**St Patrick’s Primary School**

13 Castlewellan Road, Ballymaghery, Hilltown, BT34 5UY

Principal: Mrs Geraldine Smith

Phone: (028) 406 30061

Email: info@stpatricks.hilltown.ni.sch.uk

Web: www.stpatrickspshilltown.com

***Progress Through Partnership***

4th February 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,
Already we find ourselves at the last week of the first half of Term 2, with our midterm break around the corner next week!  We have been very busy in all aspects of the curriculum and want to congratulate all those children who have been completing their classwork and homework to the highest standard they can, showing lovely manners and respect to each other and as well as to the adults in our school, taking pride in their appearance in wearing their school uniform on the correct days, and always being fine representatives of St Patrick’s PS! Please continue to support your children in reading and bringing their reading and library books to school every day. Your support in helping your child is always appreciated and your adherence to our Parent School Agreement is what makes for a successful school! Thank you!

**Internet Safety and Children’s Mental Health Week**
This week we are focusing on safe and correct use of the internet and children's mental health. Very relevant and interlinked themes. Your children will be taking part in a variety of workshops throughout this week and we ask that you monitor very closely what your child is doing online.
We will be hosting an internet safety workshop for parents later this year and look forward to seeing you attend. Please encourage your child to tell you about the activities they are doing in school.

**Literacy and Numeracy Books**
Literacy and Numeracy books are being sent home on Monday evening for you to see how and what your child is learning in school. Please return both books on Tuesday, signed and dated by you on the last completed page of work.  Feel free to write a positive comment if you wish to. Please discuss any queries with the class teacher at a suitable time. Teachers cannot take or make calls during the teaching day. You will need to take time to browse and discuss the learning in your child's books, therefore there will only be reading homework on Monday night.

**Transfer to Post Primary in Year 8 Enrolment Dates**

Year 8 admissions portal opened at 12 noon on Tuesday 30th January and will close at 12 noon on 22nd February 2024. Please look at the notification on our school website for further information and contact the school office if you would like to meet to discuss any aspect of this process.

**Primary 4 First Penance**

We would like to send blessings to the children in Primary 4 who will be receiving the sacrament of First Penance this Wednesday. Primary 4 parents should attend their children’s First Penance Service, commencing at 1:30pm on Wednesday 7th February. A letter was sent home with relevant information last week.

**Altar Servers**

Well done to the children who started altar server training this week and to those who returned their completed forms. A rota for training has been set up and soon we will have teams of altar servers ready to help in our church!

**Hurling Blitz in Burren**

Congratulations to our hurlers who played several games on Friday in a hurling blitz and are now through to the next round which will be played this Friday in Downpatrick. Good luck boys!

Please read the **Week at a Glance** attached to this notification for this week’s events.

Kind regards

Geraldine Smith

Principal