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Friday 5th January 2024



Welcome Back

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break. It is great to have the boys and girls back to school and to hear all of the exciting stories from their Christmas holidays. We have a very busy half term ahead, at the end of which the teachers will hold their parent/teacher meetings. Keep an eye on our school website and Facebook page for updates and pictures.

Primary One Applications

The EA Connect portal opens for new Primary One admissions (September 2024) on Tuesday 9th January <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/primary-admissions-guide>

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place throughout the week commencing Monday 5th February 2024. School will finish at 1pm for all pupils on Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Thursday 8th and Friday 9th February to accommodate these meetings. These will be face to face meetings and your child's teacher will be in contact to arrange a date and time.

On Wednesday 7th February, school will finish at 11am to enable all staff to attend the Primary 7 Confirmation. There will be no lunches or dinners on this day.

Unfortunately, we cannot run the afterschool's club on this week so refunds will be issued.

Grandparents Day

As part of the Catholic Schools Week, we would like to invite grandparents or someone special to your child to visit our school on Friday 26th January from 9.30am to 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the school assembly hall and grandparents will then have an opportunity to have a walk around the school visiting grandchildren on their way.

Strike Action

There is a planned full day strike action for members of all teaching unions across Northern Ireland on Thursday 18th January 2024. At present we anticipate that school will be closed to pupils on this day, however we will continue to update you on this. Refunds for any afterschool clubs will be issued.

Brighter Futures Grant

We are delighted to have received £500 through the Brighter Futures Grants Programme. This donation will go towards ICT equipment for the school.



Primary 7 Swimming Lessons

The Primary 7 pupils will begin swimming lessons at Larne Leisure Centre on Thursday 11th January for a 10-week period. There will be a £5.00 charge payable weekly to cover the cost of the swimming lessons and transport to and from the Leisure Centre. This should be paid via ParentPay and you may book for the entire ten weeks in advance or book weekly.

All pupils are expected to participate as this is part of the PE area of the Northern Ireland curriculum. As well as allowing children to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in swimming, it also allows opportunities for children to experience a sense of fun, enjoyment and achievement.

Primary 7 – Trip to Parliament Buildings, Stormont

On Friday 12th January 2024 the Primary 7 pupils will be heading to Parliament Buildings, Stormont for a presentation and tour. The bus will leave school at 9.15am and return about 12.30pm. There will be no charge for this trip. Dinners/Lunches as normal in school. Please give permission for your child to attend this trip using the message sent on the School Messaging App.

First Confession, Holy Communion and Confirmation Dates 2024

Please note the confirmed dates for sacraments in 2024:

Monday 29th January – Primary 7 Service of Light at 7pm in St MacNissi's Church

Wednesday 7th February – Primary 7 Confirmation at 12 noon in St MacNissi's Church

Wednesday 28th February – Primary 3 First Confession at 1.30pm in St MacNissi's Church

Saturday 11th May – Primary 4 First Holy Communion at 11am in St MacNissi's Church



Thank you to all the parents who supported PTA with the Christmas activities for the pupils and the Christmas raffle. A fantastic amount of £1713 was raised and will be used to purchase new interactive whiteboards for our classrooms.

Our next fundraiser will take place on Thursday 1st February with a Table Quiz in the Bodega at 8pm – any donations for ballot prizes will be appreciated and can be left into the school office.

On Friday 9th February there will be a PTA '**Wear What You Love Day**' and pupils will be asked to donate £1 towards our fundraising for the whiteboards.

Afterschool Clubs

We plan carefully to ensure we provide a wide range of fun and engaging afterschool clubs.

To make the clubs feasible we need to have sufficient numbers. If your child has not signed up for any of our clubs, we would encourage you to have a look below to see what we are offering. There are still spaces available and it is a great way to make new friends, learn a new skill or try a new sport!

Monday: **Football Club** with Larne FC coaching staff

Tuesday: **Max Coding** – introducing kids to coding through games and challenges. See their website: www.max-go.co.uk/coding

Wednesday: **Uplift Performing Arts** – aiming to help pupils with confidence and self-esteem by using the three main disciplines of performing arts – dance, vocals and stagecraft.

