

Scoil Phádraig Milltown Ns

Newsletter- 2023/2024

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5/10/23

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note the following:

Mid-Term Break: School closes for mid-term break on Friday 27th October at the normal school time. The school will be closed for mid-term break the week of 30th October. School re-opens on Monday the 6th November at 9.20am.

Arts and crafts Fee: A reminder that the closing date for payment of Arts and Crafts money was Monday October 2nd. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

School Photographer: The school Photographer will visit on 11th October at 9.20 am. Photographs are optional, please inform your child if they are/are not getting their photograph taken.

School Website: Our school website is currently undergoing a revamp. We're hoping to be much more active on our website and will be using it as a form of home-school communication. Watch this space!

Board of Management: A Board of Management meeting was held on 28th September last. At this meeting the Board carried out our annual review of our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. This policy will be on our school website. Also, at this meeting the Board commended staff, pupils, and parents on all their continued great efforts for ensuring that our school is a safe environment for all our school community. The term for the current Board is coming to an end and I will be in touch shortly seeking nominations for Parent's reps. Please have a think about this in the meantime.

Allergies and Medical Conditions: A number of pupils in our school are allergic to nuts, so we ask that **nuts are never brought to school**. It is very important that parents inform the school immediately of any medical condition your child may have.

Bag Packing: The school will be holding a fundraising bag pack in Dunnes Stores on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th of October. The funds raised will be used to purchase IT and PE equipment for the school. We are hoping to get as many parents, past pupils and community members as possible to sign up for a slot. Please fill in a space on the attached spreadsheet to book your slot! We have also set up a Go Fund Me page for the event as we realise that cash and coins are not as prevalent. Feel free to share the links.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zxEVeClk63kwwzJcGsabtrNbC7ZEm08gU0UVSC8Lujs/edit?usp=drive_link

<https://gofund.me/899728c0>

Car parking: In the interest of safety for all in Scoil Phádraig, drivers are asked to keep the walkway clear at all times. Drivers are asked to park in the designated parking bays, as this ensures that pupils do not have to cross the road. Drivers are also asked not to park on the opposite side of the road. Vigilance is needed at all times to ensure the safety of children at drop off/collection time.

Procedure for collection of pupils from school: At 2pm the infant class teacher hands over all infant children to the care of an adult at the school gate. The class teacher should be **informed immediately** in writing of any changes to the collection arrangements.

At 3pm pupils from First to Sixth class are walked to the side gate by their class teacher. Here pupils may be collected by a parent, walk to their car, or walk to get on the bus. It is strongly recommended that parents discuss a designated meeting point with your child.

At home time please instruct your child to return to the school office if:

- He/she is in any doubt about collection arrangements.
- The collector is late.
- There is nobody to meet him/her at the designated meeting point.

If any of the above arise, the school will contact a parent/guardian. Your child will remain in the school until such time as he/she is collected. Please ensure that your child's teacher has an up-to-date address and phone number which should be written in the homework journal. It is the parent's

responsibility to inform the school in writing of any changes in address or telephone number. Any person collecting a child on behalf of the parent/guardian will be permitted to take the child **only if the parent/guardian contacts the school beforehand** and indicates that he/she has expressly authorised the person to collect the child on his/her behalf. If pupils are withdrawn during school time, parents are asked to write a note regarding same in their child's homework journal.

Birthdays/Occasions invitations: We have learned from experience that it is not a good practice for invitations to be given out on the school premises. It can be a cause of great upset, especially for younger children. We ask parents/guardians that party invitations should **NOT** be given out within the school grounds. Due to allergies in the school we do **NOT** allow birthday cakes to be brought in from home.

Maths Week 2023: Maths week is from 14th - 22nd October. In school classes will participate in maths games and maths trails. Look up <https://www.mathsweek.ie/2023/> for fun ideas on maths at home.

Cross Country: Due to inclement weather the Cross Country in Belvedere was postponed until Wednesday October 18th. Best of luck to all competing!

Cumann na mBunscoil Football: After a few training sessions the boys and girls team made their season debut in a double header versus Sonna in Milltown. Although we came out on the losing side in both girls and boys games we are very proud of the efforts of our teams. Special mention goes to the 4th class children who made their school debut!



Brick4kidz: Our hugely popular STEM workshops are commencing next week. Any outstanding money should be sent to the office as soon as possible please!

Primary Maths Curriculum: The NCCA and Department of Education are leading an overhaul in the Primary Maths Curriculum. These changes will be made on a gradual basis with teachers receiving training this academic year. More information for parents can be found at

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/269651/2c1fe0b3-c52b-47e6-b68a-ad1259c69ff6.pdf#page=null>

Dress Up Friday: Our annual "Dress Up Friday" will be held on 27th October next. More details to follow closer to this date.

Yours sincerely,

Ronan Scally

Acting Principal

