



# MERCY NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2014



[www.mercyprimary.org.uk](http://www.mercyprimary.org.uk)

### October already!

Dear Parents and pupils,  
Goodness me! How time has flown by in my first month at Mercy Primary! All our classes have settled in and are happily at work in their classrooms and have made friends with their new teachers.

I know from the Pupil of the Week Awards and Pupil of the Month Awards that there is a great deal of amazing work going on and that lovely manners and great behaviour are present in every class! Just last week, the bus driver who takes our P5 and P6 girls swimming, told me how fantastic they are while travelling up and down to the swimming pool!

It is lovely to meet so many parents at the coffee mornings and in the yard each morning. I am almost getting to know all the names of the girls in each class but I don't think I'd pass the name test just yet! I hope to know all the names by mid-term, so I'd better keep working hard!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Loughran

### School Facebook Page



Our school Facebook page has been set up. Don't forget to like it if you are a Facebook user. We will post school notices and details of school events here. Parent questionnaires will also be posted here.

### Welcome to our new P1 classes!

Our pupils have been photographed for the North Belfast News, Primary One Supplement. They looked wonderful I'm sure you'll agree!



### School Photographs

Our school photographer has taken photographs for you to sample and purchase if required. Many beautiful smiling faces have been captured! Thank you to all the parents who have returned your permission sheets for future reference!

### Parents Teachers Association

We hope to have a meeting on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm. So any parents who are interested in joining the PTA please come along. It is a great opportunity to get involved in some of the events at our school and to help decide how you feel parents can best support Mercy Primary.

### Parent Volunteers Needed:

If you can spare a half hour on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to help decorate the hall for our annual disco and fancy dress parade we would be really delighted! Come along to a short meeting in the hall on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm or call up and give your name to Mrs McDermott or Mrs Hunt.

### Hallow'een Celebration

Our annual Halloween fancy dress parade will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, children are asked to come to school in fancy dress for a morning of fun and excitement! The cost is £1.00. **School will close early at 2pm.**



### Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent teacher interviews will take place on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** for most classes. Children will not be at school that day. Appointment times will be forwarded to parents shortly.

### P3 Finishing Time

We are asking P3 parents to consider a change in the finishing time for P3 pupils. It is proposed that P3 children will finish at 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, then go home at 2pm on Thursday and Friday. This is in response to parents who feel that the 2.30 finishing time is difficult to manage if you have more than one child in P1/2, P3 and P4-7. We await the results of parent consultation.

### After Schools Clubs

Our range of after schools clubs is increasing to include Chess, Spanish, Computers & i-pads, Multi Sports, Mini-Games, Gymfit (Zumba) and Tiny Tennis. Make sure your daughter's name is registered early for a club as places may be limited. (*Separate letter to follow*).

### Mercy Day Service

Thank you to Fr Gareth who joined us on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September as we celebrated Mercy day. He celebrated a lovely service and very much enjoyed meeting the P3-P7 pupils from Mercy Primary.

### Curriculum Meetings



Curriculum meetings will continue over the next few weeks as class teachers explain the learning that takes place in the school year. Primary 4 meetings will also hold some important information about First Holy Communion.

### Nut Free Zone



Parents, we are a nut free zone. This means that birthday treats are restricted. We **cannot give out birthday cake** in school. If you desire, only 'Haribo' sweets may be sent in to share. We thank you for your understanding in this matter as it is lifesaving.

### School Council

Our school council members have been working hard completing a healthy break survey. We hope to find out the results of this soon. The council will be recommending some new healthy options for our break time snack!

### Primary 7 Sports Day

P7 pupils had a fantastic day at our Lord Mayor Nichola Mallon's sports day at the Mary Peter's Track on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Each participant received a medal for their participation and had a great day out!

### Brown Day Collection!

One of our parents, Miss McGrath is travelling to Cambodia to work with children in schools. She is bringing a range of equipment and resources with her. To support this we are having a 'Brown Day' bring all your brown coins to school day. We all have little collections of 1p and 2p coins hiding about our homes. Please send in any brown coins and even silver ones too on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Remember each little penny adds up!

## Dates for Your Diary

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October** - Brown day collection for Cambodia

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** at 5pm PTA meeting.

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** at 2.30pm (Decorate the Hall for Hallow'een Disco.)

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** - Hallow'een Disco

**Friday 24<sup>h</sup> Oct** - School Closed

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** - (Parent interviews)

### Mid-Term Holidays

School closed for a week

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October** - **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**School Re-Opens** - **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**



*Governors, staff and pupils at Mercy Primary School offer our deepest sympathy to the Mercy Sisters, Families and Friends of Sister Frances and Sister Marie.*

*May God welcome them into his arms for they were angels on earth.*