celebrating World Book Day, Anti Bullying Day, African Drumming, Cookery with Maria, Fishing in the Dam, Going on a Leprechaun hunt, Visit from the School Library Bus, lots of exercise and fun in the Spring Sunshine.

Congratulations

Special congratulations to Mrs Forte's Class who took part in the School of Music, Music Makers Programme. They performed their amazing piece of music that they had composed themselves in Fortwilliam Resource Centre.

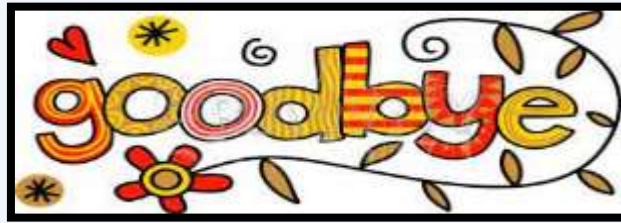
Big Thank you

To everyone who contributed to our appeal for the Ukraine. Thank you also to everyone who is supporting our appeal to Trocaire. This year your generosity has been outstanding!



[Contents Page](#)





Good byes

Sadly, we say goodbye to Mrs Rooney, our Primary One Teaching Assistant as she retires.

We thank her for all her years of service to our children and wish her a long, healthy and happy retirement.

We also say goodbye to Constable Eammon Canavan who has supported our school community for over 20 years. During this time, he has given our children important life messages on keeping safe and making good choices. We thank him for all his support and wish him every success in his new position. He sent us this beautiful message.

Special Good bye message from Eammon Canavan

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you who has helped along the way to make my job that bit easier – There have been some lows but a lot more highs - I have watched the area change and grow for the better over the 20 years that I have been in Tennent Street and each of you through your own work has Helped contribute to that change – never underestimate the work that you do or the impact you have!



I have no doubt that whoever replaces me in Ligoniel can rely on the support that you all kindly give to me over the years

I will leave you with my two favourite sayings which reflects many a day in the work we do. Some of our paths will cross again in the future, until then thank you, good luck and best wishes. It's been a journey I wouldn't change.

Eammon

Thank you for all your continued support. Have a lovely Easter Break.

Yours Sincerely, Bronagh McVeigh

Contents Page



 Schools of
Sanctuary



New School Site Announcement

The Trustees and Board of Governors of Saint Vincent de Paul Primary School are delighted to announce that a site has been purchased and acquired on Mill Avenue for the new build of Saint Vincent de Paul Primary School. The purchase of this site secures the future of the school in the Parish of Saint Vincent de Paul, Ligoniel. We are all committed to enable the work on the design of our new school to progress with immediate effect.



[Contents Page](#)





School- Miss Out!

**Give your child the best start in life
Every School day counts!**

Dear Parents/ Carers

We are very concerned that our attendance figure has dropped significantly this past term. While I am aware that a lot of children and families have been affected by COVID, unless you have been informed otherwise or your child has a genuine reason for absence from school your child needs to attend school regularly. **I am urging parents to support us in giving their child the best start in life by ensuring they come to school every day.**

10 tips to keep children healthy this school year

- Get adequate sleep. ...
- Exercise daily. ...
- Reduce screen time. ...
- Practice healthy eating habits. ...
- Stay up-to-date on the flu vaccination and other immunisations. ...
- Wash hands frequently to reduce spread of germs. ...
- Get regular hearing and vision checks. ...
- Help your child deal with stress and anxiety

[Contents Page](#)



 Schools of
Sanctuary

Please read the following information from The Department of Education carefully .



MISS SCHOOL = MISS OUT

WHY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT

If a child of compulsory school age is registered at a school it is essential that they attend their school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

Key Point
Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in anti-social behaviour.

Below are just some of the key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

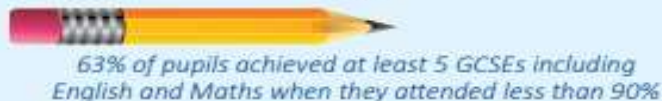
- To learn.
- To make new friends.
- To experience new things in life.
- To gain qualifications.
- To develop new skills.
- To build confidence and self-esteem.
- To have the best possible start in life.

