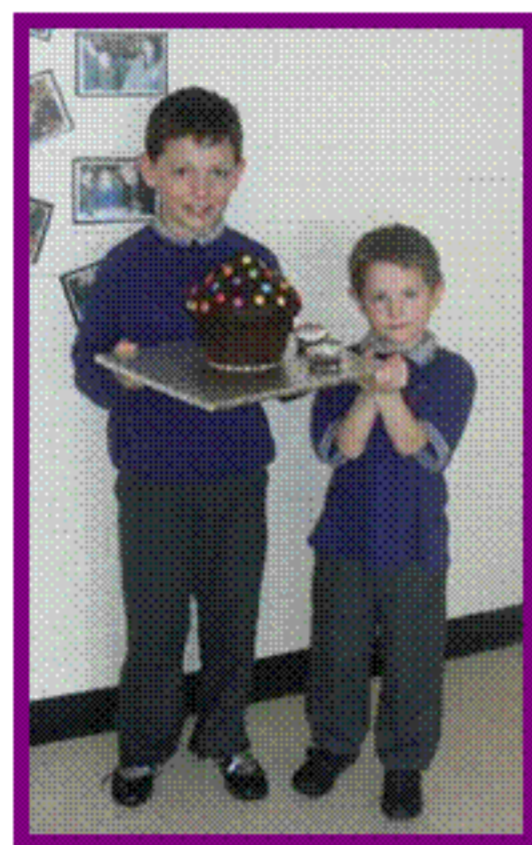


# St Mary's Primary School Newsletter



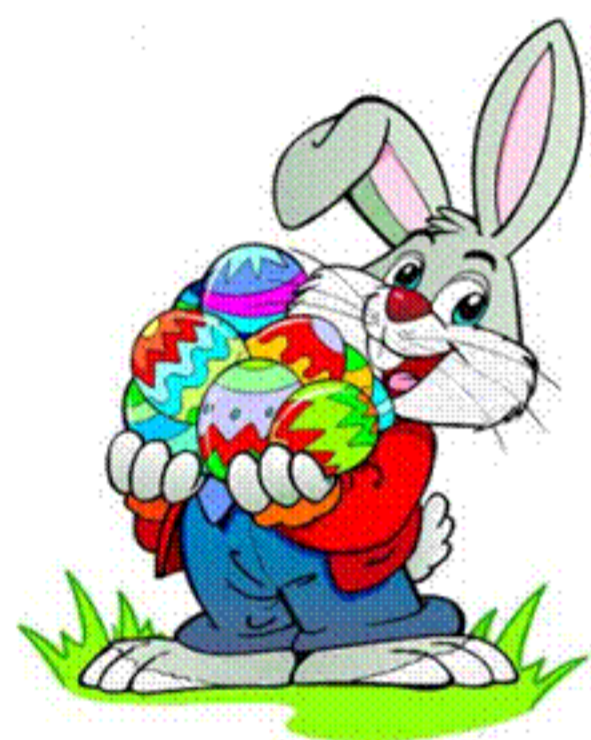
## ST MARY'S PUPILS RAISE MONEY FOR TROCAIRE



Congratulations to all the pupils of St Mary's Primary School who through their amazing fundraising efforts have raised over £3000 for Trocaire. For each week of Lent a special fundraising event was held. Pictures of the cake sale, "green day" and the coin spiral are pictured. The pupils can be proud of their efforts and can take great satisfaction that they've done so much to raise money to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



## ST PATRICK'S DAY



Many thanks to all the children, parents and members of St Mary's PTFA for all their efforts in organising and helping out with our participation in the St Patrick's day parade. The children looked really well in their outfits and everyone had a great time.



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**STRABANE FEIS SUPPLIMENT INSIDE!**

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MEALS DAY

St. Mary's Primary School celebrated 'International School Meals Day' on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The event, running this year for the very first time, aims to promote healthy eating in schools around the world. The scheme will help young people learn about different foods at school and the importance of healthy eating habits in their everyday lives. Peter McCallion, head cook in the school canteen held a cookery demonstration to a group of children from the senior site. The children had the opportunity to cook and sample a variety of foods from other countries. The children thoroughly enjoyed using chop sticks and being cooks for the morning! Children from both sites tasted curry, panini, egg fried rice and Mexican cous cous for their lunch that day.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

On Tuesday 5th March 2013, P7 were visited by Elaine Brownlee from Bryson Energy. She gave a presentation to the children on energy efficiency and discussed ways to save money at home by being energy efficient. These strategies included switching off all electrical equipment rather than leaving items on standby, insulating walls and roof spaces properly to stop heat escaping and not opening windows while heating is on. Information was provided, and is available on request about the Warm Homes Scheme which provides free advice as well as free insulation for homes.

## BARNARDO'S LAUNCH FUND RAISING



Mrs Sharon Hasson, mother of our year 6 pupil Rebecca, and her work colleague Ruth Huey of Barnardo's visited our year 6 children recently to launch their forthcoming fundraising trip in aid of Barnardo's. Both ladies will participate in a relay walk of the Great Wall of China next year. The ladies are pictured with Aoife, Rebecca and Ethan.

