



"With faith, family and friends...anything is possible!"

Principal: Mr J Matthews, B. Ed (Hons) M.Sc. P.Q.H. (NI)  
| Ballymena Road, Antrim, BT41 4JG  
t: 02894428837 f: 02894428853  
e: info@stcomgallsp.s.antrim.ni.sch.uk  
w: stcomgalls.co.uk

## NEWS @ St.Comgall's ISSUE 3: 2016 - 2017

# *Beauty and the Beast*



# P.4B Easter Egg Hunt



# P.5 TOPIC - FLIGHT



MR GUSTERSON CAME TO OUR SCHOOL TO TELL US ABOUT HIS JOURNEYS ON HELICOPTERS FOR OUR PRIMARY 5 TOPIC FLIGHT. HE TOLD US ALL THE INFORMATION WE NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT HELICOPTERS. HE SHOWED US A POWERPOINT ABOUT ALL THE PLANES AND HELICOPTERS HE HAS FLOWN AND THE ONES THAT WERE TOO EXPENSIVE FOR HIM TO BUY. SOME OF THEM WERE OVER £10,000. ONE OF THE HELICOPTERS WAS CALLED A PUMA.

HE ALSO TOLD US ABOUT THE WEATHER WE'RE ALLOWED TO FLY IN AND THE ONES WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO FLY IN. SOMETIMES THERE WERE TORNADOS, HURRICANES, LIGHTNING, THUNDER, SNOW, WIND AND BLIZZARDS.

BY EVA SANSOME & CAITLIN BOYD P5C

## National Standard Cycle Training with Sustran



Sustran are working with schools, workplaces and communities to encourage active travel for everyday journeys. Their cycle training courses provide individuals and organisations with the skills to cycle safely and confidently on the road. They continually work to influence government and planning authorities to invest in walking, cycling and public transport. Some of our pupils took part in a cycle training course here at the school. One of our pupils, Aimee McClelland P.7B achieved level 1, with all our other pupils achieving both their level 1 & 2 in their national standard cycle training. **Congratulations and well done!!**

# P.3 Trip to Belfast Zoo



**ST. COMGALL'S NEWS**

ZOO Day FOR P3'S

Reported by:  
Eva Mulvenna

On Friday 7th of April the P3's went to Belfast Zoo. The bus took the P3's to the zoo.

One giraffe was been treated by the vet. A gorilla was entertaining the P3's. The P3's got to see the beautiful flaringoes!

The P3's got to play in the playpark. Then the P3's got a bus to school.

**ST. COMGALL'S NEWS**

P3 VISIT BELFAST ZOO

Reported by:  
Philippe

The P3's went on a bus to Belfast Zoo.

The gorilla was hitting the window. They saw giraffes the giraffe was tall.

They went back on the bus. It was a sunny day.



# Muddy



# Marathon



# 2017



# Football Tournaments

**On Monday the 13th of March some girls went to a Girls football tournament. The girls went on a bus to Allen Park and played on the 3G pitches. We went up against Parkhall then Antrim Primary then they were against Greystone twice and Ballycraigy. Then we went back to school. The girls had a very good day playing football! Eva McKinney**



**St. Comgall's Primary School finish top of the league with a perfect 20 wins from 22 games. The children had to work very hard to get results from competitive neighbouring schools. The soccer team played tremendously throughout the season. We are so proud of the boy's achievement!**





## P.2 Trip to Carrickfergus Castle

The week after Easter all of P2 children got to go and visit Carrickfergus Castle. We had been learning all about Once Upon a Time and castles so we had lots of questions to ask when we got there. Lots of us dressed up as Kings, Queens, Knights and Princesses for the day. Our guide Jackie was so helpful and gave us lots of information all about when the castle was built and who lived there. His name was King John. We even saw a statue of him sitting on the toilet! At the end we all got to go down and eat our lunch in the vaults which were like the dungeons. It was so much fun!



On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April we went on a bus to Carrickfergus Castle. My mummy came to help. We got to eat our lunch in the dungeon. We got to see the suit of armour. My favourite thing was the king's bedroom. There were loads of knights. The trip step would be very bad for the enemy. I loved the Castle.