Thursday: **Construction Club** for Primary 1 and 2 – fun with lego, duplo, meccano etc
Irish Dancing Fun with Rowena for Primary 3 to 7 – no experience needed, aiming to build and develop the fundamentals of Irish dancing while having fun and developing teamwork skills.

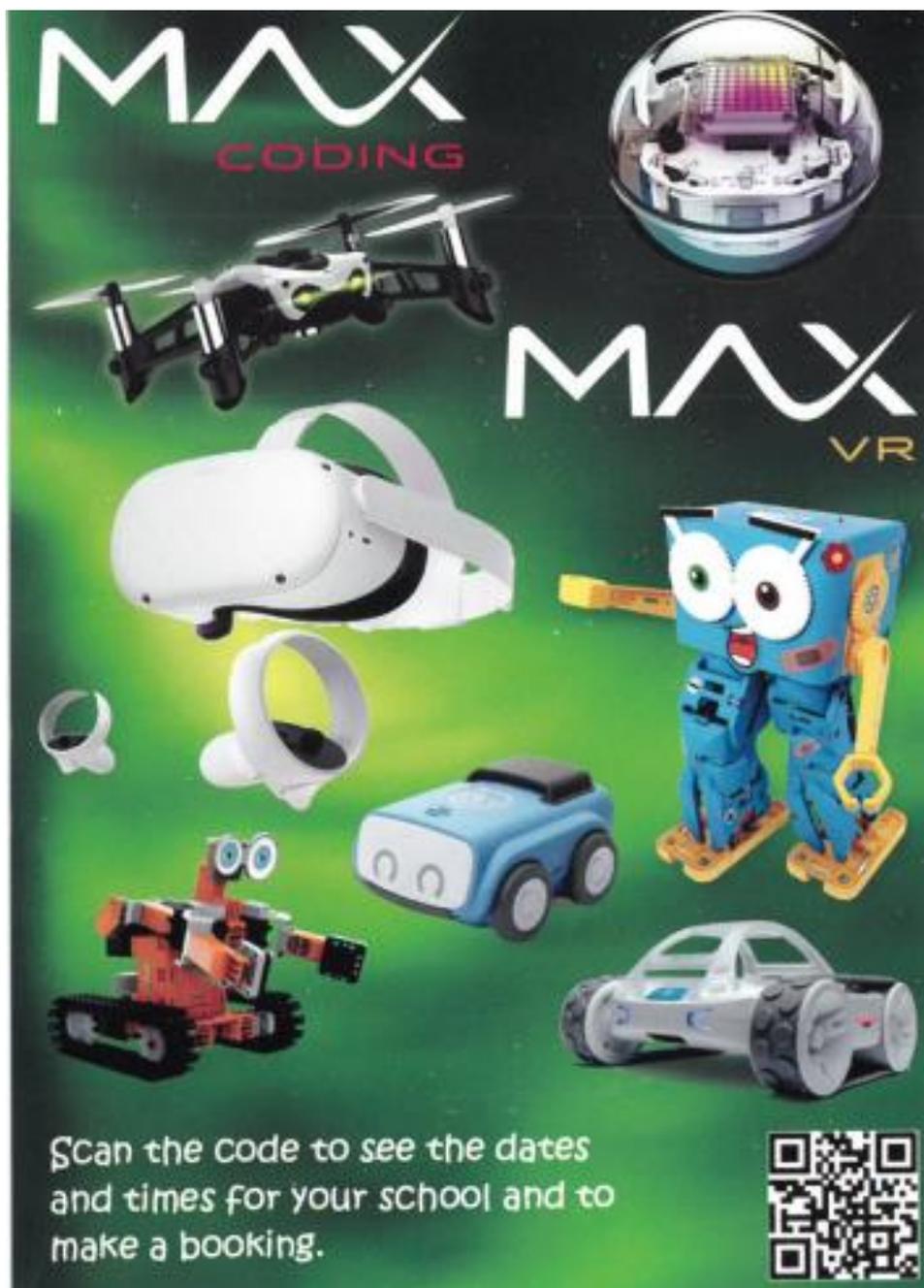
Friday: **Friday Fun Club** for Primary 1 to Primary 7 – time to let the pupils unwind on a Friday afternoon with board games, arts and crafts, music, reading etc

Hockey Club for Primary 5 to Primary 7 – with Larne Ladies Hockey Club coaching staff.

