

# St. Patrick's Infants' National School

Spreagadh Is Curam

t. Patrick's Infants National School Gardiner's HIII, Cork

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It is always a privilege to visit St. Patrick's Infants School and there is always a great welcome to be received there for everyone. The warmth and happiness to be felt in the school is a reflection of the special relationship between the children and the staff. In short St. Patrick's Infants School has happy children, happy staff and a happy school environment

#### Fr. John Paul Hegarty, Parish Priest of St. Joseph's Parish, Mayfield.

I was delighted to visit the school as part of the Lord Mayor's Cork a Musical City initiative. This was part of the Lord Mayor's visit to schools. In St. Patrick's Infants School we saw a fantastic showcase of the school's musical activity. I was really impressed by the energy and the sense of fun in the school. It was clear the children are learning through enjoyment and it was great to see such a supportive staff and to meet some of the parents.

#### Evelyn Grant, CIT, Cork School of Music and RTE Lyric FM.

In my experience of working with St. Patrick's Infant School what is striking about the school is its nurturing environment centred on the pupils. Down through the years St. Patrick's Infant School has been to the forefront in providing a holistic education and an enriching integrated arts experience for its pupils through music, art and drama. In this way the school has always fostered the involvement of parents, families and the wider community.

#### Dr. Tracey Connolly, University College Cork.

Heart warming to see the infants in such a happy loving environment, the happiness and confidence they showed was absolutely brilliant!

## Garda Helen Courtney, Community Officer, Mayfield Branch

The staff and students of St. Patrick's Infants are a pleasure to work with. The diligent work ethic of the staff creates a positive attitude towards education in the children. The bright hall and tuned piano provide an ideal space for creativity.

#### Evelyn Quinlan, visiting drama teacher.

The school is bright and colourful and has a great vibe. The staff is pro-active and helpful which in turn instils in the children an ability to share and consider others. The children are learning in a fun child-friendly environment and they show remarkable confidence and ability for their age.

#### Margaret Lucas, Potter and art facilitator.

St. Patrick's Infants School is a very welcoming and homely place, where every individual is treated equally, valued and respected. The care, understanding and love shown to the children by the staff causes them in turn to blossom and develop morally, socially, academically, spiritually, physically, aesthetically and emotionally. It is always a joy and an invigorating experience to visit the pupils and staff.

#### Declan Lucey, Poet, performer and regular visitor to St. Patrick's Infants School.

St. Patrick's Infants School is always energising, buzzing and happy with laughter and chat. Sport is a big feature in the school and the staff and children are always keen to learn new camogie and hurling skills. The delight on the children's faces and the freedom they have when they are playing sport is a wonderful thing to see. I think it is fantastic that the school encourages and promotes the involvement in sport at such a young age.

#### Liz O' Mahony, Hurling/Camogie Coach

It is obvious that the teachers of St. Patrick's Infants School foster an appreciation and love of stories and books in their pupils. Their visits to the library are a joy. The children are lively and inquisitive and are as eager to listen to books being read to them as they are to handle books. We look forward to many years of visits from pupils and teachers and we are confident that the pupils of St. Patrick's Infants School will be readers and library users of the future.

#### Mary Fitzgerald, Executive Librarian, Frank O' Connor Library, Mayfield

I had the pleasure of visiting St. Patrick's Infant School recently to launch our Santa Stamps Appeal with R.T.E.'s Mary Kingston. We really enjoyed our visit, all the children we met were lovely. Mary Kingston played the piano and read a story to the children, which we hope they enjoyed as much as we did. During my visit I learned about the various other charities that the school supports which really, really impressed me. This is definitely a school with a very big heart! I really enjoyed my visit and hope to get the opportunity to visit again soon.

#### Mairéad O'Sullivan, Area Fundraiser, Cork Simon Community

### What our parents say:

I feel so lucky that my child attends St. Patrick's Infants School. His challenges are met there and he has been supported and helped with every difficulty he has faced. I am delighted that the school does not operate on a one size fits all situation and that an individual approach is possible and met. I find the school community and ethos very professional and progressive.

The kindness, friendliness and support given from the teachers and other staff make St. Patrick's Infants School a special place for my child to be and I am very satisfied with its no-nonsense approach to bullying.

The school has a great reputation. There is great communication between parents and staff, my child is safe there and I know that he is in the best of care.

I think having a wonderful staff that have so much to give to 4 and 5 year olds makes a major difference to my child's education and this makes St. Patrick's Infants School a special place for my child to be.

St. Patrick's Infants School has an excellent approach to teaching and the fact that there is always something new going on for the children everyday makes the school such a special place for my child to receive an all round education. Having small class sizes is also a big plus!

The school caters for all abilities and everyone is made feel welcome in the school. It also has a really good intercultural environment, which is important to us as we are from

I am very satisfied that my child is being assisted positively to meet her potential and other parents I have met who also have children in the school seem to be of the same opinion.

You are always met with open arms and I feel very comfortable entering the school and dealing with the staff.

My daughter joined the school in the middle of the term having transferred from another school. Initially I was worried about how she would cope changing schools but the teachers and the rest of the staff made her feel very welcome and now it's as if she has been part of the class from day

Comments received from parents about the school in a School Survey for Parents.

## What our pupils say:

I love going to this school because it's fun. My favourite things to do are to read books and eat my vummy lunch

#### Junior Infant Pupil and Member of our School's Students' Council

I love going to this school because I can play with my friends in the yard. I also love when we do computers and when my teacher uses the computer in the classroom because it's great fun.

Senior Infant Pupil

## What our staff members say:

Working in St. Patrick's Infants School is an enriching and rewarding experience. It is inspiring to educate and nurture children of such a young age, who are all so individual and unique in their own way. The essence of the school is reflected in the children's smiling faces, glorious giggles, squeals of delight, busy hands and kind words.

St. Patrick's Infants School is a great place to work because of the supportive and openminded spirit that exists in the school. Every individual is valued and encouraged to reach his/her own potential and there is always a helping hand to rely on along the Spreagadh Is Cúram

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