

June Newsletter 2026

The latest news and events from St. Colmcille's Primary School



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Wed 1st July - Fri 3rd July

Week 1 - St Colmcille's Morning Summer Scheme

9.30am - 12.30pm

Wed 1st July - Fri 3rd July

Week 1 - St Colmcille's Youth Club Summer Scheme

12.45pm - 3.45pm

Fri 3rd July - 9.30am - 1.30pm

Uniform Swap Shop

Mon 6th July - Fri 10th July

Week 2 - St Colmcille's Morning Summer Scheme

9.30am - 12.30pm

Wed 8th July - Fri 10th July

Week 2 - St Colmcille's Youth Club Summer Scheme

12.45pm - 3.45pm

Wed 15th July - Fri 17th July

Week 3- St Colmcille's Youth Club Summer Scheme

12.45pm - 3.45pm

Thursday 27th August

School Reopens

Monday 31st August

August Bank Holiday - School Closed

Pupil Holiday List 2026-2027

Term One

Thursday 27th August

P1 Children 9.15am-11.15am

P2 – P7 Children 9am – 2pm

Friday 28th August

P1 Children 9.15am-11.15am

P2 – P7 Children 9am – 2pm

Monday 31st August

August Bank Holiday – School Closed

(There are no school meals and transport within August.)

***** Normal school hours will commence on Tuesday 1st September *****

Friday 25th September

Staff training day - School Closed

Monday 26th October- Fri 30th October

Halloween Break- School Closed

Tuesday 22nd December

School closes for Christmas Break

Term Two

Tuesday 5th January

Pupils Return to School

Monday 25th January

Staff training day – School Closed

Monday 8th - Friday 12th February

Mid-Term Break- School Closed

Wednesday 17th & Thursday 18th March

School Closed

Wednesday 24th March

School closes for Easter Break

Term Three

Monday 5th April

Pupils Return to School

Monday 3rd - Tuesday 4th May

May Bank Holiday- School Closed

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

May Break- School Closed

Wednesday 30th June

School Closes for Summer Break

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND UNIFORM ALLOWANCE

Applications
open
NOW

You may be entitled if you receive **ANY** of the following benefits:



Income Related Employment and Support Allowance



Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit



Universal Credit and have net household earnings not exceeding the approved threshold



📣 Applications for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance for the upcoming academic year are now open! If you are in receipt of one of the following, you will need to upload a Proof of Benefit letter when applying for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance for the 2026/27 academic year:

- ➡ Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- ➡ Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit.

You can request a Proof of Benefit letter online: <https://t.co/vhcVyDRoi5> (It will take at least five days to be sent to you) If you receive Universal Credit, you do not need the Proof of Benefit Letter. However, you will need to upload evidence of your Universal Credit entitlement when you apply. More information on eligibility and supporting documentation can be found at www.eani.org.uk/fsm



1 - 🌟 Exciting News! A New Play-Based Learning Area Is Coming Soon 🌟

We're pleased to share details on a new outdoor play area for our young children, designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and learning through play. The space will include:

📏 Sand and gravel pits for digging, pouring, and exploring

🚰 A canal and recycling water pump to investigate movement and flow

🧱 A block construction area to encourage building, problem-solving, and teamwork

🚜 Sit-on mechanical diggers for imaginative role play

📦 Storage areas to support independence and responsibility

🌻 Growing planters to connect children with nature

Once complete, this environment will allow children to access the curriculum through hands-on, play-based learning, developing problem-solving skills, collaboration, language, and early scientific thinking—while having lots of fun.

🕊️ Confirmation 2026 🕊️



We were delighted to celebrate a very special milestone for our Primary 7 pupils on Tuesday (June 2nd) as they received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This was a meaningful and joyful occasion, marking an important step in their faith journey.

The children conducted themselves with great reverence and maturity throughout their preparations for this special day. Families, staff, and parish members were proud to witness their commitment and the sense of community that filled the church.

We extend our warmest congratulations to all of our Primary 7 pupils on receiving their Confirmation. We also thank the families, staff, and parish community, particularly Fr O'Neill who supported them along the way. This memorable occasion will remain a significant moment in their lives, and we are very proud of them all.

 Coming Soon & Approved: New SEN Facility and Additional Specialist Provision Classes 



We are delighted to share some very exciting news for our school community.

Building work on a new state-of-the-art Learning Support Centre for LSC 1 & 2 will commence in September 2026 and is scheduled for completion in August 2027. This new facility will be an excellent addition to our existing Learning Support Centres and will significantly enhance our overall educational provision. It will be located behind our new LSC3 & LSC4 building.

The new modular building will primarily support children in Learning Support Classes 1 & 2 (ages 4–7). It will also create additional classroom and withdrawal spaces within our school building, benefiting all of our pupils.

In addition, a new Specialist Provision Setting (SPS) for pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) will open in September 2026, catering for pupils in P3 and P4. A further SPS class will open in September 2027 catering for pupils in P5-7, expanding our specialist provision even further.

Our children have only one primary school experience, and they deserve the very best resources and facilities to support their learning journey. This bespoke accommodation & additional Specialist Provision Setting Classes are another important step forward in achieving that aim.

Building & Premises Development Include:

- A new modular building with:
- Two large classrooms
- Hygiene room
- Offices
- Withdrawal rooms
- Sensory rooms
- A new playground area featuring:
- Gaming zone
- Outdoor shelter

👐👐 Thanks Supervalu and Musgrave NI 👐👐



We are extremely grateful to Musgrave NI and our local Supervalu for their very generous donation of £1500 towards our Breakfast Club. Breakfast is such an important start to the day, helping our children arrive in school well-fed, focused and ready to learn.

