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School Roll Number: 20190T*



## *Holy Trinity National School September 2016*

Dear Parents/ Guardians.

You are all very welcome back to Holy Trinity N.S. To our new families, we extend a special warm welcome. Best wishes to all for a successful year ahead.

### **Moving On**

The Board of Management has received letters of resignation from Mr. John Hickey and Ms. Ciara O Sullivan. We wish both John and Ciara along with their young son Rory every good wish as they move away from Dublin to take up teaching positions in the sunny south-west.

Ciara has been teaching in Holy Trinity NS since September 2007. John was appointed to Holy Trinity in 2009. We thank John and Ciara for their significant contribution to the development of Holy Trinity NS. They both have left their mark in different areas of school life. Ciara was leader of our Science Fairs over the years and generously shared her musical prowess with pupils and staff. John led the Green School Project, and took main responsibility for the development of the new School Garden.

I thank both John and Ciara for supporting and engaging with new staff over the past few years and that responsibility always rested easily on their shoulders.

Third class have been introduced to their new teacher Ms Cotter today. Ms O Byrne will continue with the senior infant class.

We welcome Ms. Mannion, Ms. Keane, Mr. Phelan, Iníon Ní Chíobháin and Ms Boyle who have all been appointed recently to the school.

### **Junior Infants**

The boys and girls are all settling into their new classes with phenomenal ease. At morning time, we are trying to keep the lining-up and entry to classroom as relaxed as possible. Each morning the class teacher will come to the assembly line at 8.50am and ask if boys and girls would like to wave goodbye to mum/ dad / minder at the assembly line, before leading the pupils to the classroom. If your child is unsettled or anxious, you are welcome to accompany them to the classroom, but please leave as quickly as possible. At collection time it will take a little time for the teachers to recognise all the new parents/ minders, so please be patient at this time. Please write a short note to the class teacher if you need to bring something to her attention.

***A short meeting is scheduled for this Friday September 16th at 1.10pm for the parents/ guardians of junior infant pupils. At this meeting the teachers will outline the junior infant curricular programme for the year ahead.***

### **Medical Conditions**

All pupils with medical conditions that may need attention during school hours have received Indemnity forms from the school board to be signed by parent/ guardian. Authorisation must be granted by the school board for administration of medication to take place in school.

If your child has developed a condition or allergy that the school is unaware of, please inform the school office as soon as possible.

### **SAFETY**

**As a safety measure, we request that you do not use plastic wrapping or plastic bags as lunch packaging.**

### **Nuts.**

Due to the increasing number of nut allergies in the school, we ask that nuts, peanut butter and nut based foods are not to be included in your child's lunch.

### **Hair Care**

Please check your child's hair regularly for nits/ head-lice. Regular combing will detect at an early stage any infestation. If you find head lice in your child's hair, please report it to the school office. An information bulletin will then be sent to the parents of all the pupils in the class. The spread of infection can thereby be limited.

### **Parent- Teacher Class Information Evenings**

**Class Information Meetings for all classes from senior infants to 6th class have been deferred to early October. At least two weeks' notice will be given to parents ahead of these important meetings.**

### **Going and Coming from School**

Pupils from 2nd class and younger must be collected by an adult each day from school. Written notification must be given to the school to allow these young children walk home with older siblings, neighbours etc.

### **School Calendar.**

The school calendar is published on the school website. A publishing error relating to June 2017 has been amended. School finishes on Friday June 30th. The school will close for an additional day on Friday June 2nd.

### **Swimming.**

The swimming module for Mrs. Walsh's class and Ms Doherty's class commences on Monday next September 19th. Swimming will once again be taking place in Loughlinstown. Pupils will be taken to the pool by coach.

### **Uniforms.**

Please ensure all our pupils are turned out in the full school uniform each day. Tracksuits should be worn only on PE days, as notified to your child in their homework journal. A full schedule of the PE days will be issued for all classes in the coming few days.

We had a discussion at our recent School Assembly about the importance of taking pride in our uniforms. We have encouraged pupils to take great care of their school clothes. Pupils themselves have suggested that the uniform is taken off and hung up each afternoon after school so that the uniform lasts the whole year. Please ensure all uniform items are labeled. Unnecessary expense is brought about each year when school jumpers, tracksuits, coats and ties go missing.

### **Punctuality- "Be On Time - Ten To Nine"**

Right from the beginning of the school year, please ensure pupils are punctual for classes. If you must take your child out during class time to attend an appointment, please go directly to the school office. Julie will call

your child from class. You must sign your child out. Please do not take your child early from school. It disrupts learning for the whole class.

#### **Attendance**

The beginning of a school year is a good time to take stock of your child's attendance. I cannot stress enough how important it is for him/ her to attend school as much as possible. Every day really does count. I encourage all pupils and families to play their part in keeping our attendance figure as high as possible in this school year. You will be aware that I have a legal obligation to report pupils with 20 or more absences in a school year. If your child is unable to attend school, please write a short note explaining the absence for your class teacher on return to school. Absence notes are in the homework journals of pupils.

#### **Coffee Reminder**

Morning Tea/ Coffee in Holy Trinity NS this Thursday 8.50 a.m. following drop-off. All proceeds in aid of Irish Hospice Foundation.

#### **School Uniform Shop**

The shop will open on Thursday morning during coffee time in the school hall.

#### **After-School Activity Collection Point.**

All pupils will be brought to a central collection point in the courtyard area of the school once their after-school activity is finished. Access/ Egress will not be allowed through the main front door of the school for any after-school activities. As a security measure, the internal door in the main lobby is now locked.

#### **Dogs**

Due to large numbers of pupils, dogs are not permitted inside the main school gate.

#### **This Week's Focus - Good Friend Week**

Classroom focus on 'Developing a Classroom Contract'  
Social Personal & Health Education lessons on Friendship- Making Friends.

Playing together is vital to social and emotional development. All children need to feel happy and secure when playing in the school yard. The yard is well supervised and any child who is hurt physically or emotionally by another child must tell any member of staff immediately. The First Aid protocol for dealing with any accidents and bumps has been reviewed by the school staff and school board.

Parents need to reassure their child that the teacher on yard duty will listen to them and if a serious incident occurs, the class teacher will further investigate. We organise a junior buddy system in Holy Trinity NS where our sixth class children provide additional support to the younger pupils to help them play games.

Beir Bua 'S Beannacht  
James Tobin

#### **Nath na Seachtaine: Irish Phrase of the Week**

| <b><i>Easy</i></b> | <b><i>More Challenging</i></b> | <b><i>Very Difficult</i></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Slán               | Feicfidh mé thú                | Feicfidh mé Dé Luain thú     |
| Good-Bye           | See You                        | I'll see you on Monday       |

*Bain triall as sa Bhaile Try it at home*