By Ethan Hassan P.2C

# St. Comgall's School Clubs



**Orchestra**



**Cross Country**

**Athletics**



**Netball**



**Judo**



**Cycling**



**Choir**



**Gaelic**



**Soccer**

# Eco Club at Antrim Garden Show 2017



**On Friday, the Eco Club went to the Castle Grounds, to enter a competition and try to win the Primary Schools' Miniature Gardens. The theme was Enchanted Garden. First we all met at reception, then, we all put on high-viz jackets and paired up. We walked to the Castle Grounds and made are way where the competition was to be held. We were looking at others schools' gardens. Mr. Tumus appeared and started talking to us. Mr. Henry picked out 4 children to get a picture with Mr. Tumus and the Mayor. They were Caolan, Anna and Daniel. After we got our picture, we got lots of pictures with Mr. Tumus. After that, we went back to St. Comgall's. We didn't win but it's not the winning that matters, it's the taking part!**

**By Molly Doherty P.4A**



# St. Comgall's Fundraising Group

## Muddy Marathon

**Thank you to parents/staff and children and to all of our sponsors for making it an extremely successful day!**

**The children had a great day and loved the medals and 'sweet treat' that they received from the fundraising team.**

**A final word of thanks to the Sentata Safety Team who gave up their time to Marshall the route and help the staff keep everyone safe.**

**The grand total is....**

**£9,145.65**

**Winners of £20 Family Pass lucky draw for Antrim Omniplex – as 'Thank You' for sponsorship:**

**P.1A – Eóin McCann,**

**P.2B – Rhiana Nelson,**

**P.3B Erin Laverty,**

**P.4B – Tia Moore,**

**P.5A – Matthew Bautista,**

**P.6A – Edwin Jacob**

**P.7A – Owen Larkin**



**Little Hearts Matter**  
Half a heart, not half a life

**On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, we held a 'Red Day' to raise funds for our Term 2 charity "Little Hearts Matter". The children had a great time and together we raised **£700.00** for "Little Hearts Matter".**

**Mrs Duffy presented a cheque for £700 to the Clark Clinic at The Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast. The money went to The Children's Heartbeat charity for children with heart defects. Pictured is the nurse who looked after Mrs Duffy's daughter Emer whilst she was a patient at Clark Clinic.**





Roots of Empathy  
Racines de l'empathie

# Roots of Empathy



## Isla's 8<sup>th</sup> Visit Theme: Who am I?

When Isla came to visit on Thursday she had changed so much! We noticed straightaway that she had so much hair! It is brown and very thick. We also noticed that she was wearing her first pair of shoes. They are pink and very pretty. Isla was crawling EVERYWHERE! She even ventured to Mrs O'Donnell's desk and tried to pull some books off the shelf. She was very funny. Isla ate a rice cake to show us how she can use her new top four front teeth to eat solid food. She kept showing us her teeth when she smiled. She has a cheeky little smile which made us all laugh! Isla will be one year old on her next visit and we can't wait to celebrate with her. It will be her last visit to P4 so we will be saying goodbye in style with a party!



# *First Holy Communion*



P.4A  
Mrs Ewing



P.4B  
Mr Phillips



P.4C  
Mrs O'Donnell

# First Holy Communion

On Saturday morning I woke up and it was time to make my First Holy Communion. I went for breakfast but I wasn't hungry. After that I brushed my hair. Then I got my dress on. I got into the car carefully.

When we got to the Church I showed my parents to their seat. Then I went to mine. When it started we said a few prayers. Then it was time for the Athairna girls to go up and sing. After that we said some more prayers. Then the priest invited the first and second reading and 'My Shepherd is the Lord' people. I sang the first verse of My Shepherd is the Lord. Then we said a lot of other prayers. I read the prayer before communion. After that Father Emerson gave us the bread of life.

When I got home we started packing because we were going to our granny's. When we got there our cousins were waiting outside for something. It turns out that they were waiting to see me in my dress. They took loads of photos of me. I had a wonderful day!

