



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

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Principal's update 10/2/23

Dear parents,

Thank you for supporting our 'Red Day' Fundraiser, whilst the money has not been counted yet, the school council has reliably informed me that they got 'lots of money!!' NSPCC will be visiting school after the mid-term break to work with our senior classes so we plan to make a donation to their fantastic 'Childline' service from the proceeds.

This week marks the half-way mark of the parental paired reading programme organised by Mrs Donnelly and involving so many of you. I urge you to reflect on how much you have achieved to date with it and hope that you can really commit to it for the remaining weeks, prior to sending your completed booklet into Mrs Donnelly. This really is a fantastic initiative when used properly. I am really looking forward to seeing the outcomes.

I remind parents that we will have no school next week and will reopen on Monday 20th. On Tuesday 21st I remind parents once more that school will not open until 12pm due to teachers being involved in industrial action/strike. Parents are asked to book dinners today if they wish them for Tuesday 21st and have not already done so.

We had a lovely visitor in school today, **Mrs Begley**, mother of Hannah, Lorcan and Meabh. She is the **Biodiversity officer** for NMDC and made a wonderful presentation to the children at assembly. Her work is very close to our hearts, given that St Francis, the patron saint of environmentalists, is one of our school's very special founding saints. We thank her for her time today and really enjoyed all that she shared with us.

Finally, although there was lots happening today, the day really belonged to Mr Digney. Today was his final day in our school prior to taking up his new role as Vice Principal in St Patrick's PS Cullyhanna. He has been a fabulous member of our school since being appointed in 2014. He enjoyed fantastic relationships with his pupils, their parents and our staff and contributed significantly to the development of our school. We will miss him but are also incredibly proud of him and wish him well in his new professional chapter.

I know that you will join me in wishing him well,

With warmest good wishes to you for a great mid term break,

Mrs Monaghan

