

St. Patrick's Boys' N.S.
Dublin Road,
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Scoil Phádraig Naofa Buachailí,
Bóthar Átha Cliath,
Luimneach.
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September 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Ar son foireann na scoile, ba mhaith liom Céad Míle Fáilte a chur roimh gach éinne agus sinn ag teacht ar ais tar éis an tsamhraidh. Ag tús na bliana, ba mhaith liom fáilte speisialta a chur roimh na Naoináin shóisearacha agus na daltaí nua ar fud na scoile. I would like to welcome you all back to school after a lovely summer holidays. I especially would like to welcome our new Junior Infants who started with us for the first time last Monday and to the children who have entered into other classes throughout the school. Could you please read the following information carefully.

Anti-bullying weeks

Next Monday will begin the start of 2 weeks of an anti-bullying campaign in the school. We will be heightening awareness among our pupils and staff as well as giving children strategies to deal with any unwanted negative attention. **As part of the block there will be a Parents evening provided by HSE entitled 'The Ins and out of Bullying.' We are encouraging all families to have at least one parent present as it will give you important information on identifying the signs of bullying and how to deal with it. It takes place on Wednesday September 26th at 7pm**

Child Protection Policy

It is important to be reminded of the school obligations to under the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017. The schools Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment also reflect our responsibilities under the procedures and these can be found on our website. The school takes its duty of care extremely seriously and we encourage you to make yourself familiar with all of these documents.

Teacher meetings

A new year brings new challenges and opportunities. It can be overwhelming for pupils and parents alike. Your children have moved on to new classes, new classrooms and most have new teachers. I would like to assure you that all members of staff have the best interests of your children at heart and are available to discuss any worries you may have. **Please make an appointment to see your child's teacher should you have any concerns.**

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will continue in the school every day this year. We will provide a small snack and a piece of fruit to your child every morning at first break. Will you ensure that your child's school lunch is adjusted to reflect this.

Homework Policy

Please note the following key features of our homework policy that will be important for you to support your child.

- Ideally homework should be done soon after school while it is still fresh in the mind, in a quiet area free from TV and other distractions etc.

- You must sign your son's journal every night
- The time spent on homework needs to be recorded on the diary beside your signature
- Learning off and reading are vital parts of homework and need to be given as much attention as written work

Arts and Craft/Swimming Money

We are continuing to collect our Arts & Craft money this week. Many thanks to those who have paid. **I would ask anyone who has not, to please do so as soon as you can.** There will be a €5 reduction for your second child and a €10 reduction on your third child's payment should you have three children attending the school. These funds go towards the cost of purchasing classroom materials that will be required by your son during the year. Also, please be aware that only children who have paid for their swimming will be permitted to go.

School rules

If you have not done so already, could you please read the rules that are included in your child's homework journal and sign where appropriate. Among them include:

- **Please wear the correct school uniform neatly** (trousers, shirt, tie, jumper) apart from P.E. days when the school tracksuit is worn. Infant children wear the school tracksuit only.
- Haircuts are to be kept simple **without any symbols, lines, colour or decoration.**
- The Friday treat means a **small, fun sized treat** together with a healthy lunch. Inappropriate treats will be sent home.
- A note is to be provided to the class teacher **explaining all absences** on the day of return to school.

Pupil information forms

Presently, we are updating our database with pupil personal information. Please return them by Friday. **If at any stage during the year you change address/phone number etc., it is really important that you inform the school.**

Allianz Insurance

Allianz's Pupil Personal accident Insurance forms have been issued. To ensure continuity of coverage, please return these to the school by Thursday the 21st of September.

Parking, drop-off and collection times

I ask all patrons of the school to observe the rights of local residents and not to block their driveways. **Also, for health and safety reasons, please do not park in front of the school gates at any time.** This area is marked with a very clear yellow box and we ask you to respect this at all time.

School starts at 8.50am each morning. The doors open at 8.35am. Will you please ensure your child is on time every morning. Equally, school finishes at 2.30pm each evening and it is your obligation to have your child collected on time.

We look forward to your cooperation throughout the year and wish you and your child the very best for 2018/2019

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Anthony Liddane, Príomhoide