



16th April 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers.

It has been another busy month here in St Oliver's.

I would like to begin by saying a very special thank you to our brilliant daddies who gave up their Easter Monday to come in and give the school a much needed clean up. It really was a fabulous effort from all those involved, and it has made such a difference already.

I have set up our new Facebook page and it will be updated regularly along with the website on all that is going on so make sure and visit it to have a look.

Here is some important information and reminders for this month.

Holy Sacraments:

Our Y4 children received the sacrament of First Penance in beautiful service in St Oliver's Church Dorsey. Our Y6/7 children came along to sing in the choir.

First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 11th May at 11pm

Niamh in Y4 is going to be travelling all the way to Lourdes for her very special Communion. We will be sending all our prayers and very best wishes with her and look forward to hearing all about it when she comes home.



The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Thursday 25th April in Cullyhanna at 11am.

Trocaire

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our non-uniform day for Trocaire. £45 was raised in total.



Friends of St Oliver's Parent support group

Thank you to all the parents who came along to our first meeting to re-establish the committee. We have plenty of fundraising ideas and appreciate your support with this.

The Easter raffle raised a fantastic £583.10. I'm sure the prize winners were delighted with their hampers. Thank you to Patrick's mum Bernie for putting these together.

Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair is coming on 18th to 25th April. A separate letter will be sent out with the arrangements for this.

ECO Club

Our Eco-club with Michael McIlroy has started again. Michael comes in every Tuesday and is going to be working with the children planting vegetables in our polytunnel and flower boxes around the school.

Cash for Clobber

We are collecting old clothes for 'Cash for Clobber'. Now is a good time to get rid of all those winter clothes ready for the sunnier weather. Please fill bags of unwanted clothes/ shoes/ curtains and anything else you may want to get rid of and leave them into school to be collected. We have extended the date to Thursday 25th April.



Teaching and Learning:

Accelerated Reading and Mathletics

Mathletics

On the 12th of April we held a special awards assembly. As well as our Pupil of the Week and Dinner Hall awards, certificates and prizes were presented to children for their achievements in Accelerated Reading and Mathletics. Have a look at our Website for the prize winners. Remember these programmes are designed to ensure all children can reach their individual targets, regardless of ability, so please encourage them to read and quiz as much as possible.



Tin Whistle continues with children in Years 4-7 – remember tin whistles every Monday!

Ulster GAA & Healthy Kidz

Football coaching and Healthy Kidz continues in all classes on Thursdays and Fridays. Remember to wear PE gear on these days. We hope to have our Sports day on 21st of June.

Pupil Well-Being.

Paws b

Year 6/7 children all really enjoyed taking part in a Mindfulness programme arranged by Aware NI.

Bee Mindful

Mrs Murphy's class will be taking part in a very special programme called 'Me & my feelings' which supports children to develop awareness of their feelings, how feelings show up/feel in our bodies and ways to manage these feelings/regulate our bodies. This will be starting on Tuesday 21st May and there will be 3 sessions.

Reminders!

After School Club

After-School Club for Y1 and 2 continues (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday only at present) at a cost of £2.50 per day. Please book and pay in advance each Friday for the following week.

Dinner Money/Other Payments

Please only send money in on Fridays. The dinner menu is on our school website. Please ensure money is sent in in envelopes clearly marked with the child's name and what the money is for.

Communication

We ask that you contact the school via email info@stolivers.carrickrovaddy.ni.sch.uk in the first instance to leave a message for the relevant staff. No telephone calls will be put through to teachers during teaching time. Staff will also be unable to discuss children with parents during drop off or pick up times.

Attendance and Lateness

As you know, children’s attendance is monitored and reviewed in partnership with the Education Welfare Service. If your child is absent, you must inform the school of a reason for your child’s absence so it can be recorded. You should email or phone the school office (leaving a voice mail) on the first day of your child’s absence.

It is also important that your child comes to school and is picked up on time. Class starts at 8.45am and finished at 1.45 and 2.45. If your child arrives late, this is recorded on their registration certificate and can impact on their overall attendance rate.

Please do not drop off children before 8.30am as there is no supervision before this time.

Healthy Eating

We are continuing to promote healthy eating as part of a healthy lifestyle. Please send a healthy snack and **water only** for your child to drink.



School Holidays/Important Dates this Term

Friday 3 rd and Monday 6 th May Friday 24 th and Monday 27 th May	School Closed Bank Holiday/ Staff Development
25 th April	Confirmation
11 th May	First Communion
11 th June	YR-5 school trip
21 st June	Sports Day
24 th June	Y7 Leavers assembly (Y7 leave after)
28 th June	School finishes – at 12 noon for summer holidays

Thank you for your cooperation on these matters.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs Donaghy