



St. Mary's Newsletter



October 2025

'Star of the Week' Winners this month:

R-P5

- Lily
- Breacan
- June

P6- P7

- Daire
- Nyree
- Oscar



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:

"October reminds us that change can be beautiful. Just as leaves let go to make space for new growth, we too can release what no longer serves us and trust the seasons of our lives."

E-safety

In every newsletter I put a section on e-safety (see overleaf). This is an area which always causes me great concern— as a parent and as a teacher. Please take time to read this section each month as it provides ideas for us all to protect our kids online. Often there are useful tips that can be easily applied to our households such as talking to our kids about screen time and setting clear time-lines for when to have a screen. Small adjustments to daily routines can have a major impact on our kids' wellbeing.

Building Update

The Education Authority have informed us that the contractors have been appointed to the new build project— they are William Rogers LTD. More details of the project will be made available when we get them.

Parents Meetings

Thank you for your attendance at our first parent meetings this year. This is always an important meeting as it gives us all an opportunity to reflect on achievements thus far in what has been a busy term with lots going on.

Lunches

As part of our efforts to teach our pupils about healthy living we ask that you please try and ensure that lunches are nutritional and healthy. A healthy, balanced lunchbox for a child should include a mix of foods that provide energy, nutrients, and variety — ideally from all major food groups. Please see <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwj7kty> for some ideas.

Mr E McGuigan

Lego Workshop

We had a fantastic time at our recent LEGO workshop, led by Beverley McCor-mick from UUC. The children (and adults in the Tuesday club!) thoroughly enjoyed using their creativity and teamwork skills to design and build imaginative LEGO creations. Beverley's enthusiasm and guidance made the session both educational and fun. A huge thank you to her for inspiring our budding builders — we're already looking forward to using all the Lego that she left us!

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.

Cúpla Focal

Éire (AY-ra) – Ireland

Feis (Fesh) – Feast, celebration

Fáilte (FALL-tcha) – Welcome

Grá – (Graw) - Love

Meas (Mass) – respect

Misneach (MISH-nock) – Courage, spirit



Forest School Fridays

As part of our ongoing NIFSA (Northern Ireland Forest School Association) journey, we will be introducing Forest School Fridays once a month!

These special outdoor learning days will give children the opportunity to explore, discover, and connect with nature through hands-on experiences in our local environment. Activities may include den building, nature art, minibeast hunts, team challenges, and much more—all designed to develop confidence, curiosity, and a love for the outdoors.



3 top tips for parents to help keep kids safe online:

(1) Stay Involved and Communicate Openly

Talk regularly with your child about what they do online games, apps, friends, and social media. Encourage them to share if something makes them uncomfortable or if they come across harmful content.

(2) Set Boundaries and Use Parental Controls

Establish screen time rules and age-appropriate limits for apps and websites. Use built-in parental controls or third-party tools to help filter content and manage usage.

(3) Teach Digital Responsibility

Explain the importance of keeping personal information private (like their full name, school, or location).

PE and ICT days:

KS1- P3-P4

PE- Monday and Friday

ICT- Monday

KS2- P5-P7

PE- Tuesday and Friday



November 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1- PTA- Halloween Event	2-
3- Pupils return after Half-term break.	4-	5-	6-	7- Forest School Friday	8-	9-
10- Anti-Bullying Week	11- Odd socks day for Anti-bullying Week	12-Anti-Bullying Week	13-Anti-Bullying Week	14-Anti-Bullying Week	15-	16-
17-	18-	19-	20-	21-	22-	23-
24-	25-	26-	27-	28-	29- Rathlin Craft Fair	30-