

Saint Patrick's Infants School Newsletter

Sept/Oct 2018



A message from the Principal

We made it to Hallowe'en – well done to all our girls, boys and staff for settling in so successfully.

Have a great rest over Hallowe'en and let's start the next term with lots more work and fun

All the best

Anne

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Return to school on Monday 5th November
- ◆ Visit to Mayfield Library for Senior Infant classes
- ◆ November Attendance Drive
- ◆ SUAS Programme in Senior Infants
- ◆ Term 1 attendance Certificate Assembly
- ◆ Christmas Activities including our Annual fete, nativity and concerts

Sponsored Walk

On Thursday 18th October we held our annual sponsored walk to raise money for school resources. The boys, girls and staff were delighted to get out into the local community and enjoy the Autumn sunshine while taking note of historical buildings, place names and areas of special note e.g. Kelliher's Buildings and the sun dial located there.

A big thank you to all the children and their families for their very generous donations.

Attendance

Congratulations! Our children are off to a fantastic start with great overall attendance for the boys and girls in September and October. Good attendance has a positive impact on educational performance. Let's keep this up and only keep your child at home if he/she is ill.

We are having a special attendance drive for the month of November. Our target is to have full attendance for all pupils. Each Friday in November children will receive a special sticker and small treat for a full week's attendance!

Punctuality Reminder: Please ensure your child is in class and ready to start work at 8.35 a.m. each morning. The children have settled in extremely well over the past month and we would also like to remind parents of the drop and go policy which operates in the school. The entrance doors will be closed promptly at 8:45 so be on time – tús maith, leath na hoibre



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Ukulele classes

After-school ukulele classes will be beginning shortly after the mid-term break for Senior Infants. Places will be restricted to ensure students are enabled to get as much 'hands on' experience as possible. We expect demand for the classes to be high with many teachers eyeing up the available instruments... Next stop... Ireland's Got Talent

Lord Mayor's Visit

On Monday September 17th, we were delighted to receive a visit from The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Mick Finn. Buntings, headbands, flags etc. bearing the Cork colours were designed and proudly displayed as the boys and girls gave our very important visitor a huge Céad Míle Fáilte! Some creative children even donned their very own chains of office. Well done everyone!



Farran Woods

On Tuesday 9th October the Junior Infants and Room 19 along with their teachers and SNAs went on an adventure to Farran Woods. We were blessed with beautiful Autumnal weather and got to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the woods. The children were enchanted with Santa's deer and we reminded Comet to let the big man know how good we are being in school for our teachers!

Halloween Dress Up

The Parents group organised a Halloween Fun Day in school on Thursday 25th October. The children from each class had lots of fun dipping their hands into buckets of slime and playing some really cool Halloween games like transforming their teacher into Mummies! The children were asked to bring in a donation of €2 to dress up and this money will go toward funding our fantastic Christmas Fete.

A big thank you to all the parents that helped out on the day.



Maths Week

Maths Week Ireland promotes "Maths for All" by encouraging all pupils to work harder at maths and creating awareness of the importance of maths in society. All too often we hear people say "I can't do maths" and this leads to the mistaken belief that you have to be hardwired for maths. Of course, not everyone will become a top mathematician but everyone can do better than they do and many could learn to enjoy maths if we can break the "cycle of fear" associated with the subject.

Maths Week Ireland is primarily about changing attitudes towards maths. This is most effectively achieved through participation in

fun, interesting and challenging maths activities.

Maths Week took place from October 15th – 19th and here in St. Patrick's, we eagerly joined in the promotion of Maths through a variety of activities. Every opportunity was seized to develop problem solving and mental maths skills, play maths games and to take part in maths trails. We encourage all parents and guardians to promote skills such as counting, matching, oral addition and subtraction, simple problem solving etc. while involved in everyday activities and to consider board games as a present from Santa. A very big thank you to all involved for organising a week of fun!