Thanks to this support, we are able to:

- Reduce the cost of breakfast for all children attending the club
- Provide 25 free breakfasts each week during the final term to families experiencing financial pressures during the cost of living crisis-

This makes a positive & real difference to many of our pupils and their families.

A special word of thanks to Senior Teacher Mr McReynolds for his support in helping to secure this funding.

Community partnerships like this truly make a difference — thank you!



Our P7 pupils spent their 'Leavers' Residential in Carlingford, County Louth..

It was action-packed from the outset! After arriving in Carlingford town early on Tuesday morning, they made their way to Carlingford Adventure Centre, their base for the next two days. Here, they were introduced to the team of instructors, as well as their itinerary for the next couple of days.

On the first day, we took part in laser tag in Slieve Foye Forest and had our aim tested by taking part in archery, axe and spear throwing. We concluded the evening by developing our team building skills, taking part in an obstacle course blindfolded! P7 finished off their evening with takeaways, treats, and plenty of craic with their friends!

On day two, the group got straight to action, kayaking on Carlingford Lough, with the stunning scenery of the Cooley Peninsula as their backdrop and visiting the 'Sky Park', where they undertook the high ropes challenge and scaled the heights with wonderful enthusiasm.

Everyone took on their activities with eager determination and commendable enthusiasm, which was fantastic to see!

From start to finish, it was an unforgettable experience for all the group and memories they will cherish for many years to come. Well done, Primary 7

 PYC Summer Showcase 



We had a wonderful trip to the Patrician Youth Centre to enjoy the fantastic theatre Summer Showcase! The children were treated to an amazing performance featuring songs from well-loved musicals such as Annie, Mary Poppins, and The Wizard of Oz. It was brilliant to see so much talent on stage and the energy from the performers was incredible! A huge well done to everyone who took part, especially the many pupils from St Colmcille's — we are so proud of you!

 Uniform Swap Shop – Friday 3rd July 

UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

Good for your pocket, good for the environment!

GIVE, SWAP, SAVE, SUPPORT!

Join us on
FRIDAY
3RD JULY
9.30AM - 1.30PM

IN THE
SCHOOL HALL

Lots of good quality PE items available!

A WIDE RANGE OF GOOD QUALITY
SCHOOL & PE UNIFORM
ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE



WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS!

Please bring any **good quality, clean uniform items** to your class teacher during the **LAST WEEK OF TERM** (BEGINNING 29TH JUNE)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



TOGETHER WE CAN...



SAVE MONEY



SUPPORT OTHER FAMILIES







HELP REDUCE WASTE & PROTECT OUR PLANET





THANK YOU FOR HELPING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!




We will be hosting a Uniform Swap Shop in the school hall on  Friday 3rd July  9.30am–1.30pm.


  There will be a wide selection of good-quality school and PE uniform items available, which may be of interest to families.

 We would greatly appreciate any donations of good-quality, clean uniform items, which can be given to class teachers during the final week of term (beginning 29th June).

 This is a great opportunity to:

 Save money

 Support other families

 Help reduce waste and protect the environment

 Thank you in advance for your support!

💙 Yellow Day 2026 💙



This month our school community came together in a sea of yellow to take part in Wear Yellow Day, raising awareness of cystic fibrosis and showing our support for our wonderful P4 pupil, Katie.

Katie is a valued and much-loved member of our school family, and it was lovely to see everyone getting involved to help raise awareness of the condition she lives with every day.

Thank you to all our pupils, staff and families for your kindness, generosity and support.

Together, we are helping to raise awareness and make a difference. 💛 ✨

🌟 P6 & P7 Talent Show Highlights 🌟



This month we were delighted to welcome parents and families into school for our fantastic P6 & P7 Talent Show. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with talent, creativity, and plenty of smiles – all enjoyed alongside tea, coffee, and some tasty sweet treats!

🍪🏠 The show truly had something for everyone. From impressive mime acts and sporting skills demonstrations, to brilliant group singers and laugh-out-loud comedians – our pupils showcased an incredible range of talents. We are so proud of every single performer for their confidence, effort, and enthusiasm on stage!

🌟 A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event – it made the day even more special for our children.

📺 We can't wait to share some clips from the show with you all – stay tuned! See less

🎓 🎉 Congratulations 2026 Leavers 🎉 🎓



There were lots of smiles (and a few tears) , as we shared stories about our time in St. Colmcille's before saying goodbye at our 2026 Leavers' Assembly.

Mr Austin began by welcoming everyone and recalled some of the exciting experiences our P7s had during their time here before Mr McKernan recapped our exciting trip to Carlingford.

Our pupils took the opportunity over the past few weeks to record a short video, sharing their favourite memories of their time here, and of course, we could not finish without a few P1 photos to remind us all of just how far we have come during our journey through primary school.

Thank you to all the girls and boys for the effort you contributed to your final assembly and thank you to the friends and family members who joined us. Slán agus ádh mór P7!

🐄 🐑 A Wonderful Day at Streamvale Farm for Key Stage 1! 🐰 🌳



Our LSC3, P3 and P4 pupils had a fantastic day at Streamvale Farm as a special celebration of all their hard work this year. The children loved meeting, holding and petting a variety of farm animals, learning about how they are cared for, and exploring life on a working farm.

They thoroughly enjoyed spending time outdoors, taking in the beautiful countryside and learning more about farming and where our food comes from. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, curiosity and confidence throughout the day.

Well done to all our pupils for a fantastic year! We hope they enjoyed their well-deserved treat!





We love to connect with our school community!

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