

Friday 25th February 2022



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Parent/Teacher Interviews: Thank you to all the parents/guardians who took the phone call from the class teacher to discuss your child's progress relating to academic and pastoral matters. We hope that any issues/concerns raised regarding attendance, punctuality, homework, behaviour etc. were addressed. Unfortunately, some teachers were unable to contact some parents for the phone call. Those teachers will be organising another day/time with you (if they have not already done so) for this conversation to take place. We would also remind you that the conversations/ phone calls between the teacher and parent should never be recorded.

Freckle: We are really encouraged with the interest and effort shown this week with our new online Numeracy resource – Freckle. The Primary 4-7 boys are really loving this resource and we are very confident that it will have a very positive impact on their Numeracy skills.

Accelerated Reader: This resource continues to promote excellent improvements for the boys with their reading. We notice a very obvious correlation between the boys who do really well with their Literacy and the amount of words they read in AR. Like with Freckle, we ask parents/guardians to encourage their children to put in a great effort with AR.

RTE Radio 1 Interview: Mr McArevey was invited on to the The Ryan Tubridy RTE Radio 1 Show yesterday, Thursday 24th February, to talk about the film, Young Plato. You can hear the full interview using the following link: <https://www.rte.ie/radio/radio1/clips/22066698/>



Kevin McArevey - Young Plato



Family Fund: Urgently SEEKING APPLICATIONS FROM FAMILIES. We're now urging families living on low incomes in Northern Ireland, with disabled or seriously ill children or young people aged 17 and under, to apply for urgent grant support for essential items, to see them through these final winter months. The Minister of Health, Robin Swann MLA, has provided Family Fund with £500,000 of additional funding to support approximately 1000 more families facing challenging fuel and energy costs, post-pandemic financial and wider pressures and disproportionate extra costs associated with raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person. This extra grant support will provide families with essential items, including children's clothing; white goods such as a cooker, fridge or freezer; sensory or specialist play equipment or technology for children and young people, and assistance with much needed family breaks. Over 80% of families with disabled children in Northern Ireland, who responded to a recent survey by Family Fund, reported being financially worse-off, compared to before the pandemic. Families are asked to apply for a Family Fund grant before the start of March, by visiting Grants: <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/grants-northern-ireland>

Looking Ahead:

- Ash Wednesday Service** (P4-7) on 2nd March 11.00am in school.
- St. Patrick's Holidays:** Pupils have an early finish (11.00am) on Tuesday 15th March and return on Monday 21st March 2022.
- Confirmation:** P7H R20 on Thursday 10th March & P7B R21 on Fri 11th March 2022 (in Holy Cross Church @ 11.00am).
- P4 First Confession** (2 classes) Tuesday 5th April @ 11.00am in school.
- P3 First Confession** (2 classes) Thursday 7th April @ 11.00am in school.
- Easter Holidays:** Pupil will finish early on Thursday 14th April (P1-3 at 11.45am and P4-7 @ 12.00noon) & return on Monday 25th April 2022.
- First Holy Communion:** P4W (Tuesday 24th May) & P4L (Wednesday 25th May) in Holy Cross Church @ 11.00am.

Thanks for your continued support.

Mr McArevey Mr Curran
(Principal) (Vice Principal)