

# St. Patrick's Boys' National School

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



September 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year. A special welcome to all our new junior infants and to all the children who have joined us from other schools around the country and around the world!!

I am delighted to be working with such a talented and committed staff. Welcome to our new teacher Mr. Leen and to our new SNA Tracey. Schools depend on the support of parents and your support has been the primary reason that we have achieved so much in the past. I am excited to be working together with parents, parents council, pupils and staff in moving the school forward. I look forward to a great school year!

•Mr Manning, Mr Gleeson, Mr. Crowe & Mr. Crawford are running a **Gaelic League** (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> class), starting next week. They are trying to involve and encourage all our pupils in our Gaelic League. The league will run on Tuesday (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class) and Thursday (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Class) afternoons from 3-4pm in Ballymastone GAA grounds. We would like to thank St. Patrick's GAA for the generous use of their grounds. Gaelic league will start next week. Sport is for all, do encourage your son to get involved. There is a part for everyone to play.

•A number of our students have severe **allergies** to nuts and kiwis. I would ask you not to send in nuts in any form to school.

•Our **Hospice Coffee Morning**, for St. Francis Hospice in Raheny, will take place on Thursday 15<sup>h</sup> September in the school hall from 9am. All donations of cakes gratefully received.

•A special word of thanks to our Parents Council for all their hard work over the summer with the **book rental scheme**. Thank you to Ms. Fogarty for co-ordinating the scheme. There was a lot of work involved in organising this scheme and I really appreciate all their efforts.

•**Extra curricular** activities will be up and running in the school very shortly, more information will follow over the coming weeks.

•Congratulations to all our **past pupils** who completed their Junior and Leaving Certificate. Everyone in the school are very proud of their achievements.

•Please take care when parking near the school. Be considerate of our neighbours and do not park so as to obstruct residents access to their homes. Dogs are not allowed on the school premises. Please walk with bikes & scooters within the school grounds. This is particularly important for very young children.

•As part of our **Green Schools Programme** I would ask everyone to use reusable lunch boxes and to please take home your packaging and where possible recycle. Our healthy eating policy is on our website.

•A copy of the **school calendar** for the school year is on page two of newsletter.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh an scoil bhliain seo fiúntach agus sonasach dúinn go léir.

Brian Horan, Príomhoide

## We were working towards our 6th Green Flag..You too can play your part.....

The Green School's Committee is asking parents and students to rethink their commute to school this school year.

Following a summer of outdoor activities and traffic-free roads, we are urging parents to choose active and sustainable modes of transport for the school run. The Green School's Committee asks you to think about how you travel to school and encourages you to walk, cycle, scoot to school along with options such as Park 'n' Stride, carpooling and using public transport.

**The Community Centre carpark can be used by parents to park and walk to school.**

**Remember be safe.... "Safe Cross Code"**

**Thank You from Green School Committee**



## News from our Parents Council

Dear Parents, We will hold a Hospice Coffee Morning in the school, from drop off time in aid of St. Francis Hospice in Raheny. Please call by and support this worthy cause. Thursday 14th September.

If you would like to volunteer to help out at any of our events, or be part of smaller, "one off", committee (e.g. Communion, Confirmation, Cake Sale, Christmas Fayre etc), please leave your name and contact number with the school office.

The Parent's Council



## Mid Term Break

School will be closed on Monday 31st Oct for the week (Mid term break) and will re-open on Monday 7th November at 9am.

## First Holy Communion

Saturday 13th May

## Confirmation Day

Friday 26th May



Coffee Morning & Cake Sale

On Thursday 15th Sept

On behalf of the parents, pupils and staff I want to wish Mark Cooper all the very best. Mark has coached the boys in GAA skills for a long number of years and is moving on to another school. Mark will be missed by everyone here.

**St. Patrick's Boys'  
National School**

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**We are Caring & Respectful**

Our new behaviour system is called Positive Behaviour for Learning, or PBL.

PBL is about recognising and rewarding the good behaviour the children display in a consistent and fair manner. Since we returned the children have been taught the behavioural expectations of our school, and strategies to help them achieve positive behaviour for learning.

Please ensure you read our letter on PBL to see how you can help your child achieve positive behaviour for learning.

**We are gentle**

**We are Kind**

**extracurricular**

**Speech & Drama:** The new Speech & Drama term with Ms. Corr will begin at the end of the month.



**Tennis:** Tennis is back .... Check your email.

**Chess Club** is back on Mondays (Starting 19th 1st-4th class)—for more information please contact Joslin at 087-2373867

**Music:** Ms. Morrissey will run her music classes again in October.

**Homework Club:** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday starting next week. The Club is run by Mr. Gleeson and Mr. Hegarty



The Aistear programme (learning through play) has begun in our junior classes. Thank you to all the parents who donated toys to this programme.



1. Follow food pyramid guidelines
2. Try something new now & again
3. At least one piece of fruit for school.
4. Drink plenty of water.
5. Keep treats a treat. Once a week is enough.
6. No fizzy drinks, crisps or sweets.

**School Calendar 2016/2017**

Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November inclusive	Mid-term break. School will be closed from Monday to Friday inclusive and will re-open on Monday 7th November.
23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec - 6 <sup>th</sup> January inclusive	Christmas Holidays School will close at <u>12 noon</u> on 22nd December and will re-open on 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb inclusive	Mid Term Break. School will be closed from Monday to Friday and will re-open on Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Closed for 17 <sup>th</sup> March - St. Patrick's Day.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April inclusive	Easter Holidays. School will close at <u>12 noon</u> on 7 <sup>th</sup> April and will re-open on Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April.
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Public Holiday. School closed all day.
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June and Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School closed on Friday and Monday.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	School will close at <u>12 noon</u> for Summer Holidays.