



September 2022 Newsletter



Welcome back to St Mary's P.S. We are delighted to see everyone. The children all look fabulous. We are really looking forward to a great year.

A special welcome to all those children who have started with us this year. We are looking forward to getting to know you all.

Year One: , Dara, Chloe, Casey, Emily-Rose, Laoise, Róise, Niamh Mc, Niamh M, Seán-Óg, Danny, Sonny, Cillian, Isla, Charlie, Abigail, Cooper, Grace, Conall, Georgia, Fiadh, Katie, Rose and Erin,

Year Two: -Dara,

Year Five: -Ella.

School closings this term.

The school will be closed on Monday 26th September for staff training. The school will be closed on Monday 31st October, Tuesday 1st, Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th November for the Halloween Break.

Nut Allergy: We have two children with nut allergies in the school therefore we would ask parents not to send nuts or any nut-containing products into the school with children for snack or lunch. Thanks. There is a nut free food list available on the school web-site.

Morning Arrangements:

School starts at 9.10 a.m. The gates will open at 9.00 a.m. However, we do have a waiting room facility which will operate from 8.30 a.m. All children in school before 9 a.m. must go to the waiting room where they will be supervised until 9 a.m. Please let us know if you would like your child to attend the waiting room in the morning as we need to know to have suitable numbers of staff in place. There will be a small charge of 50p per day (or £1 per family). Payable on the day. Please fill in the booking form at the end of this newsletter. Thanks. The school will open at 9.00 a.m. for all other children. Children will then go to their classes and leave in their bags and can go out to play until 9.10 a.m. All children should be encouraged to come into the school themselves so as to aid independence. Parents should not be in the playground after 9 a.m.

Home-time Arrangements:

Year One children will go home as arranged for the next few weeks. Year One children may avail of our After-School from Monday 26th September.

Year Two children will go home at 2.10 p.m. and can be collected from the side of the school as last year. After school club will begin on Thursday 1st September for Year 2 children.

Year Three-Seven children will go home at 3.10 p.m. Children travelling home by car can be collected from the playground when the weather is fair and from the dining hall in poor weather. We would ask that parents wait at the gate for their children. The gate at the side of school for Year 3,4 and after-school club children and the gate nearest the hall for those in Year 5-7. Teachers will then send children out to you. It is really

important that the school knows who has permission to collect your child from the school.

3. Dinner

Dinners will cost £2.60 per day from 1st September. Dinner money must be paid at the beginning of the school week in line with EA Western Policy. All families will receive a meal menu and please feel free to choose whichever days suit your children. Please place dinner money in an envelope with your child's name and class on it outlining the days on which dinner will be taken. Children are very welcome to bring their own healthy packed lunch with them to school also. If you are entitled to free school meals, you must apply online. Please be advised this can be a lengthy process and school meals must be paid for until free-schools meals have been allocated by the EA.

4. Snack

Children should bring a healthy snack to school for break.

5. Water

Children should bring a bottle of water to school each day, to drink throughout the day. A sport type lid is advisable.

6. Data Collection

Every child will receive a data collection form. Please check the information on the form and make any changes which are necessary, sign and return to school. Thanks.

7. Uniform

The school uniform remains as last year, a school polo shirt and jumper/cardigan. A navy skirt/pinafore / trousers. Please put your child's name on all items of clothing so that they can be returned to them if lost. It is impossible to reunite owners with uniform pieces if they aren't labelled. Thanks.

8. Attendance

Children must attend school every day unless they are ill. Please let us know why your child is off school either via a telephone call or a note to the teacher. This is important for DENI records. Do please try to keep medical and dental appointments outside of school hours where possible. Thanks.

P.E

P.E begins for all children this week. Please wear P.E kit and trainers. Thanks.

Year 1-4 children will have P.E on Fridays. (Beginning Friday 9th Sep)

Year 5-7 children will have P.E on Tuesdays. (Beginning Tuesday 13th Sep)

Swimming

Year 6 and 7 children will go swimming on Wednesdays this term.

Covid-19

Everyone should continue to be vigilant for signs and symptoms of Covid-19.

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of taste and or smell

Testing is not now recommended for most people. However, it is still prudent to test especially if your child is coming into contact with older or more vulnerable people

If your child has a positive COVID-19 test result, they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days after the day they took the test or from the day their symptoms started (whichever was earliest), if they can.

After three days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children with a positive result are also advised to avoid meeting with anyone who is known to be at higher risk, especially individuals with a weakened immune system, for 10 days from the start of their

infection. Children should not visit others in a health or social care setting during this 10 day period.

Children who live with someone who has a positive coronavirus test result should continue to attend school as normal.

Grace in Year 6 wrote a lovely poem about coming back to school.

Back to School

Gates open wide,
Walking with a confident stride
I understand why,
The little ones cry,
Noise of loud chatter,
Pencils fall with a clatter,
Re-united with old friends,
The smell of fresh books sends
Out a nice feeling and,
Parents cars start to land,
What a great day
We all shout HURRAY!

By Grace Golding P6



Waiting Room: September 22

I would like my child/ren _____ to
attend the waiting room in the mornings from 8.30-9.00 a.m.

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian_

Extra Uniforms

If anybody needs any pieces of uniforms or school coats, we have lots here in the school. Please just ring the office and let us know, we'll send them home to you or alternatively you can come to the school and have a look and take whatever you need. There is no cost. Thanks.