By Lauren May Ong P.4A

On Saturday I woke up at 7 O'clock. I then had toast and it was very nice. Then I went to the hairdressers to get my curly bun. When I got home at 9am I got my dress on. Then we went to get photos.

After the photos we went to Mass. I read a Prayer of the Faithful. I was very nervous. When we got the Body of Christ I felt that God had come to me.

After Mass we all had a photo, I saw my big brother. Me and my big brother got a photo. I got a photo of me and the priest.

We all went to the school hall to get buns. My daddy said he liked the buns.

We all went home to get ready for dinner. Some of my cousins got stuck in a traffic jam. I had a lovely day.

By Clodagh Quigg P.4A



# P.7B Junior Entrepreneur's International Food Day

On Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup> (also known as Star Wars day) P7B had an International Food Day for the whole school which is 570 people (including the staff). Firstly, we all split into different groups.

The first group was icing the cupcakes.

The second group was cooking the frankfurters.

The third group was buttering the baguettes.

And the fourth group was sorting out the chorizos'.

Secondly we got changed into waiter costumes and traditional dresses. After we got changed we set up the hall to look like our own restaurant as our first customers started to arrive.

Key stage1 were the first people to arrive. The restaurant went a little crazy, since there were more than 150 people in the hall at once, not including the servers. We could tell they were enjoying because the food began to quickly disappear and the comments were always positive.

The hardest part was being able to produce enough food for the whole school with a budget of £100. We really enjoyed making, serving and preparing the food and it felt like a real restaurant. Our final profit was 457 pounds.

All of our hard work paid off and our Fab Food Day was a great success!!!

By Angel Shiji (Project Manager)



# P.7A Junior Entrepreneur's



## Funky Folders

**P7A's JEP idea is Funky Folders. The Dragons chose Francesca's idea, which were folders that are customised with foam letters of each child's name with a choice of a variety of different duck tape patterns. We donated some of our profit to the school minibus and the rest of our profit will be used for a fun day out for the whole of year 7.**

**We produced our own and our relatives a folder, which we paid for, and presented them to the Key stage 1 and 2 assembly. We made £88 from our own class including our relatives' folders. Each folder costs £2.00 and the special offer is buy 3 for the price of 2!**

**We gave out order forms for everyone in each class and they returned it with what they wanted. Each person in P7A got a class register of every class and highlighted the names of the people that wanted to order a folder. Ryan and Francesca were in charge of the people that don't go to our school but had ordered folders. Then each child in P7A produced the folders of the class that they were given. Then each child from each class that ordered a folder came to P7A's classroom and collected their folders.**

**We raised an amazing £508 profit.**

**By Andrea Juby & Tania James P.7A**

## **P.2 Visit from the Fire Brigade**



**On Tuesday the fire fighters came to Visit P.2. We stood around the fire truck. John showed us the branch and then he sprayed the hose. I learned about the smoke alarm to keep safe at home.**

**By Madison Western P.2C**

**The Firemen came to visit the Primary Two's. They told us how important it is to have a working fire-alarm. We saw how a water hose works and how they use foam for electric fires.**

**By P.2A**

# P.1 Gaelic Coach



**This year Stephen McCann from the Ulster Council came in, once a week, to coach our P.1 children on how to work as a team and the basic fundamental skills of Gaelic. All the children enjoyed taking part in the coaching sessions with Stephen.**



## April Wedding



It was a great privilege for Emily Man and Eva McKinney, to serve at the wedding of Mrs Clyde's daughter Samantha. Our school community were represented and proud to be part of this special day. We wish the new Mr & Mrs Kinney every happiness in their future together.



# Adventure at Carlingford



## Carlingford p7 trip

This year P7 students went on a school trip to Carlingford adventure centre where they stayed over nights. They took a coach [bus] to Carlingford. Once we arrived we went to our dormitories and put our bags away and then did our first activities, they were a dark 3-D maze, Aeroball [trampoline basketball] and archery. Then we went for lunch. After lunch we did ziplines at the Skypark which I would do again. After we had dinner then we had free time where you could go to sleep, play volleyball or go to the common rooms. We went to bed at 10 o'clock where we got cleaned up and talked with your friends. I shared a room with Connor Denison, Zach Law, Balliegh Close and Adam Mc Erlane. The next day we went to breakfast and straight after we went kayaking and jumping into the sea, which was VERY cold but everyone wore wetsuits and enjoyed it and we went jumping on a water trampoline which was out in the sea. After we had lunch then we went to play laser combat which was **EXTREMELY** fun. Then we got on the coach to go back home it was a great experience and I had the best time ever.