CAN ATTENDANCE MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EXAM RESULTS?

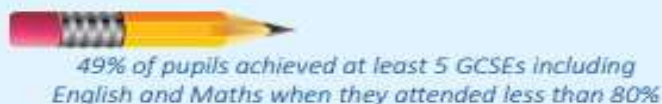
Greater than 95% Attendance



Less than 90% Attendance



Less than 80% Attendance



Source: School Leavers 2019/20

Contents Page



HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time – not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness – this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
- If your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk – Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Do not take family holidays during term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homeworks).
- Attend parents evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.

Key Point

Parents of children aged 4-16 who are enrolled in school are legally required to make sure they attend.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed

nidirect.gov.uk/miss-school-miss-out

If you would like advice or support on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs B McVeigh

Principal

Contents Page



 Schools of
Sanctuary

**IS THIS
YOU?**

**MISS SCHOOL
=
MISS OUT**

**my work is
too hard**

**no
friends**

worried

**being
bullied**



YOU CAN ALWAYS ASK FOR HELP

friends

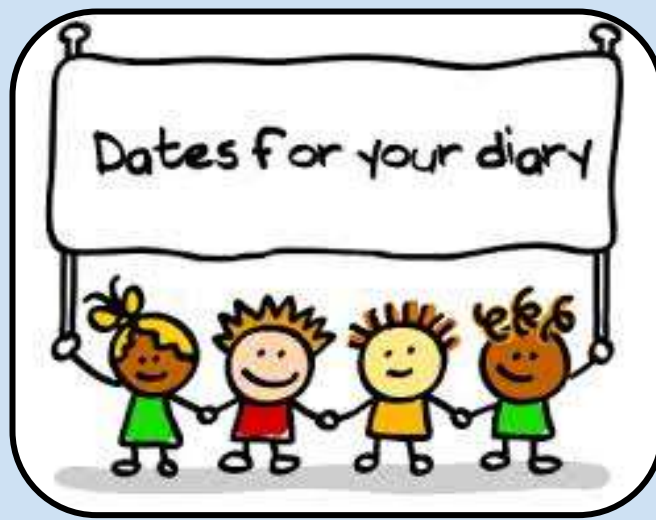


teacher



family





Date	Event
15th –25th April	Easter Holidays School close 12pm Thursday, 14th April.
2nd May	Bank Holiday
3rd-5th May	P2 Medical Checks
30th May-3rd June	Mid-Term Break
17th June	Staff Training School finishes at 12.30pm
24th June	School Awards & Fun Day School closes at 12pm
30th June	Last day of school term. School closes at 12pm



Sacramental Dates



Sacrament	Date	Time	Class	No. of Children	Teachers
First Communion (child and 2 adults)	Tuesday 24 th May	11.00am	P4	40	Mrs. O'Kane Mrs Hair
Confirmation (Child, Sponsor and 2 adults)	Tuesday 21st June	10.00am	P7	44	Miss McFarland Mrs Walsh





Police Service of Northern Ireland

PSNI Mahon Road
41a Mahon Road
Portadown
Craigavon
BT62 3SD

Date: 13th April 2022

Dear Principal,

Online Safety – Easter Holidays 2022

As parents, we need to have open and honest conversations with our children about the dangers that may be online.

When our children go outside to play, we ask who they are playing with and what they are doing. We need to consider doing the same thing for when our children engage online.

Are they speaking to somebody within a game or on social media that is a genuine friend of theirs, or is it an adult impersonating a child to try and groom your child in some way?

Alongside our colleagues at Parenting NI, we have made a video for how parents can talk to their children about what they are doing online.

