**February Newsletter**

## **Upcoming Events**

**16 February In-Service Training (1/2 Day) See note below.**

**21 – 25 February (inclusive)- Mid-term**

**17 & 18 March – St Patrick’s Day Break**

**11–22 April inclusive – Easter Break**

**02 May – May Bank Holiday**

**03-06 June inclusive – June Bank Holiday**

**30 June – School Closes for Summer Break**

[**http://www.stpatricksns.ie/school\_closures\_2.php**](http://www.stpatricksns.ie/school_closures_2.php)

## **Primary Language Curriculum In-Service Training**

The next in-service day this year for our teachers to engage with the new Primary Language Curriculum will take place on Wednesday February 16th. As per Department of Education instructions, this day will be a half day for the children. On this day the children will finish at 11.30 (8.30 Start) or 11.45 (8.45 Start).

**Foróige Friends**

Foróige Friends is a club for children with additional needs. Who would like to make friends at their own pace, through games, activities, and outings. It's a safe space where you can just be yourself. Members meet every Friday from 6:30pm -7:30pm in Laurel Lodge Community Centre for those aged 10 to 14+. Come along and try it out. If you would like more information please ring Marie at 0877981114.

**Girls Senior Gaelic Football**

St Patrick’s against St Brigid’s 9th February 2022

*Yesterday in Somerton, the 9th of February, we played St Brigid’s NS in our gaelic football match. We won happily and we are all very excited for our next match. We all had so much fun. We would like to say a big thank you to Ms Donnelly, Mr Neville, Mr O’Neill and all the parents for their support. Thank you so much from the senior 6th class girls from St Patrick’s NS.*

*St Patrick’s NS 2-04*

*St Brigid’s NS 1-02*

Bea, Katie, Sophie & Sarah (Ms Donnelly’s class)

**Boys Senior Gaelic Football**

The senior boys Gaelic football team played our first game of the season against St. Mary’s of Lucan last Thursday. It was our first game together as a group. We fought hard and put in a great effort throughout the game. Unfortunately it wasn’t to be our day as a strong Lucan side ran out winners. We are looking forward to our next game as we continue to develop and grow as a team.

By Callum Galvin and Toby Stacy

**Dublin Indoor Championships-Athletics**

Well done to all of our pupils who are participating in the Dublin Indoor Championships in the Indoor Arena in Abbottstown over 3 weekends in February. Children are participating in 60m sprints, 300m, 600m, 800m, hurdles, relay and walking races, long jump, high jump, and shot put. It is great that so many are taking part and involved in sport. Many of our pupils will go on to represent Dublin at the Nationals later this year. Maith sibh!

**The Student Council:**

The Student Council has started again. We have been talking about ideas for yard activities and Safer Internet Day and how kids need to be more careful online.

The Student Council is made up of students from 2nd class to 6th class. We meet regularly meet to talk about ways to improve the school, like ways to improve yard activities. Right now that is our top priority and we're really trying to improve them. Finally the Student Council would like to congratulate the 6th class girls for their win over St Brigid's during the week.

Cillian Sheehan - Ms O'Callaghan 3rd Class/ Alex Kenny - Mr Moloney 3rd Class

**Extras Fees**

The Extras Payment of €75 per child is now payable through Aladdin. During the 2021/2022 school year, we rely on this for :

* Replacement of shared textbooks
* Classroom Resources for Literacy, Numeracy, Gaeilge, Science, History, Geography,PE, RE, SPHE, Visual Art, Drama and Music
* Stationery (pencils, crayons, copybooks, book boxes, etc) for all pupils.
* Photocopying
* Guided and Shared Readers, classroom novels
* IT Resources
* Insurance- 24 hour personal cover for all pupils ([www.allianz.ie/schools](http://www.allianz.ie/schools)) which costs €6.50 per pupil.
* Seesaw, Reading Eggs and Mangahigh subscriptions

We are a **cashless school**. Our Online Payment System allows parents to pay in a secure manner, using your ATM/Debit/Credit card. It will also automatically enter the record of the payment against your child's record on our school database. An email or text will issue to parents with all outstanding payments automatically listed.