By James Gillan P.7A



# Mrs Hannigan's Retirement

Fond farewell,

It is with great sadness that our school community says goodbye to Mrs Hannigan following her 31 years of dedicated service to the children of St. Comgall's and Antrim Parish. Mrs Hannigan will be missed for her dedication and support to the ethos of St. Comgall's, her experience as an excellent classroom practitioner and school leader. Our whole school community wish Mrs Hannigan a happy, restful and wonderful retirement.

**Thank you Mrs Hannigan!**





# Keystage 1 Sports' Day



**Sports Day**



**with PIA!**

PIC•COLLAGE



# Keystage 2 Sports' Day





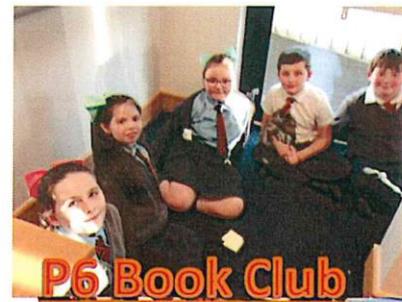
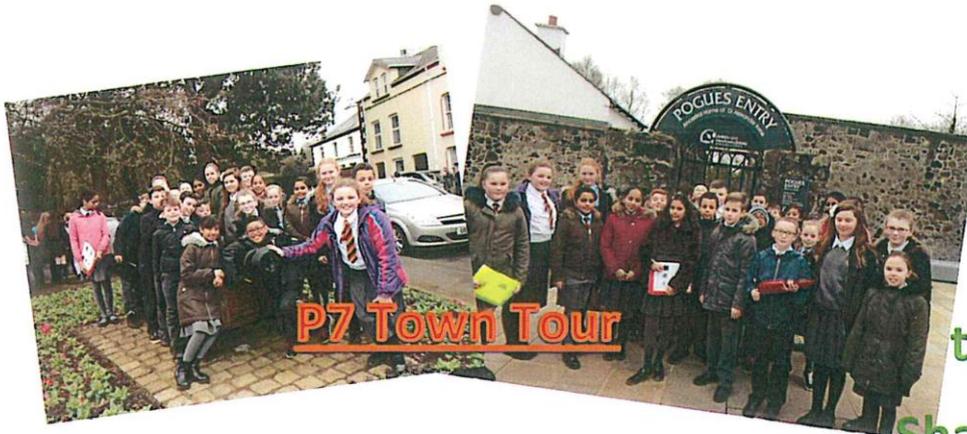
## Music Recital with Mr Heron

**On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June Mr Heron, Music Tutor, along with his students gave a recital to their parents and our P.5 - 7 children. The assembly hall was filled with wonderful music as the children enjoyed the performance. Mr Heron is one of the Tutors who comes in from the Music Department once a week to teach the children to play their instruments. He believes it is a great experience for the children to get to perform in front of an audience. We would like to thank him for his hard work and dedication to the children in St. Comgall's. The parents and children thoroughly enjoyed the recita**



# Shared Education

Look how much fun we had taking part in Shared Education this year!



# Eco Schools News



The whole school took part in our annual Big Spring Clean, organised by our Eco Team. The school playground, garden and car parks welcomed the tidy up and now the school is looking great. Well done to everyone who took part!



The Eco Team would like to thank Sensata Technologies Ltd, who are sponsoring our school garden with some much needed new gardening equipment. The equipment will be used by all children and in particular the Primary 1's, who learn about gardening in their topic 'In the Garden.'



