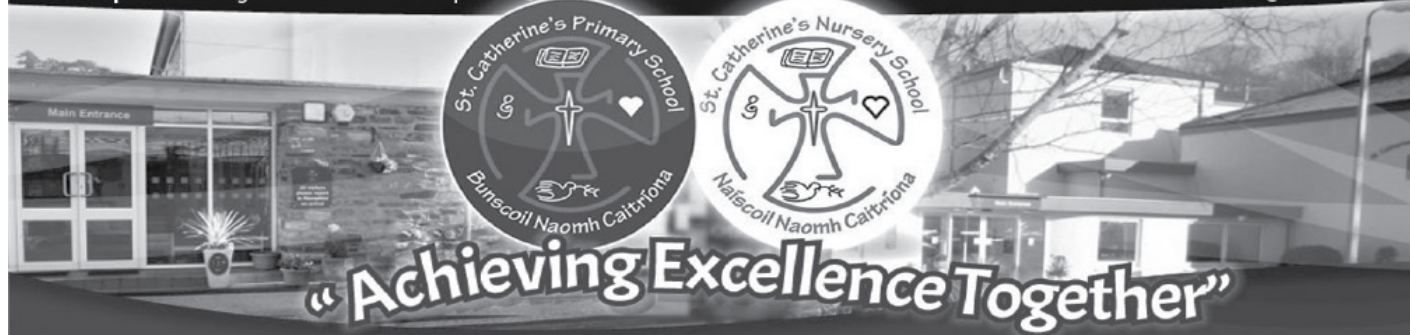


St. Catherine's Primary School

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 15th January 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 : StCatherinesPS2
 Follow us on Instagram : St Catherine's Primary School

Update of Parent Mobile Phone Numbers



Some of you may have got new mobile phones for Christmas or indeed for some reason you may have a different number since the start of the year. If so have you let the school secretary know so that it can be changed at school?

This is very important incase we have to contact you for any reason regarding your child. This is also important so that you can receive school text messages.

If you have changed your number and not updated the school.... Please do so!

God bless you all! Bridget Wilders, Principal

Change of USERNAME (Handle) on TWITTER

Good news for all TWITTER Fans.....we are now also on Twitter!
We have changed our USERNAME. Now you can follow us at....

@stcatherinesps

See the front of this note for all our links to

1. Website
2. Facebook
3. Instagram
4. Twitter
5. Email



We want to communicate with you and keep you up to date!!

National Compliment Day 24th January



Give loads of extra compliments to people you meet on Wednesday January 24th 2018

A compliment is a wonderful way to brighten up someone's day

or give credit for a job well done.

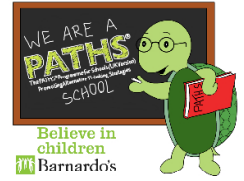
Please complete the attached Family Compliment Sheet and send it back into your child's teacher by Friday 19th January ahead of Compliments Day! We will SHARE these compliments in school! Thank you!

National Compliment Day

Wednesday 24th January 2018

Please let your child give members of their family a compliment ,
record these on this slip and return to school

I can give people in my family a compliment



Thank you

FLU Prevention

Advice for our wee Pupils in school to promote thorough Handwashing to help prevent the spread of Infection. We ask that our parents help us also to promote good practice in school and at home! We appreciate your support!

Clean hands protect against infection

Protect yourself

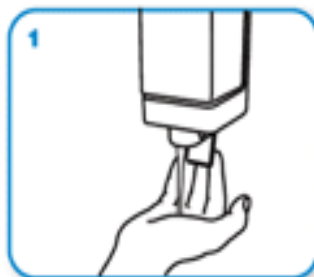
- Clean your hands regularly.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, and dry them thoroughly.
- Use alcohol-based handrub if you don't have immediate access to soap and water.

How do I wash my hands properly?

Washing your hands properly takes about as long as singing "Happy Birthday" twice, using the images below.