I would encourage you to share this video with parents, ahead of Easter break. Please see link to video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cgxUcOPs_M

Many thanks,

Kerry Brennan

Detective Chief Inspector | Public Protection Branch | Southern Trust, CSE & HCAT
Community Safety Department



psni.police.uk
Report online. Call 101. In an emergency call 999

we care
we listen
we act

Contents Page



Click here to
Access the
Video





Nutrition Sessions

The Public Health Agency are running nutrition information sessions. The sessions are delivered online by Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists from HSC Trusts across Northern Ireland and provide evidence based information to promote health and wellbeing. They are free of charge and open to everyone. Click on the images to find out more.

Fussy Eating

All mentions a background!
Top line from a Registered Dietitian for fussy eating

Thursday 7 April
3pm

<https://tinyurl.com/fussy-april>

The poster features a close-up of a baby's face, looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression.

Eating Well as You Age

Find out about good nutrition for the later years from a Registered Dietitian.

Monday 5 April
12.30pm

<https://tinyurl.com/age-april>

The poster shows an elderly man and woman sitting at a table, looking at a smartphone together.



If the dates/times don't suit and for other nutrition topics, pre-recorded sessions are available to watch. Click on this image for more information.



Be Patient

Try these bitesize tips to Inspire, Challenge and Support your young people to be the best they can be.



Inspire...



Patience Scripts

Model how you have to be patient sometimes and use the same words each time. This is called using scripts. By using the same language over and over, we help our children to learn to use that language too. Try using some of these patience scripts:

This might take a while.
I'll have to be patient
whilst I wait!

It's okay. We
can wait.

Oh, I'll need to be
patient for this one!

Support...



Make It Fun!

Waiting is something we all have to do from time to time. When you are waiting together, teach them how to make the wait feel shorter by playing games like:

- I-Spy
- I went to the shop and I bought...
- On a walk to the shops - don't step on the cracks / *only* step on the cracks!

Challenge...



Games to practice patience

Patience is something we can improve with practice. There are lots of little games you can play together that help to practice being patient:

- The Marshmallow challenge - we can each have one marshmallow now, but if we wait for 5 minutes, we can each have 3!
- Who can be silent the longest?
- Musical statues
- Do a big jigsaw together (500 or 1000 pieces) - doing a little bit of it each day and seeing it getting slowly closer to being complete.

[Contents Page](#)



Click to download the latest High Five Magazine produced by the EA Primary Behaviour Support Team.





Be Patient

Play

"Gardens and children need the same things - patience, love and someone who will never give up on them." Nicolette Sowder



Enjoy a Jigsaw puzzle...

Choose a jigsaw puzzle to complete with your child, remember to take time to talk with your child while you explore the various pieces, their shape, size, pattern. Take pride in the achievement when a piece fits and enjoy the experience shared by taking time out to complete the activity.



Plant some seeds and watch them grow...

Plant a seed and wait for it to grow, nurturing a flower takes time and patience. Perhaps you may like to keep a log on the changes that take place. How long must we wait for the seed to sprout? After how many days does the first leaf appear?



Inspire...



Support...



Challenge...



[Contents Page](#)



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Theraplay Informed Activities

Theraplay informed activities are play based activities designed to focus on strengthening relationships, and create a playful and caring atmosphere that fosters joyful shared experiences. These activities will involve many fun games and a shared small, healthy snack. These activities are personal, physical and fun – a natural way for everyone to experience the healing power of being together.



Structure Activity

The idea is to relieve the child of the burden of maintaining control of interactions. The child sets limits, defines body boundaries, keeps the child safe, and helps to complete sequences of activities.



Motor Boat

Holding hands, everyone walks around in a circle, chanting "Motor boat, motor boat, go so slow, Motor boat, motor boat, go so fast, Motor boat, motor boat, step on the gas!" Gradually increase the speed until it is very fast. Suddenly "put on the brakes!" and start over with the slow tempo. This can also be done with the child and therapist alone.

Engagement Activity

The idea is to establish and maintain a connection with the child, to focus on the child in an intense way and to surprise and entice the child into new experiences.



Check-Ups

Check body parts, such as nose, chin, ears, cheeks, fingers, toes, knees to see if they are warm or cold, hard or soft, wiggly or quiet, and so on. Count freckles, toes, fingers, and knuckles. Check strong muscles and high jumps.

