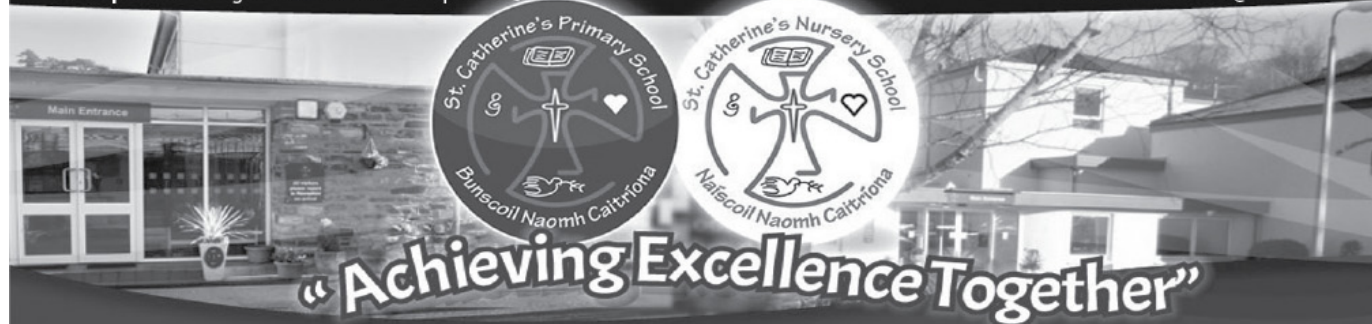


St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Mrs. Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H.

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net



JUNIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2272

Fax: (028) 7138 2139

Strabane

Co. Tyrone

BT82 8HT

SENIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2614

Fax: (028) 7138 2482

WEEKLY NOTE - Monday 19th November 2018

Check us out on our website: www.stcatherinesps.co.uk

Download Our **FREE** School App

St Catherines PS, Strabane



Facebook : StCatherines PrimarySchool



Follow us on Twitter : stcatherinesps



Follow us on Instagram : St Catherine's Primary School

MOBILE PHONES



For Child Protection and Safeguarding Reasons, our Mobile Phone Policy states that we cannot permit pupils/adults/ visitors to USE mobile phones on site. If adults visiting the site need to use their mobile phones they must do so outside the building but not in the presence of our children.

Pupils themselves should not have a mobile phone in school, but if a parent insists they need one for after school, they should sign a form to let the teacher know this, the pupil should hand in the mobile phone to the school office during the day and they can collect it again at hometime. The mobile phone will be stored safely and securely during the day. If a child is found to have a mobile phone in their possession during the day without handing it in, it will be confiscated and can only be returned to parents/ guardians.

Again we would appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

Our Mobile Phone Policy is available to read upon request.

God bless you all! Bridget Wilders, Principal



Christmas CRAFT FAIR

THANKS

This was a fabulous event in our school which was so well supported by pupils, parents, families and friends.

Many thanks to our amazing PTFA who organised the event so brilliantly and were there in full force on the night to ensure that all went smoothly! Our school is in your debt.

Many thanks to the Staff of the school who assisted with the event in any way, teachers/ non teaching staff who prepared their classrooms for use by crafters, our building supervisors who got the building ready, cleaning staff, clerical staff and indeed Governors who also came out to show their support!

Thanks also to Mr Jarlath Mc Nulty who came along and represented Strabane Health Improvement Project and joined in to make our wee event such a strong community fun night! Thanks also to the councillors/ MLA's who showed their support, our local priests and all the crafters who had such beautiful crafts on sale.



Finally thanks to our own KS2 Pupils who came out to sing their Christmas Carols and to Miss Doherty and Miss Mc Elhinney for directing them on the night.

What a fabulous night of community spirit and aivín.

God bless us all.



Transport to / from School

We encourage our children to be responsible when travelling in buses, cars, taxis to/from school. They should wear their seatbelt at all times and always remain seated in the vehicle when it is moving so that the driver of the vehicle does not get distracted. Again many thanks for your support. Please refer to the safety advice attached.



SAFE SCHOOL TRANSPORT

A guide for safe travel
to and from school
for pupils and parents

Education Authority

CCTV



The management of the CCTV equipment and images must comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, Human Rights Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation.

