



November Newsletter 2020

Mrs Hilliard Retirement

Deputy Principal and Special Education Co-ordinator Mrs. Hilliard will be retiring this Christmas after giving 38 years of service and hard work to our school. Mrs. Hilliard's friendship, approachability and expertise will be dearly missed by everyone. She has left a great legacy to our whole school community and we sincerely thank her for that. May you have a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

Congratulations to Ms. Heavey on her appointment as Deputy Principal and Special Education Co-ordinator. Ms. Heavey is a highly valued member of staff who will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to these important roles. She is looking forward to working in partnership with all members of the school community.

Trick or Treat for Temple Street

Thank you for all your donations in aid of Treat for Temple Street. It was lovely to see so many great costumes and smiling faces. An amazing 1294 euros was raised to help sick children in CHI at Temple Street hospital. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Here is a video link of pupils enjoying the day [Duleek GNS Trick or Treat for Temple Street Video 2020](#)

Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week took place between the 16th and 20th of November. Pupils made an extra effort to build new friendships during this week. Activities included compliment boxes in each class, having a secret friend and coming up with a School Anti-Bullying Slogan as part of the Amber Flag initiative. A whole school Anti-Bullying Zoom Assembly will also take place later this week to mark the event.

Anti-Bullying Week also provided us with an opportunity to recognise and value the excellent behaviour of all our pupils. Thank you for your important role in fostering such important values. Along with all the staff, the pupils are central to making our school the welcoming and positive environment that it is.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

Parent-Teacher Meetings are scheduled to take place in term two this year. More details will follow after the Christmas break with plenty of advance notice given. If you wish to speak with your daughter's teacher in advance of this, please use the email shared with you at the start of the year on Aladdin.



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Friday the 11th December. This fun day will be in aid of St. Vincent de Paul who carry out such valuable work. All donations are voluntary and can be made through Aladdin from Wednesday the 11th of December.

Christmas Performances via Zoom

Great efforts are being made by staff and students to celebrate Christmas in a safe and fun manner this year. Our Christmas celebrations will take place via Zoom and details of dates and times for your daughter will be sent next week.

This will ensure that you can be part of our Christmas festivities and witness all the fun and joy that Christmas time in our school brings each year. All of these events will take place between the 16th and 22nd December.

Covid 19 Procedure Reminders

- *Staggered arrivals/Dispersal:* Please note arrival for walkers, cyclists and carpoolers is between 8.50 and 9.00. There is no access to the school building before 8.50 am. Bus drop off is 9.00 to 9.20. Pupils who arrive before this time are not supervised and are at risk of mixing with other class bubbles. The Board of Management accepts no responsibility for any pupils who arrive before this time.
- Pupils going home via bus (1st – 6th Class) exit the school building at 2:55pm. When this group departs, all other pupils then exit the school building. If your daughter is being collected in a car, she will exit the school via the senior yard (double green gates). We are encouraging all parents to stay in their car to ensure that pupils have space to walk on the path and that groups of adults are not congregating on the school grounds. If you need to get out of your car to get your daughter's attention, please stand on the footsteps in front of the senior yard (double green gates).
- When dropping and collecting your daughter, please ensure that you are following public health advice at all times. We are also kindly asking parents to wear a face mask whilst on school grounds. If you are entering the building to collect your daughter, the wearing of a face covering is mandatory. Finally, smoking is not permitted on school grounds.