Nurture Activity

The idea is to reinforce the message that the child is worthy of care and the adults will provide care without the child having to ask.



Decorate Child

Make rings, necklaces, bracelets with Playdough, crazy foam, crepe paper streamers, or tinfoil.

Challenge Activity

The idea is to help the child feel more competent and confident by encouraging the child to take a slight risk and to accomplish an activity with adult help.



Keep Balloon in the air

When there are more people this activity can become quite exciting. You can organize it by taking turns around the circle or by counting how many times the group can keep the balloon in the air before it hits the ground.

[Contents Page](#)



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Schools News



A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our appeal for Ukraine. Your generosity was outstanding.



Winner of the Easter Bonnet Competition



P7 Helping load donations for Ukraine.



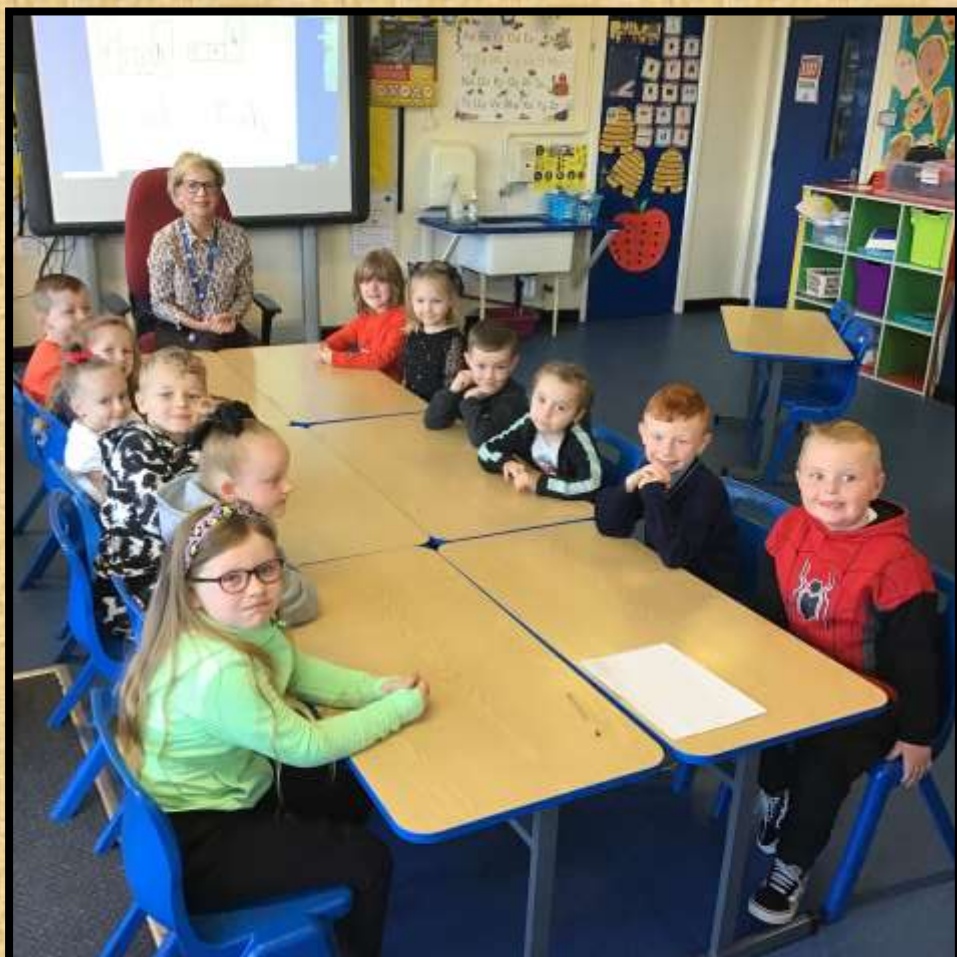
Schools News

This term our school council met to discuss ideas to improve our school playground.

Senior School Council



Junior School Council



Schools News

This term our school council met to discuss ideas to improve our school playground.



