



Newsletter

13th September 2019



Autumn Term – Dates for your Diary

School closure	Monday 30 th September
Hallowe'en Break	Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November
Vote for Earth	Thursday 19 th September
Image Theatre presents 'Robin Hood'	Friday 20 th

VOTE FOR EARTH DAY

(non-uniform)

The Primary 7s in Miss McGinley and Mrs McNamee's class are spearheading a very important global campaign in our school this term. They have begun a Sion Mills discussion on phrases we hear all the time – 'Global Warming' and 'Climate Change'. Many children have realised they had heard these words but didn't know what it meant. The Primary 7s and their teachers plan to change this!!

So the first action is - holding a 'VOTE FOR EARTH DAY' on **Thursday 19th September** to raise awareness, in a visible way, of the campaign. We would ask that your child wears something green on Thursday 19th. This can be as simple as wearing recycled/reused clothes, a green jumper/trousers, leaves attached to their clothes, feel free to be as creative or as simple as you like. The important thing is to get a conversation going and raise awareness.

You will have received a letter from the Primary 7s earlier this week with further information.



Robin Hood

In September 2018 the Image Music Theatre group performed 'The Selfish Giant' for the whole school. It was an excellent show. The troupe are in the area again and have offered a slot on Friday 20th September. This year they will perform an interactive production of the popular story 'Robin Hood'. The children will spend 30 minutes learning their parts before the hour long show. We would appreciate a contribution £1 per child towards the cost of the show. Thank you.

Road Safety

We were delighted to welcome PSNI Road Safety Officer, Stuart Crutchley to our school this morning to talk to the children about their own safety on our roads. He highlighted the issues at our school gates but also talked to them about general safety when out walking/cycling/scooting. The presentation was interactive and very informative.

We remind parents/carers picking up or collecting children to be mindful of children. Children often **know** how to be safe but in the excitement to get to a car just run across the road.

Plea: Drive very slowly, **please come over to the gate to meet your child**, be patient.

(It is not possible to have a pelican crossing on West View Terrace due to the residential nature of this road.)

Thank you Florence

Florence has retired from her role as Primary 1/2 classroom assistant, with effect from 31st August 2019. We are intensely grateful to Florence for the 21 years of excellent service she has given to the children of Sion Mills Primary School. Florence has been a highly valued colleague and we are delighted that she continues in her role as Lunchtime Supervisor.

Mrs Laura Pierce has replaced Florence as classroom assistant. We wish her well.

Supervision

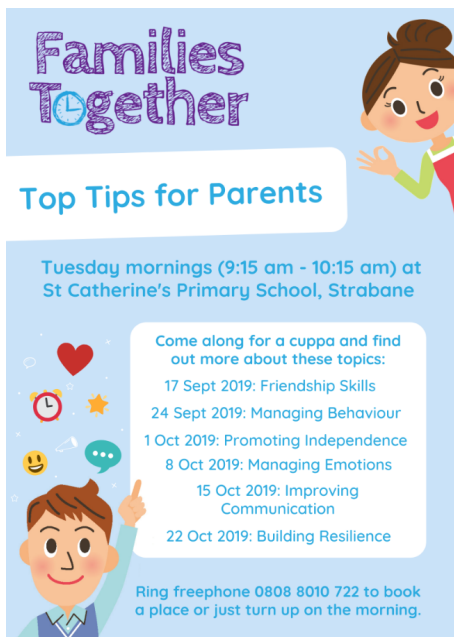
Breakfast Club begins at 8.20a.m. Children attending Breakfast Club are supervised in the Dining Hall until 8.50a.m. **Before 8.20a.m. there is no supervision.** Staff may be in school but cannot take responsibility for children before this time.

Playground areas are supervised from 8.50a.m.

If it is raining when the children are arriving at school, they should go into the Dining Hall, where they will be supervised.

Children coming in through Gate 1 use the entrance just past the Junior Outdoor Play area.

Children coming in through Gate 3 use the Main Front Door.