## HEART START



Our Year 7 children, under the instruction of Mrs Angela Dolan and Mrs Linda McGrath, are currently undertaking training in the lifesaving Heart Start Programme. Pictured are Ella and Aoife demonstrating CPR

## PRIMARY 4 VISIT THE ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK



As part of the Primary 4 "World Around Us" programme the children are currently learning about life at home and school long ago. Pupils visited the Ulster American Folk Park on Thursday 26th March and took part in a programme called "Yesterdays Children" A big thank you to the parents for the great effort that went into all the costumes. A great day was had by all.



## PAIRED READING

Congratulations to the children of primary 3 and their parents, who celebrated the completion of their paired reading project on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013. During the 6 week program the pupils thoroughly enjoyed choosing their own reading material and spending quality time each evening reading with their parents. Parents too were delighted with the interest which the pupils had in reading various types of books, their increased reading confidence and the improvements which they made in their reading skills and strategies. The project proved to be a great success due to the commitment of the children, their families and the primary 3 teachers – Mrs Curran, Mrs Haughey, Mrs Mc Namee and Mrs O' Hara.



## PAIRED MATHS

Congratulations to the children of primary 4 who celebrated the completion of their paired maths project. During the 4 week program the pupils were given two different maths games every week to improve their mental maths skills and their recall of number bonds. They are pictured receiving their certificates.



## PHONICS TRAINING FOR PARENTS

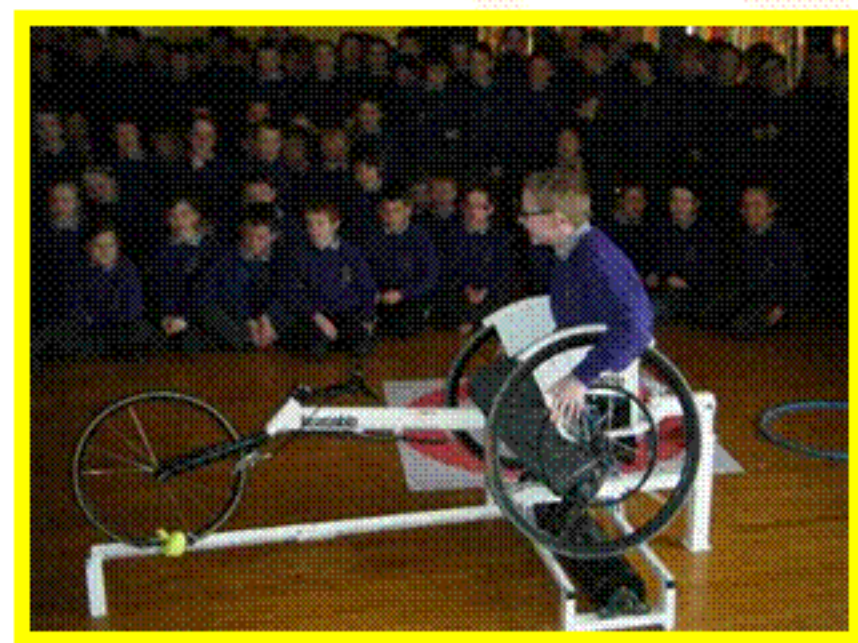


A big thank you to those parents of our Primary 1 pupils who committed to the three week phonic training for parents program. This course gave parents an insight into how phonetics are now taught throughout the primary school years and allowed them to experience some of the activities which their children will be engaged in when learning to read and write. Parents felt that this would help them to support their children's learning more successfully at home and were delighted with the opportunity to develop their own skills and confidence in helping their children with their reading and writing homeworks.



## NEW FOOTBALL KIT

The School recently took delivery of our new football kit. The kit was designed by Catherine Mallon and is kindly sponsored by Haugheys Costcutter.

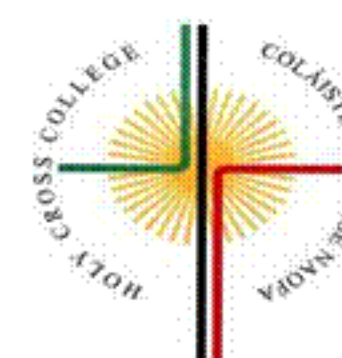


## DISABILITY SPORTS CHALLENGE

Our year 5 and 6 children recently attended a presentation in the school to heighten their awareness of how others take part in sporting activities with a disability. They were also treated to demonstrations in different sports. Well done to Mr O'Neill who showed off his sporting expertise on the day.

## Introduction to sport and games

Would you like to learn some new skills?  
Would you like to improve your fitness?



Wednesday 17th April 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Badminton
Wednesday 25th April 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Badminton
Wednesday 1st May 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Volleyball
Wednesday 8th May 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Volleyball
Wednesday 15th May 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Tennis
Wednesday 22nd May 4pm-6pm	Introduction to Tennis

Introduction to games with a focus on basic rules and skills will take place in Holy Cross College on Wednesday afternoons from 4pm-6pm. This course is free of charge and open to any parents of children who attend Holy Cross College, St Mary's P.S., Gaelscoil Ui Dho-chartaigh or Knockavoe. No prior knowledge or level of fitness is required.

# STRABANE FEIS 2013



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