



St. Mary's Newsletter



September 2027

Star of the Week **P5-P7**

- Keavy
- Breacán
- June
- Conan

P1- proud awards

- Dearbhla and
Cian

Golden Tie Winner:

- June



Please follow us on social media and our new website to keep up to date with what is happening in our school.

<https://www.stmarysprischrathlinisland.co.uk/>

facebook

"A new month means new opportunities, new goals, and new reasons to believe in yourself."

Welcome Back

We were excited to see everyone back and ready for the new school new. September is a time for fresh starts, new opportunities and lots of exciting learning. We started the year with our usual wellbeing day- this year we focused on colour and had a great day reconnecting despite the unusually dreary weather.

Presidential Visit

We were honoured to welcome president Catherine Connolly to the school on Monday 28th September where she met staff and pupils and learnt about what it was like to attend an island school. This visit will live long in the memories of those who were there.

Visit from Film Makers

We welcomed a film crew to the school in September who were part of the project to remake the movie "Rathlin: The Island Betwixt and Between". This should be available to view soon.

Mobile Phones in Schools

Please see the letter on the school website from the secretary of state for Education regarding the use of mobile phones in schools.

PTA

Thank you to our PTA who continue to support us in providing opportunities for our pupils. Our PTA fully covered our bus transport costs for our end of year trip to CastleWood Tree Top Adventure in Antrim.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and good punctuality are important to your child's learning, wellbeing and progress at school. We encourage all families to make every effort to ensure that children arrive at school on time and ready to learn each day.

Arriving on time helps children settle calmly and take part in morning routines which are important in both classes. Even occasional lateness can mean that children miss key instructions or activities.

School Improvement Suggestion

Parents can give feedback on any views you have on a particular issue here. Please cut this box out and hand your idea or suggestion to the school office.

School Motto:

Scoil Bheag, Croí mór– Small school, big heart!

Key dates for October

- 2nd -Forest School Friday
- 14th - Flu Vaccines
- 16th - Maths Clothes Day
- 21st - Parents Meeting- pupils finish at 12:45pm
- 23rd - Halloween Party

PE and ICT days:

P1

PE– Monday and Friday
ICT– Monday

KS2– P5-P7

PE– Tuesday and Friday
ICT– Wednesday

E-safety Updates

Social media and age restrictions: Further protections for children online are being developed, including proposed restrictions around social media access and risky features.

AI awareness: Children increasingly encounter AI through search engines, games and apps. Remind them never to share personal information with AI tools and to question whether information generated by AI is accurate.

Critical thinking: Help children understand that not everything online is true. Encourage them to check sources, question images and videos and speak to an adult if unsure.

Policies

Our updated school policies are available on our school website or paper copies are available on request.

As part of safeguarding policy, we must provide a paper copy of that policy every year. Please make yourself familiar with it.

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1-	2- Forest School Friday	3
4	5-	6-	7-	8-	9-	10
11	12- Maths Week 2026	13- Maths week 2026	14- Flu Vaccines Maths week 2026	15- Maths week 2026	16- Maths week 2026- Maths Clothes Day	17-
18	19-	20-	21- Parents Meetings- Pupils finish at 12:45pm	22-	23- Halloween Party- Dress Up day	24-
25	26- Half Term Holidays	27- Half Term Holidays	28- Half Term Holidays	29- Half Term Holidays	30- Half Term Holidays	31

