

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

8 October 2021

Good morning Parents,

I hope that you are well. We all felt the arrival of Autumn this week and it was lovely to see the children starting to 'wrap up' in their warmer clothes. A few children are coming to school without coats. I remind you that they actually spend quite a bit of time outdoors each day, so please ensure that they take one each day from this point onwards.

*Some updates:*

**Sacramental Dates:**

First Confession- Thursday 10th March @ 1.30- venue to be decided, hopefully St Mary's Church.

First Holy Communion- Saturday 14th May @11.30 Cathedral/ St Mary's Church TBC

**Confirmation- Friday 6 May 6pm in Cathedral.**

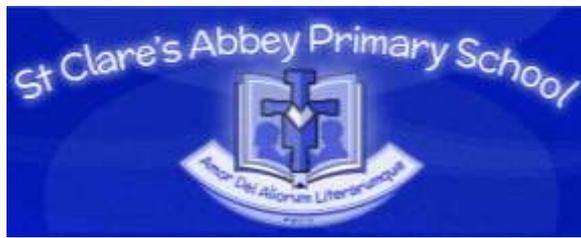
We look forward to helping you, the parents prepare your children for these milestones in their lives. Please begin to talk to them and pray with them about the sacrament that they will receive and given that the churches are gradually returning to 'normal' please take your child either to Mass or to the church for regular visits. The preparation cannot be left to the weeks before the sacrament, or they will mean very little.

**Parent Teacher Meetings- P1 - P7 Pupils.**

**These will take place in the week commencing 18th October**, please watch out for details of your 10 minute appointment. These will be posted on Seesaw. Parents are asked to wear a mask when they enter the school building. If any parent is not able to do this a telephone meeting can be arranged upon request.

**Seesaw:**

I have been tapping into Seesaw each week and can see the wonderful things being shared with you. I can imagine that it is lovely to receive these updates- 'a picture paints a thousand words!' **The teachers are posting pieces of mark that has been marked or recordings/photos relating to learning that has taken place. This is being done so that you the parents can be part of this 'Feedback' process and reinforce the learning with your children. I can see that an increasing**



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA

Phone: (028) 3026 2175

number of parents are SEEING the posts, however only a tiny number are responding. We need you to work with us on this as the teacher's work takes a lot of time when they are posting for

each child, however if it is not being followed up at home, it is not achieving anything. **Please respond to the teacher, or even better ask your child to make a response.**

Research has shown that education works best when home school and child are working to the same agenda- this allows a perfect opportunity.

### **Halloween Celebrations.**

**We will have Halloween dress up day on Friday 22nd October. We can't wait as we missed it last year!!**

And finally,

I conclude by sharing the fact that **Monday 4th marked the Feast Day of St Francis**. He is a very special saint for our school as he was St Clare's 'Best Friend'. He was the original Eco Warrior and has inspired the Eco work that we do in school. We spoke a lot about him in school this week, especially the older pupils.

We love his prayer opposite and take inspiration from it.

My best wishes to you all.

*Mrs Monaghan*