



St Patrick's Primary School



School Newsletter

Issue 1

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Gilroy Avenue
Edenderry
Co Offaly
R45XV22

Phone: 046 9731478
Email: office@stpatricksedenderry.ie
Website: <https://www.stpatricksedenderry.ie>
Registered Charity No. 20132972

A Message from Our School Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back everyone and a heartfelt welcome to our new children and their families. It's hard to believe the summer is over and we are back for another year of learning and fun in our wonderful school and community. It is great to hear the children's voices in the classrooms, corridors and yard again and seeing them hard at work and learning in the first few days of classes.



I would like to thank Ken, our Caretaker, Mairéad and Rachel for all the work they have done over the summer in preparation for our return.

As part of the Department of Education Schools Photovoltaic Programme, we had our solar panels and display monitor installed last July. We are now able to see how much electricity is generated and used by the school on the display monitor, which makes interesting reading! The solar panels will make some reduction in the amount of electricity supplied by the national grid to the school.

Over the year, there will be school and class Masses in St Mary's Church. You are very welcome to come and join us as we pray and celebrate together.

This year, we have another first in 6th class - our first mixed class of boys and girls. This small and happy class will be leading the way as the senior children within the school.

I would also like to welcome back the members of the Parents' Association. Their energy and support of the school in their fundraising events has benefited the children and the school very much. If you have time, they are always looking for new members to help with coffee mornings and other fund raising activities and events. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for details of upcoming events.

On Monday 26th August, Tesco launched their new Community Fund campaign, which will be supporting the school's Early Bird Group. Please consider voting for us with your blue tokens at the Community Fund unit. Thank you. @TescoIrl #TescoCommunityFund @TescoIRLnews

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please contact the class teacher directly. The teachers are always happy to chat and answer any questions you may have. During class time, teachers will not be available to take phone calls or respond to emails, unless urgent. They will respond as soon as they can, which may be after school.

I am looking forward to a wonderful and happy year here in St Patrick's. We are lucky to have dedicated, professional and caring teachers, secretary and SNAs who do their very best for every child in their class and in the school.

Beir Bua agus bannacht,

Ms Ann Bracken

Staff Welcome

Our staff are very excited to be back for another school year. We are looking forward to spending the year with our students and having lots of fun while we learn.

We want to say a special welcome back to Ms O' Reilly and Ms McBride, as they both successfully applied to return this year. We are very excited to have them back.

We also want to welcome back Ms Cavanagh who is returning after her maternity leave.

We want to issue a special welcome to our St Patrick's family to Ms Carly Kane who is joining our SNA team this year.



Drop Off and Collection Times

Our school gates open at 9.10am and children **should not be dropped off any earlier than this** each morning.

If it is raining/ frosty children can go straight to their classrooms, otherwise they go to the school yard.

Children up to 2nd Class **must be** brought to the yard by an adult.

At hometime children will leave through following exits:

Junior Infants (Ms Byrne) and Senior Infants will be collected at the bottom door beside the bike shed

Junior Infants (Ms O'Neill), 1st Class, 2nd Class (Miss Quinn) and 3rd Class will exit through the middle door towards the middle gate

2nd Class (Ms McBride) will exit from the prefab to the bottom gate on Gilroy Avenue.

4th, 5th, and 6th classes will exit through the top door (near the office) through the middle gate.

New Junior Infants

A huge welcome to our new Junior Infants in both Ms O'Neill's and Ms Byrne's classroom. We are so excited for them to join our St Patrick's family.

Drop off and collection times:

Wednesday 28th: drop off 10am to the classroom. Pick up 12.30pm from the main door at the end of your child's classroom corridor. You will be shown where to queue to pick up your child.

Thursday 29th: drop off 10am at the classroom door. Pick up at 12.30pm.

Friday 30th: drop off 10am to classroom door. Pick up at 12.30pm.

Monday 2nd - Friday 6th: drop off 9.20am to the sports court yard. Pick up 12.30pm

From Monday 9th September, it is hoped the children will begin the normal school day of 9.20am-2pm. This will depend on how they are settling in. If needed, there will be one more week of shortened days.



HSCL Update

Welcome back to all our students and their families, we hope you had a lovely summer break. A very warm welcome also to all our new pupils who began on Wednesday and their families. Transition from preschool to primary school or moving schools can be a nerve wrecking time and we aim to make the transition as smooth as we possibly can for both children and parents.

My role within the school is solely dedicated to supporting parents with their child's education. This entails linking in with families through home visits, facilitating workshops / events and supporting parents with school transitions and community services. Over the coming months we have many lovely workshops and events lined up for our St. Patrick's parents so watch out for the upcoming events poster which will be released very soon on Aladdin and placed on our Parent Noticeboard at the School Reception area.

Our first event this academic year will be our annual Junior Infant Parent Coffee Morning on Wednesday 11th September after morning drop off at 9.20 in St. Patrick's Family Room - 'The Rainbow Room'.

I look forward to working with our families in the coming year and would like to thank you for your continued support and open communication. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist in any way possible on hscl@stpatricksedenderry.ie or 083 1244320.

Yvonne Loughlin
Home School Community Liaison

Aladdin App

All our communication with parents is done through the Aladdin app which can be downloaded from your phone's app store. It is **essential** that you keep this app throughout the year as all messages will be sent on this app. If you are having trouble downloading the app, please contact Tara in the office.



Hot Lunches



All the children in our school are provided with a hot lunch every day. It is important to check that your child has chosen a lunch they like each day on the app. If you are having any trouble with ordering please contact Tara in the office.

School Notices



Important Calendar Dates

11th October 2024 - Jersey Day for GOAL

21st October 2024 - School Closed due to Teacher Training Day in Maths

23rd October 2024 - School Photographer

25th October 2024 Halloween Dress Up

Sports Corner

As per usual here in St Patrick's we are looking forward to a fun filled and action packed year on the sporting front. Term 1 will include the return to training for our boys football team and for the first time ever we have entered a girls team in the Offaly Cumann na mBunscol competition so our girls from 4th to 6th will also return to training. Of course we will also run our now famous Pat Nolan Cup which is our lunchtime hurling league which is always a fantastic competition. Along with this we will have GAA training for all our classes in conjunction with our great friends at Edenderry GAA. And in October we will bring 32 students to the Tullamore Harriers for the Offaly Primary School Cross Country Championships. Busy times ahead!! And wait until you see what we have in store for Terms 2 and Terms 3!!