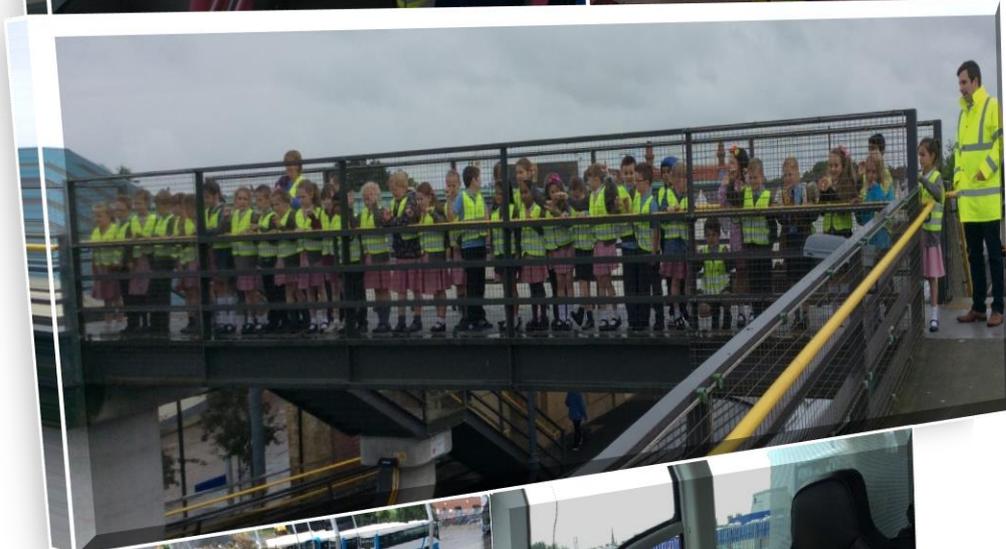
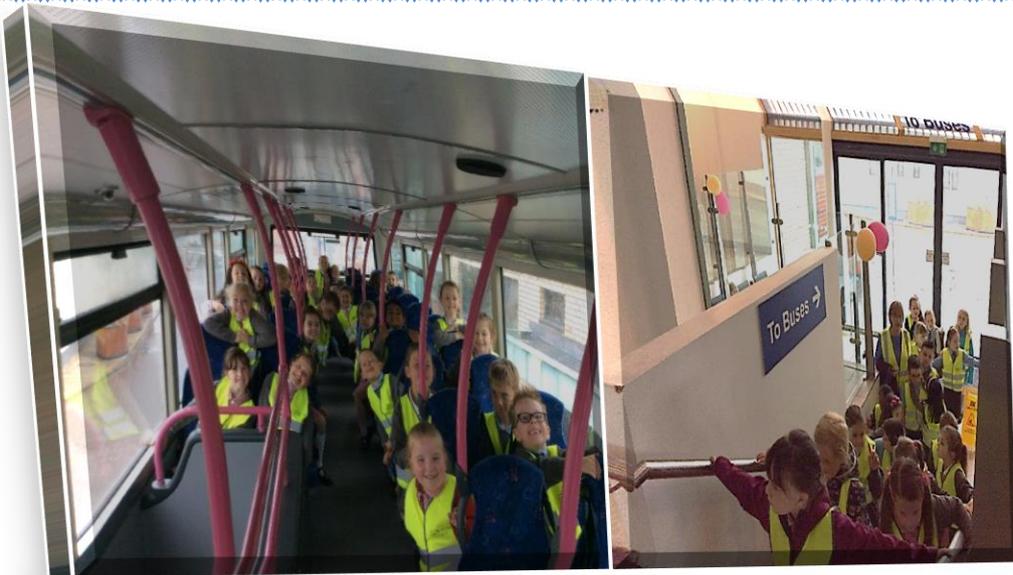
## Eco Club Go To The Castle Grounds

On Wednesday we went to the castle grounds with the ECO CLUB to admire the flowers we grew last year. Mrs O'Donnell and Mr Moore took us. We had to go in pairs. Mrs O'Donnell showed us lots of different kinds of flowers when we arrived at the Antrim forum. Then we walked over to the Castle Grounds and met our tour guide, Ruth. She showed us different types of bees. We also looked at our beautiful flowers that we grew in 2016. We got pictures with the Mayor. Finally, we went back to school. We had a great day.

