

In Spires

June 2017



We had a fabulous Sports Day at Meadowbank.



P6 pupils engaged in a practical Problem Solving Workshop in Sperrin Integrated College as part of our continued Professional Development Programme.



Staff from the University of Ulster and past pupil, Emma McKee, led Maths Workshops in Key Stage 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed this experience.



The Gaelic team from Gaelscoil an tSeanchai played our team in a friendly game at the beginning of the month.



Congratulations to our Girls' team who were placed second in the South Derry Track and Field Event recently.

Pupil Council

Many thanks to our hard working group. This year they have successfully implemented our Healthy Food Policy and liaised with our school meal providers regarding healthier options, not to mention finalising the menu for Integrated Schools Week. They have also reviewed our Integration Policy and made decisions on new play equipment for Key Stage 2.



Farewell

Farewell to our P7 pupils – we wish them all every success on the next stage of their educational journey and to those families who are leaving; we thank you for your support throughout the past seven years.

Peer Mediation

P6 have completed the peer mediation programme this term. New peer mediators and playground buddies will be in place for the new school year.

Parking

In the interest of the safety of all drivers please refrain from parking on the grass/footpath area immediately outside the school gates. This is restricting the view for all those exiting the school, it is also blocking the pathway for pedestrians.

Our campaign to reduce the speed limit is continuing and we encourage you to drive slowly on the Moneymore Road.

Your support is appreciated.

Keeping Children Safe On-Line

- There have been a few recent concerns about pupils accessing unsuitable material and games via Youtube at home. With mobile technology it is extremely difficult to monitor your child's on-line viewing but please be aware that some of this material is frightening and can have an effect on your child.
- Please also be aware of your child's use of snapchat. Group chats are an excellent way of communicating with friends, however, they can also be used to tease or isolate children.
- The NSPCC has issued a video clip on on-line sharing it can be accessed at www.nspcc.org.uk.



Rights Respecting School

Article 15: Every child has the right to meet with other children and young people.

We recently celebrated 'Friendship Week'. Each class talked about the value of friendship and completed friendship activities.

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.



P7 have been learning Emergency Life Saving Skills through the Heartstart Programme. These skills and the hands-on approach used will give our children the

confidence to cope in a life-threatening emergency.

Sustrans



Ronan, our Sustrans Officer visited P4 and led an informative session on cycling and bike maintenance and safety.

Wear Orange Day – Great Ormond Street Hospital

We had great fun and received a lovely review in the local press. The school raised £600 for this worthy cause. Many thanks to all of you for your support.

Coding Club

Spires Integrated Primary School has its own Coding Club. It is led by a parent, Mrs McCahon. This is an educational program that teaches pupils how to code. In this increasing technological society it will provide pupils with transferable skills which can be utilised across the curriculum and in everyday life. P6 are availing of this currently and it will be offered as an After School Club to P7 in September.

Thank You

- Thank you to all our parent volunteers who accompanied classes on their outings – without your support pupils would be unable to access these educational experiences.
- Thank you to all our staff for their continued hard work and support throughout the school year.

Literacy Support

- Learner Hub – The Empower Project from NRC has provided additional support in Literacy for a number of pupils during the past 2 years. We are delighted that this will continue in September.
- Time to Read – Our volunteers from local business continue to work with some of our P5 pupils on an annual basis. I would like to thank the volunteers for their contribution to the development of the pupils' Reading Skills.

Family Fun Night

Don't forget to support our Parents' Community on Friday 23 June from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm. It will be a fabulous evening!



TEACHING STAFF AT SPIRES - SEPTEMBER 2017

Principal	Mrs Joan Bell
Vice-Principal/P5 Teacher	Mr Ian Cheevers
P1 Teacher	Mrs Aoife Kearney
P2 Teachers (Job Share)	Mrs Cathy Murray (Monday – Wednesday) & Mrs Michelle Bates (Thursday & Friday)
P3 Teacher	Mrs Royanne Griggs
P4 Teacher	Miss Shauneen Henry
P6 Teacher	Miss Karen Crawford
P7 Teacher	Mrs Sheree McConnell-Duffy

We will welcome 30 new P1 pupils on Wednesday 30 August and trust they will have wonderful experiences throughout their time at Spires Integrated Primary School.



We wish Miss Henry all the best with her forthcoming marriage in July.

May I wish you all a restful summer and look forward to seeing you again on Wednesday 30 August.

