



# MERCY NEWSLETTER



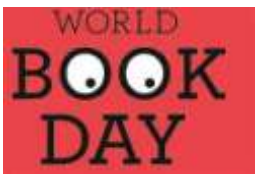
## MARCH

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Dear Parents and Pupils,  
Each month seems to be getting shorter! We have begun Spring with snow showers and cold weather, yet the brighter mornings and evenings give us all a spring in our step! We are now into lent and each class has an Easter Egg draw. Mrs Hunt has made a special Easter Basket ballot for Trocaire, tickets cost 50p.

Come along and join us on 26<sup>th</sup> March for our "Spring into Spring!" active challenge. Miss Costello and Mrs Jackman are planning lots of fun activities for children as well as parents. Lets hope the weather improves!

Mrs Loughran



**World Book Day** is this Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. **Children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character or author.** (They could

even dress up as a Harry Potter "Muggle" in ordinary clothes!) Each class will have a competition to write a book review or draw a picture of their favourite book or author. There will be many prizes and book awards.

### Allen and Ovary

Allen and Ovary, our business reading partners have organised a special visitor to come to our school to celebrate world book day. Professor Leon Litvak is our visitor and we believe he will be entertaining our P5-7 pupils with Charles Dickens drama and rendition from Oliver Twist. We hope our visitor will bring the classic books alive



**Scholastic book fair** is in school this week. Don't forget to bring your £1 book token to spend. The school receives books for our school through the money raised during the book fair.

We appreciate your continued support.

## CALLING ALL PARENTS!!

We are meeting on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** for a PTA meeting. Please come along if you are free. We really want to build up a group of supportive parents/grandparents who can help us to plan activities for the school and fundraise. You can help with as little or as much support as you are able to give.

We hope to have a sponsored activity day later in the month to raise funds for benches and tables to help make a seating area in memory of Sister Frances and Sister Marie.

We would also welcome any keen gardeners, those who could work with wood or help build a garden area within our school grounds. Many hands make light work!



### **Maths Quiz**

Mrs Millar organised a Maths Quiz on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Our young mathematicians gave us a very competitive afternoon of strategy and recall as they used their skills to be the last team standing! It was a great way to end the ½ term.





St Patricks Day Celebration for our pupils will be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015/ Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. (In case of strike action on the 13<sup>th</sup>) Pupils can dress in green to celebrate our Patron Saint!.

### Try it Day

P5 enjoyed a Try it Day at Ballysillan Leisure Centre. The girls got to try seven different activities - hockey, netball, cricket, rowing, camogie, rugby and bokwa. As usual they were very well behaved and were excellent ambassadors for the school. I think they all slept well on Wednesday night!!



### Proposed Industrial Action:

There is a possibility of strike action on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Unison, Unite and teacher unions are balloting on a proposed strike. This may result in the school having to close due to insufficient staff/ lack of supervisory staff. We will keep you informed when we know anything definite.

### INTERNET SAFETY VISIT

We had an internet safety visit by the PSNI on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of February to Primary 6 & 7. It was a very informative and a little frightening to see so many of our pupils admitting to using chat rooms. We hope to have a session for parents next month as so many parents have shown an interest in finding out more about the dangers of social media and how we can protect our children.



### Parent and Pupil Survey

Thank you all for the fantastic response given to our school survey. There is a lot of information to gather and we will publish the results on our web page in May after we have discussed the outcomes with all staff. Overall they show a high level of satisfaction with all aspects of school life. We would ask the one parent who was very unhappy to contact the school.

Primary 6 – Parents are invited to a meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March to discuss extra Maths and Literacy afterschool clubs for pupils and to find out information about the transfer process in year 7.

### Dates for Your Diary



2<sup>nd</sup> March (Mon) Scholastic Book Fair

at school all week!

3<sup>rd</sup> March - Netball match (Downey House)

4<sup>th</sup> March -P7 Inside Out -Holy Cross Boys

5<sup>th</sup> March (Thur) World Book Day-Dress Up

16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March (Mon & Tues) St Patrick's Day **School closed**

20<sup>th</sup> March - P3 First Confession

26<sup>th</sup> March - Spring Fitness Challenge  
Parents welcome to join in in afternoon session!

Easter Holidays begin on  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

**School will close at 12 O'clock on Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> April.**

**School will re-open on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**



