

# Steelstown Primary School & Nursery Unit

## Monthly Memo to Parents – Jan/Feb 2018

Check out our Website for more information and updates

[www.steelstownps.com](http://www.steelstownps.com)



### Dates for your Diary

Mon. 22 January – Bryson Energy Talk and presentation to Y6 & 7 pupils  
Tues. 23 January – Mrs Devlin's class visit to Dominos Pizzas  
Wed. 24 January – Cancer NI Focus Workshops with all classes  
Thur. 25 January – 10.00 a.m. Catholic Schools Mass, St Eugene's Cathedral

Thurs. 25 January – 10.00 a.m. Road Safety Quiz, Guildhall

Fri. 26 January 12.00 p.m. – Y5, 6 & 7 Cross Country Event, Templemore

Fri. 26 January – Netball Blitz in St Mary's College

Sat. 27 January – Transfer Test Results

Sun. 28 January – Steelstown PS Catholic Schools Week Mass 11.00 a.m.

Mon. 29 January – Credit Union Quiz – Y6 & 7 pupils

Tues. 30 January – Chinese New Year Workshops P4 classes

Tues. 30 January – Marty Gallagher Football Cup Tournament 3.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Thurs. 1 February – NSPCC Number Day in Steelstown PS

Thurs. 1 February – Ipad Work: Primary 4 classes and Nerve Centre

Fri. 2 February – Grandparents' Day – 10 am Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes Church,  
refreshments in school afterwards – all welcome

Tues. 6 & Wed. 7 February – Year 1 pupils Health Screening

Sun. 11 February – 11.00 a.m. "Do This in Memory" Mass - Y4 pupils and families

Mon. 19 February – School Photographs will be taken – Nursery to P7 (individuals and families)

Tues. 20 February – Business Beginning Programme begins (Y7)

Thurs. 22 February – Seagate STEM Work (Y5, 6 & 7)

Fri. 23 February – Assembly – Mrs Doorish's class Y5

Mon. 26 February – STEM Workshops – Y3, 4 & 5

Thurs. 1 March – Friends of Steelstown Meeting 7.00 p.m.



### School Closures this Term

Mid-term Break School will be closed for pupils on Wednesday 14, Thursday 15 and Friday 16 February for mid-term break.

Easter Holiday We will close on Wednesday 28 March at 12.30 p.m. for Easter and re-open on Monday 8 April.

### Ulster Orchestra Workshop

Jonathan Simmance, leader with the Ulster Orchestra, held a workshop in school with our Year 6 classes. They talked about how rhythm and beat and how to play in unison. They then went to see a performance by the Ulster Orchestra in the Waterside Theatre. It was a fantastic opportunity for our children and they have benefitted from this wonderful experience. Members of the orchestra and Mr Simmance praised our children and their engagement.



## **Mikhail Kennedy**



Mikhail Kennedy a past pupil who currently plays with Charlton Athletic visited the school and had a chat with our football team. The team were really inspired and encouraged by Mikhail and we were delighted to bring him back to Steelstown. Thank you Mikhail!!

## **Y4 trip to Dominos**

Mrs Devlin's class had a fun-filled trip to Dominos this month where they learned how to make pizza. They brought delicious pizzas back to Steelstown.



## **Attendance**

Congratulations to our pupils – Nursery to P7 who received attendance Certificates for the First Term (Sept – Dec). Well done!! See the website for photographs from Friday 26 January.

Remember: Attendance and punctuality are important for success in school. Children are to be in school for 9.00 a.m. ready to start work at 9.10 a.m. daily.

## **Shared Education**

Our Nursery class will be involved in Shared Education project from February – June. We will keep parents updated on the plans and progress.

## **PATHS**

Steelstown PS have introduced "Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies" programme. This is an excellent programme for developing social, emotional and well-being strategies and skills. We will be offering support to parents also and will keep you updated in due course.

## **Audit**

A random selection of parents and children will be asked to complete a survey by the school in early February. Your replies will be fed back into school planning. We aim to provide the best support for you and your child and appreciate in advance you completing the survey. We are here to listen to any concerns you have and we also love to hear any compliments.

## **Creative Story Workshop**

A Creative Story Workshop took place with some of our Y1 parents last Friday, 19 January. It was very successful and we look forward to using strategies discussed at the meeting.



## Y6 Parent Support Class

Parent Support class will take place in Steelstown PS for 4 week beginning Tues. 30 January at 7.00 p.m. Each class will last from 7.00 – 8.15 p.m. Support will be given in helping parents help their child in Maths and English. Mrs Gillen will be taking the course and she looks forward to working with you. All P6 parents are very welcome!!

## Clubs

All before and after-school clubs have resumed again – swimming, judo, netball, football, homework, after-schools for P1 & 2, choir, coding, first aid, athletics, gaelic are all going well. Hurling resumes on Friday 2 February.

We have introduced a new Dance class, starting Thursday 25 January.

It is a dance fitness programme mixed with cardio exercises. It is fun and works on increasing fitness levels and improving cognitive, social and emotional skills. The children learn dance routines, combined with aerobic exercises whilst listening to their favourite chart hits.



## Digital Leaders

Digital Leadership training is going very well with our children. Well done to all involved and we look forward to the great things we have in store for all our classes in the time ahead.

## Road Safety – Health & Safety

When collecting children, parents are to come to the school gate in the interests of keeping all our children safe. Thank you.



## Change in Contact Numbers



Reminder – it is extremely important that all families have updated any new mobile phone numbers with the office to ensure that they are receiving all text messages, especially throughout the winter for any adverse weather closures. If you have not received a text message from Steelstown PS in the last week, please ensure that your mobile number is checked/updated at the office as soon as possible. Our texting service is an extremely valuable communication tool with all families and your co-operation is grateful appreciated.

**Please note that it has been decided by our Eco Committee that this Memo should, in future, be uploaded to our website and not distributed to everyone. However, if you do not have access to the internet there will be hard copies of future memos available from the school office on request.**

