

SMSG Newsletter 30th January 2026

Happy St Brigid's Day - Sunday 1st February

Grandparents Day

Once again we had an amazing Grandparents Day here in Mary's & Gerard's. We were so pleased to welcome so many grandparents back to the school for their annual visit. It was also great to meet our new grandparents! We had put so much preparation into today; we hope all our grandparents felt welcomed and appreciated on their visit today.

Thank you to the teachers for their commitment to preparing the pupils for this event. Well done to our classes who made the day so fantastic. Thank you to our 1st Class parents for their help in the hall and to all our families for bringing cakes for the refreshments.

January is Reading Month

Let's all try to keep up the good reading habits that we began in January. We can all think about spending less time on our phones as adults, modelling good habits for children. Reading each day and having good books easily accessible helps to build these habits. We notice the benefits of a weekly trip to the library to ensure that children can find books that interest them. If you are buying books or presents; please support our local bookshops and independent booksellers. "Halfway up the Stairs" in Greystones is a great shop for children's books.

Attendance

Our attendance rate for this month was 93%. It is a drop from Term 1. Every day in school counts. This message has been reinforced through the ongoing national attendance drive. We appreciate that your child cannot come to school if they are unwell. We will continue to highlight the fact that taking time out of school for holidays has a negative impact on your child's progress. Please do not book holidays during term time. Thank you for your support in this regard.

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Walk On Wednesday

Well done to our pupils for reaching a 68% success rate this month! The weather was not on our side and to reach this level was fantastic. Hopefully Spring will be kinder and we will all keep up walking to and from school/ to and from the Bog Meadow for park and stride.

Car Park; Polite Reminder that we need to address a few issues...

There have been several concerns expressed recently about parking in the Church Car park. Can I please ask that we respect the safety of our pupils as a priority in the car park?

- Please do not park in the teachers' side of the car at any time. We need these spaces for staff at all times!
- Please do not drop off at the gate; please park and accompany your child to the gate on foot.
- Please do not park 3 abreast (teachers line of cars + 2 additional lines) in the car park; it is dangerous and causes hold ups.

Walking to school is the best way to start your child's day. The Bog Meadow car park is a great alternative to the church car park.

I appreciate how the vast majority of our parents are highly respectful of their fellow parents in the car park. Thank you for your support in this regard. Let's all respect our pupils' safety and our fellow members of our school community by using this space responsibly.

Local Interest

A Message from Aideen Green, Parish Coordinator:

The "Coffee and Connect " meeting for this month takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday 31st January in the Church and will focus on ADHD. Ronan Johnson is the first speaker, who has much experience in working with stress and anxiety with adults and adolescents in this area.

Please go to the website for photos from this week: www.enniskerryns.ie

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Dates for the diary

2nd February: Bank Holiday. School closed

February 17th : Pupils' Art Exhibition in school hall

Thursday 19th & Friday 20th February: School Closure-Mid-Term Break

4th March: School Closure for staff training

March 26th @ 11a.m. : Confirmation Service

Sunday 19th April @ 11: First Penance (First Confession) for 2nd Class

Saturday 9th May @ 11a.m. : First Communion Day

27th May: School Closure for staff training

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