Schools News

Children in Mrs. Hair's class and Mrs. O'Kane's class took part in an Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Wolfhill Healthy Living Centre.



Schools News

Easter Ballot Winners!



EASTER BALLOT AND COLOURING
COMPETITION WINNERS



Class News Nursery Ms Donnelly



PEOPLE WHO HELP US



The Nursery had a special visit from our community Police Officers Eamonn and Leanne



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News Nursery Ms Donnelly



PIC-COLLAGE

Class News P1 Ms. Glover

Lá Fhéile Pádraig Shona Daoibh



Class News P1 Ms. Glover



P1 having fun in the spring time sun



P1 having fun in the spring time sun



P1 having fun in the spring time sun



Class News P1 Ms. O'Rawe

P1 loved playing outside in the sun



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News P1 Ms. O'Rawe



P1 loved playing outside in the sun



PIC•COLLAGE



Class News P2 Mrs. McLaughlin



Class News P2 Mrs. McLaughlin



FEEL GOOD
FRIDAY



PRIMARY 2

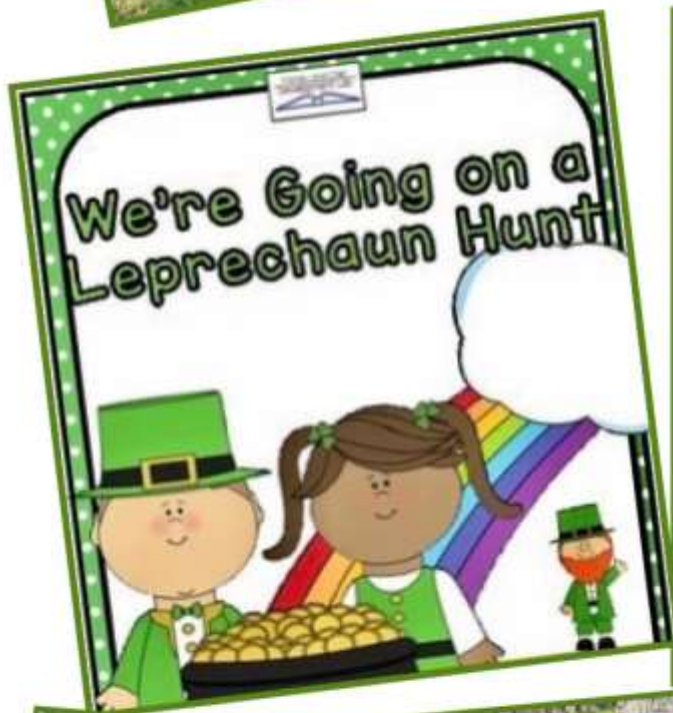
Class News P2 Ms. Jamieson



**PE WITH
MN SPORT**

PIC • COLLAGE

Class News P2 Ms. Jamieson



Class News P3 Mrs. McGrogan



Class News P3 Mrs. Lally



Class News P3 Mrs. Lally



PIC-COLLAGE



We enjoyed our yummy buns



PIC-COLLAGE

Class News P4/5 Mrs. Hair



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News P4/5 Mrs. Hair



**CREATING NATURE ART AT
FOREST SCHOOL P4/5H**



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News P5-6 Mrs. Forte



African Drumming P5/6F



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News P5-6 Mrs. Forte

P5/6F Music Morning



Class News P4 Ms. O'Kane

PRIMARY 4



MAKING OUR OWN
TROCAIRE BOXES



Primary 4 :
Art Lesson



Class News P4 Ms. O'Kane



Class News P5-6 Mr. Erskine

We enjoyed meeting our visitor Joe 'The Goal' after the football final.



Class News P5-6 Mr. Erskine

We really enjoyed learning how to cook some meals.



Class News P6/7 Mrs. Walsh



Class News P6/7 Mrs. Walsh



P6/7 W Having lots of fun fishing.



PIC•COLLAGE

Class News P7 Mrs. McFarland



Class News P7 Mrs. McFarland