By Caolan McCormick and Molly Doherty



# P.3s Visit Translink Antrim for Rail & Bus Week



# P.I.'s Teddy Bears Picnic





Roots of Empathy  
Racines de l'empathie

# Roots of Empathy Celebration



On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June Miss Isla Parker and her mummy Ciara Parker attended a baby celebration in All Saints Parish Centre along with Mrs Ewing and Mrs O'Donnell. The celebration was organised by the Northern HSC Trust to thank all the babies for helping to build a caring, peaceful and civil society. We would like to thank baby Isla for 'teaching' Primary 4C about development, temperament and empathy. She has brought so much fun to the classroom and her cheeky little smile. As we sing in Roots of Empathy:

*'Goodbye Baby Isla, we'll see you soon. See you very soon!'*

We look forward to Roots of Empathy 2017/18 and meeting our new mummy and baby.

# P.6 Enjoy STEM Day at St. Louis

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June the Primary 6 went to St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena. This was for a STEM morning. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. We went to Science first.

At Chemistry we had to find a criminal culprit that had white powder on their shoe. We used Chromatography to find out who carried out the crime.

Next we used Bunsen Burners and we tested different metal compounds by burning them in the flame. We tested calcium, copper, potassium, sodium, strontium and the mystery suspect's compound.

We found out the suspect was Cruella Deville because the flame of the suspect compound matched the flame from strontium.

We also got to see a metal strip dipped in magnesium and it glowed brighter than the sun! The best part was when we also got to blow stuff up like balloons filled with a light gas.

Alfie and I mixed different elements together and created a massive fire with different coloured flames!!

This is Magnesium



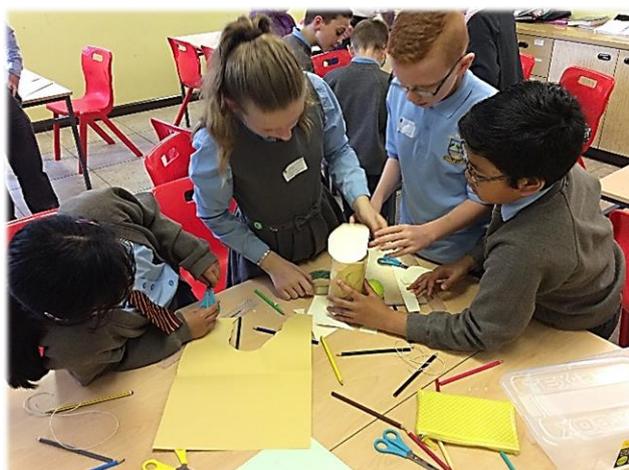
This is calcium



There is calcium in lots of food including milk, cheese, kale, yogurt and eggs.

Sodium is an element and it is found in salt.

By Ryan Hood and Alfie Hanna P6B



## Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

# June Summer Fair



What a fantastic night! The little bit of rain didn't even dampen anyone's spirits. Hundreds of people turned out for this fantastic school community event! Children and adults alike had a great night – with bounce box, DJ Paddy, other inflatables, face painting, henna tattoos, tombola and burger stalls to name but a few!! A party atmosphere!!

Many thanks to our Fundraising Group who worked so hard in preparing for and running the event! Thanks to the staff of the school who helped the evening run so smoothly and a final word of thanks to you – the parents and children who raised an **AMAZING £3,794.55.**

We now have enough money to buy the new school mini-bus!!! Thank you so much!



# Information & Reminders

## \*Names on Uniforms\*

Please remember to clearly label all items of your child's school uniform, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats.



## Emails:

Would all parents who completed a form requesting letters and information to be sent to them by email, please remember to check your emails regularly so you will not miss any important news, letters, dates and general information.



## Absence Letters

If your child is absent from school, please inform the teacher in writing of the reason for the absence.

## Children coming to School Early:

Children should not be on the school grounds before 8.45am unless they are attending breakfast club. There is no supervision for children before this time.