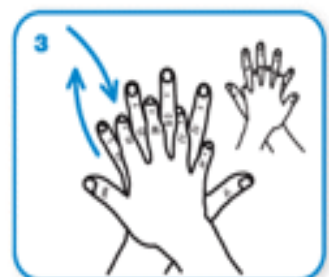
Wet hands with water



apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces.



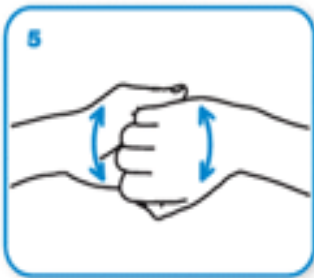
Rub hands palm to palm



right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa



palm to palm with fingers interlaced



backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked



rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa



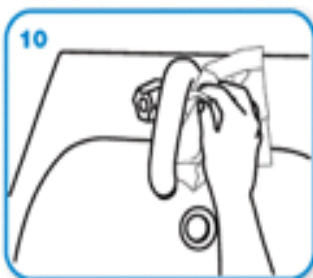
rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa.



Rinse hands with water



dry thoroughly with a single use towel



use towel to turn off faucet



...and your hands are safe.

Attendance Matters

Please find guidance below from the Department of Education for Parents regarding the promotion of good attendance for our wee pupils at school.



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.

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

- ☑ To learn.
- ☑ To have fun.
- ☑ To make new friends.
- ☑ To experience new things in life.
- ☑ To develop awareness of other cultures, religion, ethnicity and gender differences.
- ☑ To achieve.
- ☑ To gain qualifications.
- ☑ To develop new skills.
- ☑ To build confidence and self-esteem.
- ☑ To have the best possible start in life.



**Miss School -
Miss Out!!**



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.



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.
- ☑ Take truancy seriously – 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?
- ☑ Take family holidays outside term time.
- ☑ Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homeworks).
- ☑ Attend parent 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.
- ☑ Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – staff are there to help and will be supportive.

**Key
Point**

Do not be afraid to ask for help if a problem arises.



EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS –

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

Attendance percentages can be misleading.

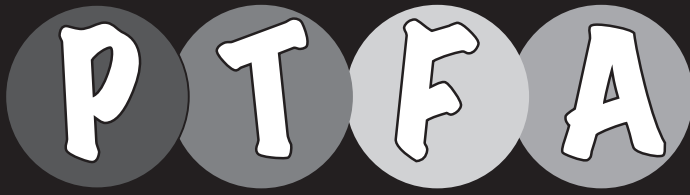
100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks.



Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts.

St. Catherine's Nursery & Primary School



Parent, Teacher,
Friends Association

**Working together
for our children**

Many thanks indeed to all the members of our wonderfully hardworking PTFA for everything they have done for our wee children before Christmas and generally this year to date.

JOIN US!

**WHY NOT COME ALONG
TO OUR NEXT MEETING?**

Thursday 18th January

at 7pm in the Junior School



This is a particularly special meeting as there will be a Guest Speaker Mrs Maria Herron from Parenting NI in attendance to update us re the work of Parenting Ni in our areas and the various services that they can offer. All parents from our school are welcome to attend this meeting whether they are PTFA Members or not. However our PTFA are also always looking for new recruits.....why don't you give it a try?

Year 7 Flight Programme

Every Year as part of the Extended Schools Cluster Programme we take our Year 7 Pupils on a flight with FLYBE. This flight is part of their curriculum education studies on Flight which they complete in school. We are very fortunate, that in the face of current cutbacks, we are still able to offer this trip to our Year 7 Pupils this year again.

The Flight will take place on Tuesday 23rd January. Children will fly on a short flight around NI and then they will also

visit W5 on the same day. (More Details will follow re this trip.....regarding times etc) from the Class Teachers.

In order to assist with funding we ask that all children in Year 7 Make a Voluntary Contribution of £10 towards the cost of this wonderful trip. If you would like your child to avail of this fabulous trip, please sign the attached permission form and send your child's £10 contribution to your child's teacher by Wednesday 17th January. Many thanks!



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 26th January.

REMINDER: Where do I collect my child on each site?

Sometimes we find that our childminders and carers get confused about where to collect pupils across our two sitesespecially of this is a first time for them!! Hopefully this will help!