After school clubs – all clubs will begin week commencing Monday 8th January 2024. Booking/Payments can be made for all clubs on ParentPay except for the Max Coding Club – see leaflet below.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2.00 – 3.00pm	Football Club with Larne FC coach	Max Coding Club	Uplift Performing Arts	Construction Club	Friday Fun Club (2pm to 3pm)
Classes:	(P1 and P2)	(P1 and P2)	(P1 and P2)	(P1 and P2)	(P1 to P7)
Cost and Payment	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	See leaflet below for booking details (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)
Places available:	15	23	15	15	20
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.00 – 4.00pm	Football Club with Larne FC coach	Max Coding Club	Uplift Performing Arts	Irish Dancing Fun with Rowena (no experience needed)	Hockey Club (2pm to 3pm)
Classes:	(P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7)	(P5, P6 and P7)			
Cost and Payment	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	See leaflet below for booking details (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)	ParentPay £3.00 per session (4-week block)
Places available:	30	22	25	15	15
Dates:	Week 1: 08.01.24 Week 2: 15.01.24 Week 3: 22.01.24 Week 4: 29.01.24	Week 1: 09.01.24 Week 2: 16.01.24 Week 3: 23.01.24 Week 4: 30.01.24	Week 1: 10.01.24 Week 2: 17.01.24 Week 3: 24.01.24 Week 4: 31.01.24	Week 1: 11.01.24 Week 2: 18.01.24 Week 3: 25.01.24 Week 4: 01.02.24	Week 1: 12.01.24 Week 2: 19.01.24 Week 3: 26.01.24 Week 4: 02.02.24

Max Coding QR Code for booking Afterschool Club:



The graphic features a green background with various technology-related items. At the top left is the 'MAX CODING' logo, with 'MAX' in white and 'CODING' in red. To its right is a transparent sphere containing a colorful, glowing internal structure. Below these are a white drone, a white VR headset, a blue robot with large eyes and yellow arms, a blue car-like robot, an orange tracked robot, and a white car-like robot. The 'MAX VR' logo is positioned in the upper right. At the bottom left, there is a text box with a QR code to its right.

Scan the code to see the dates
and times for your school and to
make a booking.

Dates for
your Diary 

January 2024

Thursday 11th January – Primary 7 – Swimming lessons begin at Larne Leisure Centre

Friday 12th January – Primary 7 – Trip to Parliament Building, Stormont

Friday 12th January – Primary 6 – Twinning Celebrations at YMCA

Tuesday 16th January – Primary 5 – Visit to Larne Library

Wednesday 17th January – Primary 7 – Visit to Larne Library

Sunday 21st January – Saturday 27th January – Catholic Schools Week

Monday 22nd January – School Mass for Primary 1 to Primary 7 at 10am

Thursday 25th January – Primary 4 – Special Assembly at 1.15pm

Thursday 25th January – Primary 7 – Girls Indoor 7's Football Tournament

Friday 26th January – Grandparents Day – Invite to school - 9.30am to 10.30am

Monday 29th January – Primary 7 Service of Light at 7pm in St MacNissi's Church

February 2024

Thursday 1st February – Primary 7 – Boys Indoor Football Tournament

Thursday 1st February – PTA Table Quiz in the Bodega at 8pm

Friday 2nd February – NSPCC – Number Day - £1 donation to NSPCC

Friday 2nd February – Schools Hurling Competition

Monday 5th February – 1pm finish for Parent/Teacher meetings

Tuesday 6th February – 1pm finish for Parent/Teacher meetings

Wednesday 7th February – 11am finish for all pupils – Primary 7 Confirmation

Wednesday 7th February – Primary 7 – Sacrament of Confirmation, 12 noon in St MacNissi's Church

