St. Patrick’s Primary School

73 Shelton Road

Loughguile

BT44 9JR [www.stpatricksps.loughguile.com](http://www.stpatricksps.loughguile.com)

**PRINCIPAL’S HALF-TERM NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021**

CURRICULUM

During the half-term leading up to Christmas, there was a particular emphasis on ICT skills. All classes took part in the use of Green Screen to create their virtual/online Christmas concert.

Some classes also completed short films using animation. All of this was presented on Seesaw, the school website and the school Facebook page.

Anti-Bullying week took place from 15th to 21st November with the theme “One Kind Word”. All classes took part in “Odd Sock Day” and other class activities. A variety of video clips can be seen on the school website and were also put up on the Facebook page.

Road Safety Week also took place between 15th November to 21st November and pupils took part in a variety of activities in class.

Our in-school Reading Support/Intervention programme taken by Mrs McErlean (P1 teacher, Literacy Co-ordinator and Vice-Principal) took place in November



COVID – Provision for pupils

Covid restrictions continued during November and December. However, the emphasis was to ensure provision for pupils in isolation, and in the event of reverting to remote learning immediately after the Christmas holidays.

1. On Seesaw and Google Classroom weekly homework
2. An isolation paper based literacy and numeracy pack
3. All pupils on Seesaw and Google Classroom in the event of a return to remote learning

ICT

Focus on the use of Green Screen and Animation. Continued Professional Development for all teaching staff

VIRTUAL P1 AND NURSERY OPEN DAYS

Mrs McErlean, the P1 teacher and Mrs Taylor the Nursery teacher produced Virtual Open Days which are on the school website and the school Facebook page. A big thank you to them for their hard work, the response to the Virtual Open Days were extremely positive ☺



SCHOOL WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

The school website and Facebook continue to provide a glimpse into the happy, busy life of St. Patrick’s

ONLINE PANTO

The pupils in St. Patrick’s enjoyed an online panto of Little Red Riding Hood on Friday 10th December.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

P7 presented a Nativity carol service in St. Patrick’s chapel. Nursery to P6 produced online Christmas concerts which were seen on Seesaw by all parents. A big thank you to the pupils and all the staff for their hard work.

AFTER-SCHOOL/IN-SCHOOL CLUBS

P4 Dance Club – after school

P7 Lego Club – after school

P5 Eco Garden/Sports – Mr Devlin

P7 Literacy/Numeracy Club – after school (November)

STAFFING

Robin Clarke our Building Supervisor retired in November 2021. We thank him for the large contribution he made to the school over the years and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Ciara McAuley completed work in St. Patrick’s in December 2021. A big thank you to Ciara for the huge contribution she made to St. Patrick’s and we wish her well in her future career.

WHOLE SCHOOL VIRTUAL TOUR

The whole school took part in a Virtual tour from Nursery to P7. This captured the array of learning activities that take place during a busy half-term in St. Patrick’s.

It is on the school website and the school Facebook page. A big thank you to Grafter’s Videos who helped us produce the video and to everyone for making it such a success. The positive response to the video was overwhelming.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

A big thank you to the kitchen staff for a lovely Christmas dinner on 1dt December 2021. Thank you for continuing to provide hot meals throughout covid.

This concludes what was an excellent 1st term in St. Patrick’s P.S. and Nursey Unit, Loughguile