Families Together

Top Tips for Parents

Tuesday mornings (9:15 am - 10:15 am) at St Catherine's Primary School, Strabane

Come along for a cuppa and find out more about these topics:

- 17 Sept 2019: Friendship Skills
- 24 Sept 2019: Managing Behaviour
- 1 Oct 2019: Promoting Independence
- 8 Oct 2019: Managing Emotions
- 15 Oct 2019: Improving Communication
- 22 Oct 2019: Building Resilience

Ring freephone 0808 8010 722 to book a place or just turn up on the morning.

Mathletics

Mrs Campbell has completed Mathletics registration. It is now available to **all** pupils. Please encourage your child/ren to use this resource as a fun way of improving their mathematical skills and knowledge.



Student Council, Playground Pals & Eco Team

These are areas of support that we encourage pupils to develop leadership skills through. They are very important roles in the school as those who are lucky enough to get elected can be the voice for their classmates at meetings.

Applications for Student Council and Playground Pals closed on Tuesday 10th September. The Eco Team application opportunity opened today. Please encourage your child to take part.

Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA)

We continue on our RRSA journey with renewed motivation this year. We now have a team of ambassadors to support Mrs Sproule. The team held their first meeting on Wednesday.

As a way to get to know the UNCRC Rights that children *all across the world* are entitled to (even if they don't always get them!!) we focus on a right each month. In school it is talked about at assembly and in classes. Ask your children about this.

Attached is a 'Youth-Friendly' version of the UNCRC which you might like to display at home.



Right of the Month

September

Article 7

Every child has the right to a name and a nationality.

"I'VE GOT RIGHTS!"



SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD In Youth-Friendly Language

1 Everyone under 18 has these rights.

2 ALL CHILDREN have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor.



3 When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

4 The government has a responsibility to make sure your rights are protected. They must help your family to protect your rights and create an environment where you can grow and reach your potential.

5 Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected.

6 You have the right to be alive.

7 You have the right to a name, and this should be officially recognized by the government. You have the right to a nationality (to belong to a country).

8 You have the right to an identity – an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you.

9 You have the right to live with your parent(s), unless it is bad for you. You have the right to live with a **FAMILY** that cares for you.

10 If you live in a different country than your parents do, you have the right to be together in the same place.

11 You have the right to be protected from kidnapping.



12 You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

13 You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.

14 You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

15 You have the right to choose your own friends and join or set up groups, as long as it isn't harmful to others.

17 You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.

18 You have the right to be raised by your parent(s) if possible.

19 You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

20 You have the right to special care and help if you cannot live with your parents.



21 You have the right to care and protection if you are adopted or in foster care.

22 You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country), as well as all the rights in this Convention.

23 You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability, as well as all the rights in this Convention, so that you can live a full life.



24 You have the right to the best **HEALTH** care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.

25 If you live in care or in other situations away from home, you have the right to have these living arrangements looked at regularly to see if they are the most appropriate.



26 You have the right to **HELP** from the government if you are poor or in need.

27 You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things other kids can do.

28 You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.



29 Your **EDUCATION** should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should

30 You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion – or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

31 You have the right to play and rest.



32 You have the right to protection from work that harms you, and is bad for your health and education. If you work, you have the right to be safe and paid fairly.

33 You have the right to protection from harmful drugs and from the drug trade.

34 You have the right to be free from sexual abuse.

35 No one is allowed to kidnap or sell you.

36 You have the right to protection from any kind of exploitation (being taken advantage of).

37 No one is allowed to punish you in a cruel or harmful way.

38 You have the right to **PROTECTION** and freedom from war. Children under 15 cannot be forced to go into the army or take part in war.

39 You have the right to help if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

40 You have the right to legal help and fair treatment in the justice system that respects your rights.

41 If the laws of your country provide better protection of your rights than the articles in this Convention, those laws should apply.



42 You have the right to know your rights! Adults should know about these rights and help you learn about them, too.



43 to 54 These articles explain how governments and international organizations like SOS Children's Villages and UNICEF will work to ensure children are protected.

SOS Children's Villages thanks UNICEF for kindly permitting the use of their youth-friendly text for this educational poster.

unicef

For more information visit
www.sos-childrensvillages.org