
October Newsletter

St. Patrick's National School

Harbour Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin
www.stpatricksnshalkey.ie T: 01 2803647

Dear Parents/Guardians

It's hard to believe that midterm break is upon us.

We have had a busy half term and look forward to the second half and the run up to Christmas.

Book Fair: Monday 12th – Friday 16th November

Our PTA will launch our annual Book Fair on 12th November 2018. This will run for the week in the Northover hall. Parents can come along (before school and after school) any day that week. It's a great opportunity to encourage your child's reading whilst supporting the school and maybe start the Christmas shopping.

Apple Press Day

On 14th September we were very lucky to have parents visit with an apple press. Pupils from all classes brought home grown apples from their garden and then all the children went out to the school yard and pressed the apples to make themselves a lovely fresh drink. They had a lot of fun enjoying a new experience and were fascinated watching the apple press at work.

National Tree Day

As we mentioned in our September Newsletter, National Tree Day was 4th October. We had assembly in the Church garden on the day and planted a Hazel tree to celebrate. The children are very much looking forward to watching the tree grow and mature. The picture at the top of the newsletter shows the tree planting.

Gaeilge in St. Patrick's

We are increasing the focus on oral Gaeilge this year, as part of the SSE (School Self Evaluation) process. Each week we are learning Frásaí na Seachtaine (phrases of the week). Your child will hopefully be coming home with some new phrases, please take some time to discuss with your child what they have learnt.



Upcoming Events

Friday 26th October
Hallowe'en Fundraising Disco
organised by PTA

Friday 26th October
School **closes** at normal time for
midterm break.

Monday 5th November
School **reopens** at normal time.

Friday 21st December
Christmas play, more information
next month

Staff News

Ms. Rebecca Waugh will leave on Friday 26th October to take up a position in another school.

We wish Ms. Waugh all our very best in her new role and thank her for her valuable contribution to our school.

We welcome Ms. Kiara Drake to Junior & Senior Infants after mid-term break.

More Important News

Wheelbarrows:

As part of the Dalkey Creates initiative, 1st & 2nd class have been busy tending to the wheelbarrows outside the main doors under the instruction of Ms. Newton and classroom assistant Angie. Unfortunately the weather was too bad on Friday 12th for the event to go ahead, the children had a great time planting and learning about all the different fauna and flora.

Enrolment 2019/2020

The Admissions policy is currently under review to take account of recent legislative changes. The enrolment process for 2019/20 will not commence until further notice.

Parent Teacher Meetings:

Meetings are scheduled for 13th & 15th and 20th & 22nd November. A timesheet will be posted on noticeboard in foyer after mid-term. Please write your details clearly on the sheet. If however, these times do not suit please discuss a suitable time with your child's teacher.

Junior Infant Vaccinations

The HSE will visit the school on Wednesday 14th November to vaccinate the Junior Infant class. Parents/Guardians are not required to attend. Consent forms will be going home with the children in the coming days.

Active Schools Committee

We have now elected our Active Schools committee, the children will be involved in ensuring we reach our weekly activity targets and will help set challenges for the school. The committee members are Kirsten, Simone, Chloe, Patrick, Poppy, Vivien, Molly, Coco, Ruby, Anna, Sam, Lucy, Eilbhe and Sophie.

Student Council

We are delighted to announce our new student council! Theo, Alice, Meghan, Oisín M, Oisín H, Matilde, Eimear, Charlie, Sean, Chloe, Poppy and Patrick will be involved in some fun activities for the school and will help arrange some new activities and events.

Green Flag News

We plan to elect a Green Flag committee after midterm. This will be a great opportunity for the children to get involved and help make a difference to the world around them.

Christmas Shoe box Appeal

We are once again taking part in the annual Team Hope Shoebox appeal. Completed boxes should be brought to school for Friday 9th November. This is an excellent initiative which helps the children understand about families less fortunate than they are overseas. On a recent shopping trip Ms. Newton noted that the Tiger store are selling a flat pack shoe box with the form included. This may help in the preparation.



Activities in school

Gymnastics

Grainne Keane has taken 3rd – 6th class for Gymnastics for the last 4 weeks.

Grainne will come back in February for another 4 week course to do dance classes.

Swimming 3rd & 4th Class

The 6 week term for 3rd & 4th class swimming will commence on Thursday 25th October and run until 6th December. Please ensure consent forms are returned and payment made before 25th.

Leinster Rugby Coach:

We are delighted to announce that Jonathan Butler from Leinster Rugby will do 4 coaching sessions with 5th/6th class, commencing 14th November. This a super opportunity for the children.

Library visits

Every 2nd week Ms. Newton walks 1st/2nd class to Dalkey Library. The children pick new books to read at home whilst enjoying the fresh air as they go!