



St. Mary's Newsletter



February 2026

'Star of the Week' Winners this month:

R-P5

- Lukas
- Cian
- June

P6- P7

- Conan
- Dáire
- Nyree



Golden Tie

R-P5-

- Lukas

P6-P7

- Keavy



News and Information

Our 'x' and Facebook pages will keep you up to date on what's happening in school.

Follow us

@StMarysRathlin

Website:

www.stmarysprischat.hinisland.co.uk

facebook



Thought for the month:

'Lent isn't about proving how strong we are by giving things up. It's about making space—space to notice God, space to notice others, and space to notice what actually matters.'

Key Dates for March

Thurs 5th- World Book Day 2026

Fri 6th- Forest School Friday

Mon 9th- Fri 13th- Ireland Themed week

Tues 10th- PTA meeting

Wed 11th March- Sponsored Green Walk for Trócaire.

Fri 13th- St. Patrick's Day Celebration in school

Mon 16th and Tues 17th- St. Patrick's Day Holiday

WB- 18th March- 'pay for no homework week'- for Trócaire.

Mon 23rd March- non-uniform day for Trócaire.

Trócaire
TOGETHER FOR A JUST WORLD



New Build Update

We expect the contractors to be onsite from 2nd March as they begin to clear the land for the new classroom to be built. The initial stage of the project will require the closure of the road outside the school for a period of time— to be confirmed by the contractors next week. They aim to complete the project by the middle of August. We will keep you updated as much as possible as the project progresses.

PTA:

Our PTA is working hard in support of the school and already this year have enabled the school to purchase new trikes which our pupils have really enjoyed using. Please try and support them as best you can.

Their next meeting will take place on 3rd March at 3pm in the hall— pupils will be supervised if needed. All welcome. **Please note the AGM will take place on the 2nd June at 3pm and all members of the school community are welcome.**

If you have any ideas for fundraising please speak to a member of the PTA or e-mail the school.

Trócaire

During the season of Lent, our school community will be taking part in a range of events to raise money for Trócaire. These activities give students a chance to learn about global justice, show solidarity with those in need, and put our Lenten values into action. We encourage families to support our fundraising events which will include: a sponsored walk, a sponsored no homework week, a non-uniform day and finally a guess the number of sweets competition.

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.

Ireland Themed Week 2026

Once again this year our school will be celebrating Ireland Themed Week in March! Students will explore Irish culture through fun activities, music, stories, art, and learning experiences across the school. There may even be a splash of green along the way!



Next Years Academic Calendar

Thank you for completing the short survey on holidays for next year– 2026/27. This will help us with choosing the holiday dates and they will be distributed before the end of the current academic year.

E-safety– Feb Updates

The UK Government is tightening online safety rules, especially around AI-chatbots and social media, aiming to extend the protections in the Online Safety Act so children aren't exposed to harmful or illegal content. These changes could include restrictions on under-16s accessing social media and chatbots in future, subject to consultations and legislation.

A new "Kids Online Safety" website has launched to help families navigate online risks and start conversations at home.

World Book Day 2026

We're excited to celebrate World Book Day 2026, a wonderful opportunity to inspire a love of reading and storytelling across our school community. World Book Day is all about encouraging children to explore books, share stories, and discover the joy of reading for pleasure. This year, students will take part in a range of fun, book-themed activities in school, and we're inviting everyone to get involved by celebrating favourite books and characters at home too.

Planned activities include:

- Wooden spoons- each child to decorate a wooden spoon as their favourite character.
- Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)
- Extreme Reading Challenge
- Treasure Hunt for Coupons

We're looking forward to celebrating the magic of books together and making World Book Day 2026 a memorable one for all our pupils.

PE and ICT days:

KS1- P3-P4

PE- Monday and Friday
ICT- Monday

KS2- P5-P7

PE- Tuesday and Friday
ICT- Wednesday



March 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1-	
2-	3- Visit to Tuesday Club	4-	5- World Book Day	6- Forest School Friday	7-	8-
9- Ireland Theme Week	10- Ireland Theme Week PTA Meeting	11- Ireland Theme Week Sponsored Walk	12- Ireland Theme Week	13- St. Patrick's Day Celebration	14-	15-
16- St. P's Holiday	17- St. P's Holiday	18- Pay for No HW Week	19- Pay for No HW Week	20- Pay for No HW Week	21-	22-
23- Non-uniform Day	24-	25-	26-	27-	28-	29-
30-	31-	1- 11:45am finish for Easter				