We have set up the payment request so that you can pay in **instalments** if you wish. When you click into the link, there will be a payment on the screen for **€75** for Extras Payments 2020-2021. Under the **€75**, you will see the word **"change"**. Click on **"change"** and input the amount **you wish to pay** at this time. Minimum payment is €10 per each installment.

**Changes to Covid Guidelines after mid-term**

We do not know what if any changes to school Covid procedures may be recommended by NPHET at the end of February. However we now feel it is time to make some tweaks, to make pupils, parents and staff lives a little easier.

To this end, from the February mid-term break while homework will continue to be assigned via Seesaw, workbooks and worksheets can be brought in and out of school. We are however keen to keep the benefits (especially for our SEN learners) of having the option of submitting their work in an alternative format e.g. types, voice recording or video via Seesaw so please keep this option open for those who need it.

**Covid-19 Absence**

Please email the school when notifying Covid cases instead of phoning. By emailing, we have a written record of the case and details. Please ensure that you include your child/children’s names and their class teacher.

**Internet Safety Day (8th Feb)**

Safer Internet Day (SID) is an EU wide initiative to promote a safer internet for all users, especially young people.

The #TalkListenLearn campaign, launched by the National Parents Council, encourages parents to have open and regular conversations with their child about the internet. To talk to them about benefits and the risks, but also to listen to what their child has to say and to learn about their life online. Research consistently shows that many children do not tell if something goes wrong online. Having conversations with your child is one of the most effective ways of ensuring that they have a safe and positive experience, and to help them to feel comfortable coming to you if they encounter an issue.

Everyone has a role to play in creating a safer and better internet, and the #TalkListenLearn campaign helps to support families for Safer Internet Day 2022.

**Bottle Tops Needed**

We need bottle tops to make our new mural in the school garden.It would be great if you could please collect bottle tops from your home and send them into school with your child.The design for the mural will be posted on the school website soon.

**Colours Needed**:Blue, Black, Green, White and some unusual colours would also be much appreciated.

**St Patricks Business Directory**

The St Patricks Business Directory is part of the School Journal. It is an opportunity for parents that supply goods or services, to advertise to the Parent Body. Equally it is an excellent resource for Parents that may be looking for a reliable local person supplying goods or services, & an opportunity to support business that have a child in St Patricks NS.

If you would like to be included in the next School Journal 2022/2023, please email daniel@cms-ireland.com.

**If you have been advertising in the School Journal Business Directory in the past, you will need to contact Daniel as well.**

| **Reminders** |
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**Healthy Lunch Policy**

We operate a Healthy Lunch Policy in the school. ***Fizzy drinks, crisps, popcorn or sweets are not permitted.*** Please help us maintain the health of our children by following the guidelines which are available to view at [www.stpatricksns.ie](http://www.stpatricksns.ie/).

**Labelling/Lost Property**

The chances of returning lost property are greatly increased if all items are clearly labelled with your child’s name. Please ensure jumpers, PE sweatshirts, coats, lunchboxes, beakers, water bottles etc, etc, are labelled with your child’s name.

**Dropping in lunches, bags, homework etc.**

It is essential that all your child’s belongings e.g. lunches, bags, homework, etc., are ***clearly marked with your child’s name and their class teacher,*** especially if you are dropping in items during the school day.

| **Diswellstown Community & Recreation Centre Activities and Local Community** |
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**Dublin Parks Tennis**

SPRING 2022 TENNIS COACHING CLASSES IN RIVERWOOD ESTATE, CARPENTERSTOWN D.15.

**Starting Saturday 12th February 2022Class times: for 6-7 yrs 10am to 11am each Saturday**

· Vacancies for girls and boys 6 to 7yrs

· For beginners and improvers in local public parks

· Fee €35 for seven weeks

· All equipment supplied

· Hourly classes divided by age.

**Registration & payment online only on** [**www.parkstennis.com**](http://www.parkstennis.com)**.**

This programme is supported by Fingal Co. Council. **Inquiries to 8338711 or** [parkstennisireland@gmail.com](mailto:parkstennisireland@gmail.com)

**Castleknock Celtic FC**

Children’s Academy for Boys & Girls, Ages 4-7 years

Restarts Sat 12th February 2022 9.30-10.30am

Porterstown Park

FIRST WEEK FREE

New Members Very Welcome

“Learn the basics in a fun environment”

Text Kieran at 086-8091699 for more information