For more information see the following websites:

www.mathsrecovery.com

www.ncca.ie

www.nzmaths.co.nz

Parking

We would like to remind you that there is no parking on school grounds and to please be mindful of residents on the hill when parking. We are aware that access on Gardiner's Hill is very tight so please exercise patience and caution.



Staff News

Big News!! Thanks to the Department of Education for granting us 2 new teachers. We now have 4 Senior Infant classes and a specialist teacher for language support. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new members of staff, Ms Alannah Wilmot and Ms Stacey Taylor. We look forward to working with you both.

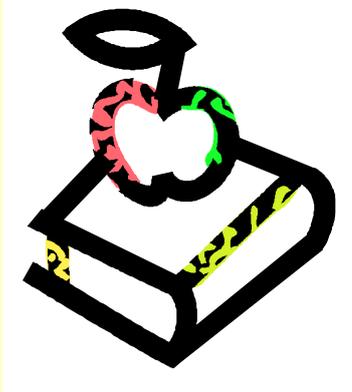
On a sadder note, we wish to say good bye to our colleague Ms Lisa Sexton and wish her all the best in her new school. Ms Sexton has been with us a long time and will be sorely missed by the students and her colleagues.

Healthy Lunches

Our school is a health promoting school and we are very fortunate to be able to offer each child a free, nutritious, tasty lunch and snack each day. Eating healthily promotes improved concentration and higher achievement among young children as well as long term health gains in later life. Our school lunch consists of:

- Fresh fruits (bananas, grapes, strawberries, oranges)
- Wholemeal brown bread
- Cheddar cheese
- Real deli sliced turkey/ham
- The only drinks we encourage are milk and water.

We place a lot of emphasis on positive mental health and so at various times throughout the school day we are practising mindful breathing and relaxation with the children, while at other times we encourage active, aerobic activity to promote greater concentration and motivation. It is our mission to equip the young children in our care with the resilience to cope with the many challenges they may face in later life.



HCSL

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Saint Patrick's Infants
School
Gardiner's Hill,
Cork

Phone:
(021) 455 1593

E-mail:
stpatricks@eircom.net
"Think kind words,
kind hands, kind feet"

We're on the Web!
www.stpatricksinfants.net

My name is Ronan Lettis and I am the Home School Community Liaison Coordinator for the school. My role is to establish and build partnerships between parents and the school and I am very much looking forward to working with you.

Your child will be involved in a number of exciting activities throughout the year and at times you will get the opportunity to work alongside them in school. Also, courses and classes will be available for parents again this year and I will be in contact with you when they are up and running.

If you need to contact me please do so throughout the school day by calling 086 784 4845 or email stphscl@gmail.com

In the meantime, if you have any questions give me a quick buzz or call the school office.

Kind Regards,

Ronan Lettis (HSCL)

Healthy Lunches

Our school is a health promoting school and we are very fortunate to be able to offer each child a free, nutritious, tasty lunch and snack each day. Eating healthily promotes improved concentration and higher achievement among young children as well as long term health gains in later life. Here is a sample menu of what your child can avail of in school at present but we are monitoring consumption and will adapt when necessary.

Our school lunch consists of:

- Wholemeal cracker
- Banana
- Strawberry
- Wholemeal brown bread
- Cheddar cheese
- Real deli sliced turkey
- The only drinks we encourage are milk and water.

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hands, kind feet”**

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year and a special welcome for our new Junior Infants.

I have taken photos of most of the Junior Infants with their parents at this stage but please contact me to arrange a time that suits you if you missed me.

The in class initiatives will be starting soon so watch out for the green notes. We are starting Internet safety with Senior Infants and their parents this Friday Oct 3rd @ 9:50, each Senior Infant class will get two sessions starting with Room 10 on Oct 3rd and 10th ,.Room 3 on Oct 17th and 24th and Room 19 Nov7th and 14th .

We are hoping to restart our parent and toddler group so if you are interested let me know.

There are many other courses available in the Community, computer, self-development and gardening if you are interested at all please contact

Ger @
0863740419 for more information.