Nursery: All children should be collected from their classrooms.

Junior School :

Year 1(a) Mrs Doherty's class and Year 2 (a) Mrs Hamilton's Class should be collected from the front pupil exit beside their classrooms.

Year 1 (b) Miss Hutton's Class and Year 2 (c) Mrs Mc Glynn's Class should be collected from the exit door beside their classroom.

Year 2 (b) Mrs Mc Brien's Class should be collected from the exit door beside their class.

Year 3 (b) Mrs Mc Granaghan's Class should be collected at 3pm from the front pupil exit door (beside the Year 1 / 2 classrooms)

Year 3 (a) : Ms Mc Gowan's Class will be escorted to the front gate of the school where they can be collected.

Year 4 will be escorted by their teachers to the front gate of the School where they can be collected.

Senior School :

Nursery: Nursery children must be collected from the actual door of the Nursery itself.

Year 5 should be collected at 3pm from the front main exit gate of this school site at the side of the Vice Principal's Office

Year 6 will be escorted by their teachers to the gate at the side of the Vice Principal's Office of this school site where they can be collected.

Year 7 will be escorted to the main door at the front of the Senior School where they can be collected.

PLEASE NOTE:

We expect that all children (Nursery , Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3) will be collected by a responsible adult to ensure their safety going home from school. If your child is in Year 3-7 and you wish them to walk home by themselves then please indicate this to the class teacher via a little note. If you you're your child to be collected by taxi then you should send a note to the class teacher indicating this. For Child Protection and Safeguarding purposes we cannot release a child to an any adult without parental consent. Thank you!

Prayer of the Month January

New Year's Prayer



*We remember
For all that has been
We give thanks.*

*We look forward
For all that will be
We say yes.*

*All time is God's time.
We let go of the past and
We welcome what is to come.*

And all the time we pray in the name of Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Amen

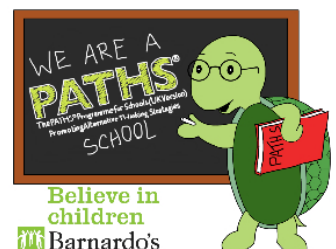


PATHS Programme in St. Catherine's

(Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)

PATHS Quote of the Month - January

Our feelings are as much a part of us as our hands, feet or hair. Feelings, while on the inside, often show on the outside. All people have feelings. Keep your eyes open today and look out for feelings





Post Primary School Open Days

Post Primary Schools will have various Open Days coming up so that Year 7 Pupils and their parents can tour the school to get a flavour of what the school would be like to attend as a Year 8 Pupil in September 2018! It's so hard to believe that our Year 7 Pupils are at that stage already!

The following are the dates of Open Days in our two local Post Primary Schools. We will let you know more information as we know it!

Meetings with the Principal to indicate choices of schools will be planned for at the end of the month. You will receive a letter from the Principal inviting you to attend to indicate your school preference for your Year 7 Child next year. I look forward to meeting with you!

Holy Cross College

Saturday 20th January 2018 from 10am-12Noon and 1pm-3pm

Strabane Academy

Thursday 25th January on the Junior Campus (Derry Road) at 7pm.



January 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Year 1 Health Check Milk Money Due	12 Year 1 Health Check	13
14 Year 4 "Do This In Memory" 10am	15	16	17	18 PTFA Meeting 7.00pm	19 Holy Cross Open Day 10am-12Noon and 1pm-3pm	20
21	22	23 Year 7 Flight Programme	24	25 Strabane Academy Open Day Junior Campus (Derry Road) 7pm	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Year 7 Flight Trip to Belfast

I allow/ do not allow my Year 7 Child to go on the Year 7 Flight Trip.
I understand that this trip will take place on Tuesday 23rd January
and will involve a Bus Journey to Belfast City Airport to board a
FLYBE Plane for a short Flight around NI. Then my child will visit
W5 Museum on this day also.

I enclose £10 Contribution towards the cost of this trip.

Signed: _____

Parent/Gaurdian of: _____

Class: _____