Transport Services use Close Circuit Television images to:-

- Provide a safe and secure environment for pupils and staff
- Protect pupils and staff
- Manage challenging behaviour
- Assist in child protection issues
- Assist in the investigation of road incidents.

Contact Details

SAFE SCHOOL TRANSPORT Education Authority

Armagh Office

Tel: 028 3751 2200

Ballymena Office

Tel: 028 2566 2276

Belfast Office

Tel: 028 9056 4000

Dundonald Office

Tel: 028 9056 6200

Omagh Office

Tel: 028 8241 1411



Pupils

Responsibility



- Mobile Phones should only be used in an emergency and must not be used to photograph or record fellow passengers.
- If you have to cross the road after getting off the bus always allow the bus to move off before attempting to cross.
- Always walk on the pavement if there is one.
- If you are with younger children set them a good example.
- Do not let some one else persuade you to do something unsafe.
- Always be conscious of your personal safety especially when boarding and alighting vehicles.



Parents

Responsibility



Please remember that ultimately the safety of a pupil on any part of the journey to or from school not undertaken in a bus/taxi funded by the Authority, is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Only by working with the Authority and its contracted transport providers can the highest possible level of safety be maintained for the whole journey.

- Make sure your child arrives at the pick up point in plenty of time so that they do not have to rush. Be punctual.
- Make sure your child knows what to do if the bus is late or does not arrive.
- Teach your child about road safety, how to act sensibly on and around buses and how to cross the road to and from the bus stop.
- Instruct your child to do as the driver says and not to misbehave. You may be held responsible for any vandalism to the bus/taxi caused by your child.
- A designated responsible adult should be at the drop off point to receive your child.
- Wait for your child on the side of the road where the bus sets them down on the return journey.
- Make sure your child can be seen by other road users. By wearing or carrying something bright or fluorescent your child is more easily seen in poor daylight conditions. When it is dark use reflective materials which can be seen up to three times as far away as non-reflective materials

Always avoid having to call your child across the road to you

Stop the Bullies

Bullying can make young people feel lonely, unhappy and frightened. It happens at school, at home, on the streets and also when travelling to and from school.

Stamp Out Bullying

School passes may be withdrawn from anyone involved in any form of anti social behaviour, including bullying, on a bus or in the bus station.

What to do if you feel bullied

- Don't ignore it – it won't go away and may get worse
- Tell someone you trust - such as a teacher, parent or friend
- Remember - it's not your fault - no one deserves to be bullied
- Keep a record of any nasty texts or emails that you have been sent
- Try to stay away from the bullies
- Ask your friend to look out for you
- Don't retaliate - you could get into trouble or get hurt
- Contact your school and they will help with your concerns.



The Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986 places a legal responsibility on the Education Authority to provide transport assistance for the purpose of facilitating the attendance of pupils living beyond specified maximum distances from school i.e. primary school pupils living more than 2 miles and post primary pupils living more than 3 miles from their nearest suitable school.

Statutory school transport assistance is provided by a variety of means including Translink, Authority Bus, Private Operators & Taxis, in compliance with relevant transport legislation and directions/guidelines issued from time to time by the Department of Education.

On the Bus/Taxi



Pupils are required to adhere to Authority school transport policies by:

- remaining seated with the seat belt fastened (where fitted)
- behaving sensibly and safely at all times
- treating the driver and fellow passengers with respect by following reasonable instructions, avoiding confrontation or the use of abuse or inappropriate language or gestures
- not smoking (the Authority operates a NO SMOKING POLICY on all funded transport)
- not interfering with equipment in the vehicle e.g. fire extinguishers, emergency doors etc.
- storing bags and belongings safely
- not standing in the stairwell of the bus.

It should be noted that in cases of extreme or persistent misbehaviour, the Education Authority and Translink reserve the right to suspend free travel facilities. School transport arrangements will then become the responsibility of the parents.

It should also be noted that the Transport Provider may seek redress for criminal damage.