Thursday 8th February – 1pm finish for Parent/Teacher meetings

Friday 9th February – 1pm finish for Parent/Teacher meetings

Friday 9th February – PTA Wear What You Love Day - £1 donation

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February – Half Term Break

Sunday 25th February – School Choir – Peace Proms at the SSE Arena 7pm

Wednesday 28th February – Primary 3 – Sacrament of First Confession at 1.30pm

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Should you have concerns about your own or another child inside or outside of school, this should be reported in the first instance to Mr Oakes (DT) or in his absence Mrs O'Broin (DDT).

If you have immediate concerns outside school time (weekends, holidays, evenings) do not hesitate to call the Referral Gateway Team on **0300 1234 333** or **028 9442 4459** or the PSNI Central Referral Unit on **028 9025 9299** or **101 Ext 30299**.

In St. MacNissi's, we aim to work closely with parents/guardians in supporting all aspects of their child's development and well-being. Any concerns a parent may have will be taken seriously and dealt with in a professional and confidential manner. Should you have a safeguarding concern, please follow the steps below.

I have a concern about my child/a child's safety



I can speak to the class teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mr Oakes) or the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs O'Broin)



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the chair of the Board of Governors – Mrs I Culleton (who can be contacted c/o the school office)



If I am still concerned, I can contact the NI Public Services Ombudsman
Tel: 0800 343 424

Nut Allergies

We have several children in school who suffer from nut and other allergies. It is important that there is strict avoidance to this food group in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. Consequently, we must ask that you do not send nuts or nut products into school (either for healthy break or packed lunch). This includes peanut paste, Nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts such as cereals and muesli bars. This is particularly relevant now that children are eating lunches in their classrooms. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Some people, especially those allergic to peanuts, may have allergic reactions after eating lupin or foods containing ingredients from lupin.

Our school catering team have requested that parents advise if their child has an allergy related to this.



EAT SMART WITH THE LUNCH BUNCH

ea catering
WEEK 3

WEEK COMMENCING:
SEP 11, OCT 9, NOV 6,
DEC 4, JAN 8, FEB 5

MONDAY

MAIN COURSES

Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers

Or

Mighty Mac 'n' Cheese with Garlic Bread Slice

SIDES

Baked Beans/Coleslaw

Chipped Potatoes/Mashed Potatoes

DESSERT

Artic Roll with Peaches & Pears

TUESDAY

MAIN COURSES

Italian Beef with Crusty Roll

Or

Pepperoni/Margherita Pizza

SIDES

Garden Peas/Salad

Homemade Diced Potatoes

DESSERT

Fresh Fruit Pot

WEDNESDAY

MAIN COURSES

Roast Chicken

Or

Savoury Mince

SIDES

Carrot & Parsnip/Cauliflower Cheese

Mashed Potatoes/Oven Roast Potato

DESSERT

Melon Wedge

THURSDAY

MAIN COURSES

Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Naan Bread

Or

Steak Burger in a Bap & Cheese

SIDES

Steamed Rice/Salad

DESSERT

Lemon Drizzle Cake & Custard

FRIDAY

MAIN COURSES

Tasty Pork Sausages with Tomato Ketchup/Gravy

Or

Salt N Chilli Chicken Wrap with Garlic Mayo

SIDES

Mini Corn on the Cob/Spaghetti Hoops

Chipped Potatoes/Mashed Potatoes

DESSERT

Decorated Fairy Cake



With

Johnny McMurray & Davy McDaid

Every Sunday For 6 weeks

Age Groups U8 - U11

Location TBD

Pro Weekly Coaching
Extra Training Session To Improve
Pathway To Elite Teams

Johnny 07709117820

Davy 07517349846

