



OCTOBER 2023

NEWSLETTER ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

WWW.MILLQUARTERPS.COM

- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
- 2nd Oct
 - P1 Late Class Begins
 - Fitness Freddy
 - 6th Oct
 - FS teachers to play and poetry training.
 - 11th Oct
 - Final day of After Schools Golf
 - 12th Oct
 - Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime.
 - 16th Oct
 - Maths Week
 - P7 Parent Teacher Meetings.
 - 17th Oct
 - Flu Vaccine
 - 18th Oct
 - Final day of After Schools Max Coding
 - 23rd Oct
 - Fitness Freddy
 - 27th Oct
 - Shoe Box Appeal collection Day
 - Halloween Fancy Dress
 - School closes at 11:30
 - 30 Oct-3 Nov
 - Halloween Holidays

Primary One

A new world of learning is unfolding for our Primary One children. They are slowly but surely finding their feet in their new surroundings. The first few weeks of term at 'big school' are important as the boys and girls strike up new relationships with teachers and staff, while making new friends in class and in the playground.



Beginning of the Year Mass

Fr James celebrated our Beginning of the year Mass on Tuesday 26th September. Thanks to Mr. Michael Boyd and our choir for the lovely singing. Well done to all our pupils who contributed to the mass under the excellent leadership of Mrs. Bujwid, our R.E. Co-Ordinator.



P1 Buddies

At the start of Primary 7, groups of children are matched with a Primary 1 buddy. This ensures that Primary 1 children have someone to help and support them at playtimes as they settle into school life. The older children are rising to their new responsibilities.



Late Class

From this month on our P1 pupils can stay along with our P2s for late class. Late class is a service whereby the younger children are supervised for an additional hour and go home at 2:40 pm with the older children. There is a fee for this service. A message will be sent via seesaw regarding payment.

School Dinners

A gentle reminder to pay for school dinners the night before on the school money app. The dinner menu is on seesaw and our school website.

Uniform

Please label all items of uniform. Teachers and staff have recently had to spend time locating many lost items. As you can appreciate this can take some time which could otherwise be put to better use.

After Schools Clubs

The After Schools clubs running this month already include Fitness Freddy, Homework club, Golf, Max Coding and Hurling/Camogie. After Halloween, we are hoping to offer Playball by Antrim Playball, an international sport and movement programme that coaches children around the world.

Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime

On 12th October from 9-10:30

M & M Productions are coming to Millquarter to perform Jack and the Beanstalk. We will warmly welcome pupils from Tiny Tots and Taylorstown playgroup. We hope that this production will inspire more great work in literacy as the previous production of 'The Hobbit.'

P6 will not have swimming on that day.

Cumann na mBunscol

On Wednesday 18th October P7 will travel to Randalstown to take part in the Cumann na mBunscol mixed hurling/Camogie tournament.

We are looking forward to another great year promoting Gaelic Games in our school.

Maths Week Ireland

Our children will take part in a variety of outdoor maths challenges during Maths week Ireland from 16th -20th October.



Beyond Bricks Lego Based Play

Mind wise will begin working with our P3/4 class this month delivering the Beyond Bricks Programme. It is a programme which sees schools fully equipped to deliver a series of interactive workshops aimed to increase the emotional health and wellbeing of our children.



Action Mental Health

Mensanna

On 24th-25th Oct Action Mental Health will be in school delivering their Healthy Me programme to our Key Stage 2 classes. **Healthy Me** is a vibrant and engaging mental health promotion programme aimed at children, which explores emotional/mental health, healthy lifestyle choices and pathways to effective support through imaginative and interactive play and song.



RISE: 'OH MY WORD'

P4/5 and P6 will begin Oh My Word, a 6-week programme aimed at developing children's vocabulary and word learning skills across the curriculum for example in maths, science and history. By teaching specific curriculum words, it is possible to minimise the impact of word learning difficulties and increase access to the curriculum.

Be Bright, Be Seen.

With the darker mornings and evenings closing in we would encourage the children to wear high visibility vests or reflectors when travelling between home, bus stops and school.



Halloween Fancy Dress

Excitement is already building for our annual Halloween Fancy Dress competition and catwalk show which will be held on Friday 27th October. Children are invited to come to school dressed up in fancy dress and there will be prizes given for the best dressed girl and boy from each class. Please do not wear masks or costumes that are too frightening for younger pupils. Those wishing to enter the competition are asked to donate £1. The money raised will be given to Pretty n Pink, a Breast Cancer charity.



Halloween Holidays

School will close at 11:30 am on Friday 27th October for Halloween. There will be a bus at 11:30. School will reopen for Term 1:2 on Monday 6th November.



European Day of Languages.

To celebrate European Day of Languages, all children sang a Mhuire Mhatháir at our school mass. Back in class the children learned colours, action songs and one class even attempted Amhrán na bhFiann. Maith thú! We are hoping to learn more throughout the year as we have been accepted onto the 'Scoil Spreagtha' pilot.



Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair was very well attended. We will now have over £500 commission to buy books and resources for each class. Thank you! (Take Five: Keep learning, Give.)



Autism NI Impact Award

On Monday 25th September we joined with Groggan PS to work towards achieving an Autism NI Impact Award. We will be offered expert support and guidance to enable us to become more autism accessible and inclusive. It was pleasing to note that we already have great support in place. We will continue to implement pragmatic adaptations within school.

Prayer Book

Thank you to Fr James for gifting each child in school with a children's prayer book.



Shoe Box Appeal

Team Hope is a charity which sends thousands of gift-filled shoeboxes to children in Africa and Eastern Europe. We have taken part in the Shoebox Appeal for several years now and hope to do so again this year.

The project enables our children to fill a shoebox full of presents and wrap it to be sent across the world to children less fortunate than themselves. A leaflet showing ideas of what can be contained in the shoeboxes has already been sent home.

We would ask that you send in the filled shoeboxes to school by Friday 27th October. The £4 donation listed can be paid via school money.



Pupil Participation

Our pupils have been elected following an application process to be Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Digital Leaders, Eco-Warriors, Well-Being Champions, Road Safety Officers and members of School Council.