YEAR 4 and YEAR 7 PUPILS: Holy Communion and Confirmation Workbooks

Every year in school children use special Holy Communion and Confirmation Workbooks with our children so that they can prepare for the sacraments very thoroughly indeed. These workbooks cost £3.50. Children love completing these workbooks and they obviously get to keep them for their own souvenir afterwards. Please send in £3.50 with your Year 4 or Year 7 Child for their Souvenir Workbook by Friday 23rd November.

Year 4 Do This In Memory Programme

The dates for the masses for the Do This in Memory Programme are as below. We look forward to seeing all our Year 4 Pupils and Families at these very special masses.



DATE	THEME OF MASS	TIME
10/11/2018	Enrolment Sunday	6.30pm
25/11/2018	Feast of Christ the King	10am
16/12/2018	3rd Sunday of Advent	12 Noon
26/01/2019	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm
03/03/2019		10am
14/04/2019	Passion (Palm) Sunday	12 Noon
11/05/2019		6.30pm
23/06/2019	Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)	10am

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
25th May, 2019

NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Campaign

As part of our Pastoral Care Programme in school, NSPCC come into school every two years to talk to our wee children about the importance of staying safe and how to stay safe. They will be coming in to our school on Thursday 22nd November to talk with all pupils from Years 1-7.



Annual Trip to Panto in the Millennium Forum in Derry

Peter Pan

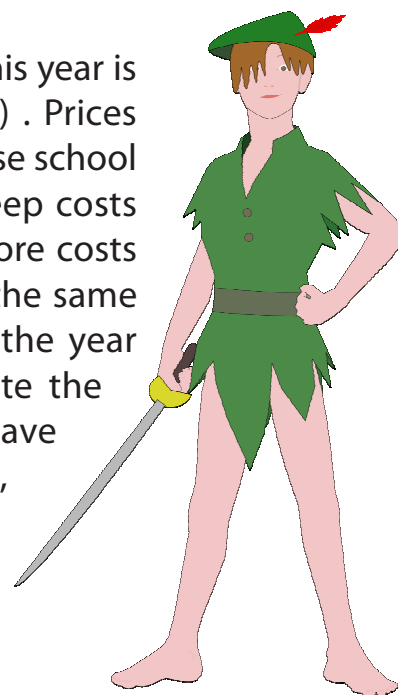
Every Year we take our children to Derry to the Millennium Forum to see the Christmas Panto. This year the panto is Peter Pan.

Years 5-7 Pupils will go on Monday 3rd December and Years 1-4 Pupils will go on Tuesday 4th December.

This is always an exciting visit for our children on the lead up to Christmas and they enjoy it so

much!

The cost of the trip this year is £12 (Same as last year) . Prices have gone up but we use school funds to try to help keep costs the same and avoid more costs to our parents, hence the same price as last year and the year before! Please complete the attached slip if you have not already done so, and send a deposit of £6 immediately to secure your child's place on this trip.



URGENT BIG NEWS!!!!

Due to apply for Nursery or Year 1 places this year? All applications can only be made to any school ONLINE this year....no paper forms.... We will update you further about this at our open afternoons or before them when we find out more!

Parent / Teacher Meetings



Our Annual Parent Teacher Meetings will take place over the next two weeks in school. Teachers will be sending each parent an appointment date and time to invite you to come into school to see how your child is progressing in school to date. If you get an appointment please make every effort to attend or arrange an alternative appointment with the teacher. Each appointment time slot will be for 10 minutes approximately. These meetings are very important and key to communication between home and school in order to provide the very best for each of our wee children. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Health and Safety Notices



We respectfully request that parents/ visitors to our school always keep their pets e.g. dogs on a lead and do not release them on the grounds.

Whilst we adore our canine friends, sometimes our children (especially the younger children) can become quite frightened when they see animals wondering on the grounds without a lead.

We hope you can understand and support us in this matter!



School Ties

If your child ever loses their school tie, ties are on sale at the school office to replace it!!

Elasticated tie : £4

Full tie : £5

Clip on tie: £6

St. Catherine's PTFA Christmas Raffle for PUPILS

Our PTFA will be hosting a raffle on each school site. Tickets are 20p each. The raffle will take place just before the Christmas Holidays in December!

Junior School Raffle:

This year we have PINKIE the Unicorn who wants a good home!



