

# In Spires

April 2017

## Assessment

Assessment in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will take place from Monday 24 April until Friday 5 May. Please ensure your child attends school throughout this period.

## School Uniform

As a school we pride ourselves in wearing our beautiful school uniform. It reflects the high standards we aim to achieve in all areas of school life. I would like to remind pupils to wear **plain black** jogging bottoms – those with labels or logos are not acceptable. As we move into a warmer climate (hopefully!) if pupils wear shorts they must either be grey or black in colour.

Our uniform is supplied by Sportique, Cuddy's and Select Sports.

## Digital Leaders

Mr Michael O'Kane from iTeach will hold an assembly on pupils becoming digital leaders. Parents are welcome attend and listen to this talk too.



## Lunchtime

Pupils who have lunch should bring a drink as part of their lunch. Quite a number of children are forgetting and therefore requesting water. This puts additional pressure on lunchtime staff who are very busy supervising and assisting pupils.

## Snack Time

Please remember to send a snack to school with your child. Teachers regularly provide one **at their own cost** to those who forget. However, due to the significant number of children requesting a snack **teachers will no longer** be able to provide one.



## 'Old Clothes'

Please send unwanted trousers or jogging bottoms in to school as we have no spare clothes in case of 'accidents'. Thank you.

## Eco Award



I am delighted to confirm that we have been successful in renewing our Eco-Schools Green Flag. Paul Moore and

Emma O'Hagan were very impressed with our school's work.

Congratulations to all concerned, Miss Crawford, staff and pupils alike, and not forgetting the many parents who helped our school achieve its environmental targets.

The assessors made the following comments about the strengths of our school, evident in the assessment visit:

*"All of the pupils we met in the school were very enthusiastic and knowledgeable, we were particularly impressed with their knowledge on electricity, fossil fuels and birds. The Eco-Code was really well known throughout the school, with everyone well engaged in it. Great school grounds for work on Biodiversity. Well done!"*

## Rights Respecting School



**Article 24:** Every child has the right to the best possible health care, safe water to drink, good food and information to help them stay alive.

Well done to our Rights Respecting Committee for organising a very successful and fun Fairtrade Break. Thank you to P7 for making tasty Fairtrade lemonade.

Wednesday 27 March was World Water Day, our Rights Respecting Committee decided to fundraise to support the work of Toilet Twinning. Thank you to everyone for their efforts on Crazy Hair Day. Almost £200 has been raised to date.

Information on our next fundraiser 'Name the Baby' competition will be sent home next week.

## Sustaining Improvement Inspection

As you are aware we were inspected on 31 January. However, due to Action Short of Strike by teaching unions, the inspector did not have access to all our material or personnel, therefore, the inspection was incomplete. You can view the report on [www.etini.gov.uk](http://www.etini.gov.uk).

## Dates for Your Diary

- Wednesday 5 April P5 Assembly at 9.30 am. Parents/family members welcome.
- Thursday 6 April iTeach digital leaders assembly at 9.15 am  
RSE Parent Meeting at 7.00 pm.
- Friday 7 April P6 Poetry Session in Seamus Heaney's Home Place.
- Wednesday 12 April School Closes 11.30 am – P1, P2 and siblings  
12.00 noon – all other classes.
- Monday 24 April New term begins.  
Assessment begins.
- Wednesday 26 April Rugby at City of Derry Rugby Football Club  
Art facilitator in P5 (Pushkin)
- Thursday 27 April Service of Light at 7.00 pm (some P7 pupils).
- Monday 1 May School Closed – Bank Holiday
- Saturday 6 May First Holy Communion at **10.30 am** (some P4 pupils).



- Thursday 11 May Poetry facilitator in P5 (Pushkin).
- Thursday 18 May Soccer Tournament at Meadowbank.
- Sunday 21 May Confirmation at 3.00 pm (some P7 pupils).
- Wednesday 24 May P3 Assembly at 9.30 am. Parents/family members welcome.



- Thursday 25 May Love for Life Session.
- Friday 26 May &  
Monday 29 May School Closed
- Tuesday 30 May School Closed (Staff Training)

## Updated Website

Please check out our updated website [www.spiresips.org](http://www.spiresips.org). You can download the app or subscribe to email facility so that you receive notifications of latest news/events, etc.



## Old Stamps

Please continue to leave used stamps in the office or send them in your child's folder as these will be forwarded to Guide Dogs for the Blind. It would be appreciated if you could leave a border around the stamp of at least 1 cm. Thank you.