



NEWS RELEASE (TEMPLATE)

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Local Primary Schools Celebrate Shared Education Week

Two local primary schools will celebrate Northern Ireland's first Shared Education Week by hosting a concert for parents and families. The principals of Glanville PS and St Patrick's PS, Killyclogher, are organising the event to celebrate their Shared Education partnership.

Mrs Ann Other, Principal of Glanville PS said:

"We formed our Shared Education partnership with St Patrick's in September 2016. We wanted to give our pupils, teachers and school community the opportunity to learn together as part of the curriculum. Our aim was to improve learning outcomes, to promote better understanding and tolerance of diversity. From humble beginnings that partnership has developed and achieved those objectives and more. We want to share and celebrate the success of our partnership with the pupils, parents and wider community, which is why we are hosting the concert on Wednesday 10th October @ 2.30pm."

Mr Hugh Smyth, Principal of St Patrick's Primary, added:

"Our Shared Education partnership has been a great success. Over 300 Killyclogher children have enjoyed the opportunity to learn together, to build confidence, understanding and trust with children from different community and cultural backgrounds. Our staff too, have benefited through shared Professional Learning Development opportunities."

Northern Ireland's first Shared Education Week takes place from Monday 8th to Friday 12th of October. It is an opportunity for all schools to celebrate and share the success of their Shared Education partnerships. The theme for the week is: Sharing the Present - Shaping the Future.

Mr Smyth added:

“Shared Education Week aims to raise awareness and promote better understanding of the what we are doing, what we hope to achieve and the benefits we see for our children, their families and the wider community.”

Mrs Ann Other concluded:

“Our pupils and staff will participate in a range of events across the week including assemblies, joint classes, exhibitions of pupils’ course and artwork and fun sporting activities. However, we wanted to extend our celebrations to include parents, guardians and family members and that is why we are hosting the concert which will be held in St Patrick’s parish hall, Killyclogher, Wednesday 10 Oct. @ 2.30pm.”

END

Notes for Editors

1. Mrs Ann Other, MSc, BA, PGCE is the Principal of Glanville PS, Killyclogher and has been in post since 2006.
2. Mr Hugh Smyth, MA, BA, PGCE is the newly appointed principal of St Patrick’s PS, Killyclogher. He was previously Curriculum Advisor to the CCMS in Hollywood, Co Down and began his teaching career in St Joseph’s PS, Ballyhackamore.
3. Readers can learn more about the Shared Education partnership in Killyclogher by visiting the (insert website)
1. As of March 2018, there were over 59,000 pupils involved in Shared Education across 583 schools.
2. Shared Education Week will take place from Monday 8th to Friday 12th October 2018. Schools can register their interest in the week, obtain further information on events, and download free school resources at www.sharededucationweek.org
3. Shared Education Week is being organised by the Shared Education Learning Forum (SELF) in partnership with key organisations involved in delivering and promoting Shared Education, good relations and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. These include: Department of Education, Education Authority, Community Relations Council, Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), C2K, Community Relations in Schools (CRIS), Queen’s University Belfast and Fermanagh Trust.

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