We also have a Teamster 3 Level Tower Garage with cars!

Senior School Raffle

We have a Large Gumball Machine



We also have an Air Hockey Game

Tickets will be on sale every morning in both assembly halls a little bit of fun in the Winter Mornings!!



Be Safe Be Seen Campaign for Pupil Safety

In the run up to Christmas, we write to encourage you to take the opportunity to remind your child of Road Safety NI's message 'be bright, be seen' by drivers.

Please encourage your child to wear reflective clothing and high visibility items, especially during the dark mornings and evenings, when travelling between home, bus stops and school.

Nursery Open Afternoon

Have you got a child who you would like to start Nursery School next year? Was your child born in the year between 2 July 2015 and 1 July 2016? Would you be considering our Nursery?

If so, why not come along to see the fabulous Nursery Unit we have at St. Catherine's! We have our Annual Open Afternoon on Wednesday 28th November in the Senior School Site in the Assembly Hall starting with the Principal's Address at



1.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Please note our current Nursery Pupils should be collected at 12.30pm on this day so that we can prepare for our newest visitors! Many thanks!

Year 1 Open Afternoon

Have you got a child who will be due to start Primary School next year? Was your child born in the year between 2 July 2014 and 1 July 2015? Would you be considering our Primary School?

If so, why not come along to see the fabulous Primary School that is St. Catherine's! We have our Annual Open Afternoon on Thursday 29th November in the Junior School Site in the Assembly Hall starting with the Principal's Address at 1.30pm. Everyone welcome.



Please note our current Year 1 and 2 Pupils should be collected at 12.45pm on this day so that we can prepare for our newest visitors! Many thanks!

Prayer of the Month - November

During November we remember and pray for the dead

Eternal Rest

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*



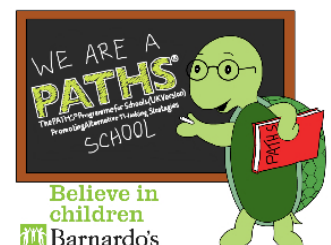
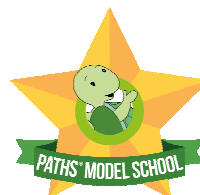
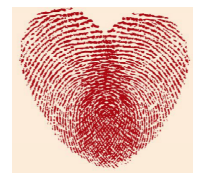
(If you are offering the prayer for a particular person, you can substitute "him" or "her" for "them.")



PATHS Programme in St. Catherine's (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)

PATHS Quote of the Month - November

"In a world where you can be anything be kind"



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST NEWS . . .

Every week the eldest child in the family will be given a weekly note to take home with them on a Monday. This note is designed to keep parents up to date with what is happening in the school! The weekly note is a great resource which is costly for the school to produce but we feel that it is worth it as some parents really rely on it!!

However if for some reason, you do not receive a copy of the weekly note, or you have lost it, we also upload it to the school's website each week so that you can always access it there!

Our website can be accessed at www.stcatherinesps.co.uk

Try it out! We also put notifications on our **FREE SCHOOL APP**

St Catherine's PS Strabane feel free to download to your phone!

You can now also view photos on our school apptry it out!



StCatherines PrimarySchool



St Catherine's PS



St Catherine's Primary School

Please note that these Social Media sites have a lower age limit of 13years old so they are for parental use only to enable parents to know more about what is going on in their child's school! #keepingyouuptodate



St. Catherine's

Nursery & Primary School, Strabane



MERCHANDISE

PENCILS
50p

UNICORN
BAG £5

GYM
BAG £6

CLOTH
BAG
£5

HATS £7 (PLAIN)
£7.50 (POM-POM)

T-SHIRTS
£8.50

ALL MONEY FROM SALES GOES BACK INTO SCHOOL FUNDS

ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE



Peter Pan Panto Trip to Millennium Forum Derry

I would like to Book a Place for my child on the Peter Pan Panto Trip
in the Millennium Forum Derry in December.

I understand that the cost of the trip is £12.

I enclose

Deposit : £6

☐

Or

Full Payment: £12

☐

Signed: _____

Parent/Gaurdian of: _____

Class: _____

Teacher: _____