**BREAKFAST CLUB:** from 8.10am - 8.45am Cost £1.50 Main School Hall.

## Tuck and dinner money

Please ensure your child has the money to pay for tuck and dinners if they use it. It becomes very difficult to manage for our teaching and canteen staff if money becomes "owed." Again, thank you in anticipation for your help with this.



## Parents are reminded:

Pick up collection point of your child at home time:

Parents collecting P1 + P2 please collect your child from designated door pick-up point – access through back gate or pedestrian gate at top of playground.

P3 + P4 children will meet their parents in the junior playground.

Senior children P5 – P7 will meet parents in senior playground.

This is to cut down on traffic through the main school building and promote safety within the school.

## School Dinner Price Change

School dinners will be **£2.60** from Sept 2017

## Passports

Any Passport Forms requiring signature from a member of staff costs a nominal fee of £5.00, which will go towards school funds.

## School Uniform Suppliers

Thousand Stitches Ltd

First Floor

41A High Street

Antrim

BT41 4AY

Telephone: 07580 136883

## School Uniform Suppliers

Select Kidz

Schoolwear Specialist

In Ballymena

47 -49 Springwell Street

Ballymena

T: 02825652128 M: 07516115865

Select Kidz are the School uniform supplier for crested uniform.

# Quarry Safety Campaign "Stay Safe Stay Out"

Tragically, over the past few years a number of young people have been killed or seriously injured after entering disused or working quarries and got into difficulty in deep cold lagoons or on the steep rugged quarry faces. With warm weather and the summer holidays approaching, there is concern that children, teenagers and young adults could be tempted to enter their local quarry.

All too often after the death or serious injury to a young person in a quarry, their friends or parents say that they were not aware of the risks they were exposing themselves, they thought they were engaged in a harmless bit of fun. If the friends who were with them had understood the risks, they might have stopped them. This is why we believe that helping to raise awareness of these hazards will help to save young people's lives.

This is an important message to young people - **"STAY SAFE... STAY OUT"** - quarries (working or disused) are not fun places and that by trespassing you place both your own and your friends lives at risk. Fencing and warning signs are there to protect you, please do not ignore them.

## **Stay Safe... Stay Out of Quarries'**

**QUARRIES CAN PRESENT A REAL THREAT AND IN ORDER TO STAY SAFE YOU SHOULD STAY OUT!**

### **THE DANGERS:**

- **Steep vertical drops**
- **Freezing water**
- **Falling rocks**
- **Heavy machinery**
- **Silt ponds that act like quicksand**



**ATTENTION CHILDREN**, PLEASE REMEMBER WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD ON FOOT, ON A BICYCLE OR A SCOOTER.....



Find the safest place to cross then stop.  
Stand on the pavement near the kerb or the edge if there is no kerb.



Give yourself lots of time to have a good look all around.  
Make sure you can see if anything is coming and drivers can see you.



Listen carefully because you can sometimes hear traffic before you can see it.  
Never cross the road whilst chatting to people, listening to your iPod or talking on your mobile phone.

**BE AWARE EVEN WHEN YOU ARE IN SCHOOL GROUNDS OR CAR PARKS**

# SCHOOL WEBSITE!

Please take some time to visit our school website! There you will find all the information you need about school. You can meet the classes and learn about the interesting events happening in school. There is a translate engine, so the website can be viewed in other languages. Please select a language of your choice from the drop down list on our homepage. In addition, there is, a 'scrolling announcements sections' on the top of the homepage – this will draw your attention to any current activity in the school.



[stcomgalls.co.uk](http://stcomgalls.co.uk)

## Summer Holiday Dates and Arrangements

The school will close for Summer on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 12noon for all pupils. This is a **NON uniform day**. There will be NO breakfast club and NO tuck or lunches on Friday 30<sup>th</sup>. THERE WILL BE BUSES in the morning and at 12 o'clock. As normal, additional parking for collection on this day will be provided in the front playground of the school. \*Please follow the direction of the staff. School will re-open on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August (Half day, as always, on the first day).

**The Board of Governors, Principal & Staff  
Wish you all a Happy & Peaceful Summer**

