

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA  
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

June 4 2021

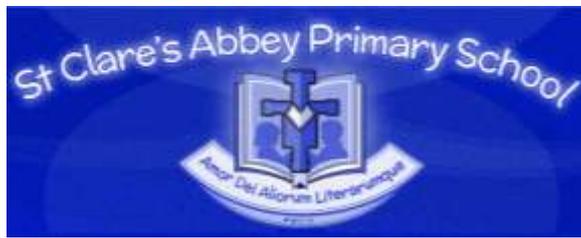
Good morning everyone,

We have had a lovely week in school and are working hard to make the most of the sunshine, whilst using these last few weeks to consolidate learning, never has it been more important, given the two periods of school closure that your children have experienced due to Covid 19. Please see news below:

1) I have analysed recently completed test results and can see gains made since October's assessments. It is such a pity that we had the second period of 'Lockdown' from January to Easter as it has inevitably impacted on progress for the majority of children. I know that you, our parents worked so hard, but obviously home learning rarely equates with face to face teaching. I do reiterate however, what I said at the start of this school year, that without your input, we could have been facing a really big problem.

Our teachers are very tuned into what needs to be done to make further gains for each child and over the next few weeks they will be scrutinising data for their outgoing class to make the most of June with these children and also will be looking at the profiles of pupils in their new classes for September to modify our standard teaching plans at the start of the new year. I tell you all this because you may be concerned about your child's results, but please look at them within the context of two lengthy periods of absence from school. Trust in our staff, work with us, follow the tips provided in your child's school report and we will get there, but it is going to take time.

2) We will be hosting a DE funded Summer school for 1 week beginning Thursday 1st July and ending on Wednesday 7th July. We can facilitate 90 pupils and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The emphasis will be on well-being and it will be open to all pupils currently in P1 - P6. Details and an application form will be posted on the school website at 5pm on Monday evening ( 7th June) which should be returned via email to bdowney378@c2kni.net or hand delivered.



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3) I remind you that our Sponsored walk will take place next week- classes will be allocated times and days when we see how the weather is unfolding- watch out on your child's Seesaw journal, so that you can ensure that he/she is dressed appropriately in shorts/ T shirts/ tracksuits etc- these can be pupils' non- uniform clothes. I know that we have set a very ambitious financial target and appreciate that we may not come close to achieving that, but we will aim high and will appreciate every penny that we receive.

4) I am aware that the June E safety newsletter has been sent out this week on Seesaw. I know how hard it can be to find time to read it, but I believe that it is the most important piece of communication that we send you. I am dealing with so many instances of inappropriate use of technology among our children. They are very vulnerable and their exposure worries me immensely. On the flip side, I know the value that ICT is adding to our children's lives - so how do we balance everything? We are stringent with our filtering measures and we need parents to be the same and I know from speaking to endless parents that their biggest challenge is lack of knowledge- so PLEASE read this each month and stay on top of things.

5) Finally June is the month in which we honour the Sacred Heart. Our children have been praying and singing each day accordingly, please chat to them about this. They are so reverent!

I wish you and your families a lovely weekend, hopefully with continued sunshine.

Yours in partnership,

Mrs Monaghan