

**St. Patrick's N.S.**

**Parent Information Meeting-  
Meeting Notes for Parents**



**September 2022**

# Introductions

- School-  
Class teachers

Principal: Séamus Mac Conámha

Deputy: Emer Threadgold

Fáilte



# Class Teachers

## ★ Curriculum

We follow the Primary School Curriculum as set out by Department of Education. Curriculum runs in 2 years cycles- infants, junior (1st/2nd), middle (3rd/4th), senior (5th/6th). English/Gaeilge most recently reviewed (Primary Language Curriculum), a new maths curriculum will follow soon

## ★ Homework/Seesaw

Homework policy was updated in 2020 following consultation with parents, staff and pupils. Weekly menu allows flexibility. Homework menu set on Seesaw. Copying homework from board of little value and adds to challenges for some children.

## ★ Helping your child

Read with them/encourage them to read. Apply learning to real life situation e.g. using a calendar, reading a clock. Give them daily household task, encourage independence. Talk together and be curious together!

## ★ Important reminders

Raincoats every day...Healthy lunch policy...Nut free school...Party Invites off school grounds please

# Parents' Association

The Parents Association are seeking new members. If you have any time to offer please contact the links below.

**AGM TBC**

**New members welcome!**

**facebook**

Please follow our page at  
[www.facebook.com/schoolPA](http://www.facebook.com/schoolPA)

**email**

You can always contact us by  
email at  
[stpatrickspa@yahoo.com](mailto:stpatrickspa@yahoo.com)

# Updates from Board of Management

## 1. Purchase of “The Field” by DES

The purchase of the site adjacent to St. Patrick’s is progressing further with surveying ongoing. .

## 2. Plans to extend St. Patrick’s

The DES plan to create a four stream school here in St. Patrick’s along with special classes when the site is acquired.

## 3. Admissions Challenges

The admissions challenges are still ongoing and demand remains really high.



# St. Patrick's 2022...the story so far

## Established 2001

45 pupils

2 classes

2 teachers

## Now in 2022

854 pupils

30 classes

48 teachers

15 SNAs

2 + administrators

2 caretakers

# Building Updates

- Prefab in planning for 23-24
- Class using library
- Long-term plans
- Please talk to our local representatives about our ongoing Pyrite issues at any opportunity.



- A second prefab being installed in courtyard 2.
- Expansion will involve replacing prefabs and library with new classes.
- Speaking to local representatives will help greatly.

# Admission Policy 23-24

## Categories

Category 1- Siblings/step siblings and children within the parish. Category 2- Staff children. Category 3- Children from outside the parish. (Eldest-youngest in each category)

## Clarification re siblings

Old policy also followed an oldest to youngest policy. Eldest 210 who applied under the joint enrollment policy with St. Mochtas.

## Registration dates and process

Registration begins on Oct 17th and runs until Nov 13th. The process and all information now available on our website.

## NB: Apply to other schools

We would encourage all applicants to apply to other schools. It will not affect your application to St. Patricks.





# Monitoring Pupil Attendance

## Daily Roll Call

Really important part of the day.

## 20 Day Absence Report

If your child has been absent please provide a reason either by using the orange absence slips in Journal (1st-6th) or send a note in infant classes. If a child is absent for 20+ days we are obliged to send a report to Túsla and having reasons makes the whole process much easier.



# Calendar

## Coming soon....

- **Events calendar on Aladdin**
- **School closures**
- **Events e.g. tours and sports days**

We are currently working on an events calendar which will go on Aladdin. This calendar will provide a long term view of events during the year and we hope that it gives parents a chance to get vetted and secure leave if they are in a position to attend or volunteer.



# Photo Policy/AUP

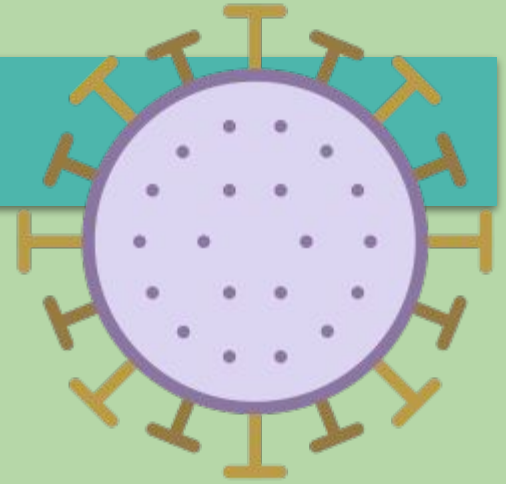


Currently being updated

**New photo policy and permission will be sent out soon. Please read carefully.**

We are currently updating two policies (very much tied together)- our Photo Policy and our Acceptable Usage Policy. Our intention is to make it very clear for all parents and guardians where photos are used for teaching and learning purposes and in what instances outside of teaching and learning where we would seek explicit permission to use photographs. We hope to circulate the updated policies later this week. Please indicate your preference for Photo Policy in the Aladdin app when available.

# Covid 19



**Control measures remain in place**

**Keep sick children at home**

**Stay symptom aware**

**Text to class if there is a case**

## Challenges

- **Substitute Teachers- will be a major challenge this winter with a lack of teachers in the system.**

# Special Education (Support) Provision 1

## Continuum of Support

### Stages:

**3-** Children with complex needs

**2-** Children who require support from Special Education teacher in class and sometimes by withdrawal

**1-** Some extra support from class teacher  
Usually for a short period of time



“Pupils with the greatest level of need should have access to the greatest level of support”. (Stage 3)

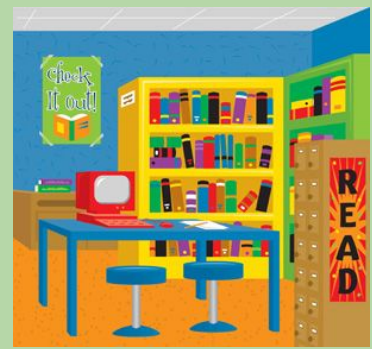
# Special Education Provision 2

- **Assessment-** Standardised assessments, class based assessments/observation and assessment by Special Education teacher all used to determine who qualifies for support (See *Special Education Need* policy on website for more details)
- **In class support** (class teacher and special education teacher)
  - target pupils (children identified as needing extra support)
  - flexibility to respond to needs (can depend on needs on the day)
  - We will contact you if your child is getting any sustained support
- **Withdrawal-** priority basis (See Special Education Policy)
- **Support plans** (for any child getting sustained support on Stage 1, 2 or 3- will be shared with parents)



# Senior Book Survey-

Does reading for pleasure decrease in senior classes?  
What can we do to encourage older children to read?



5th

63% read for pleasure + 30% sometimes  
40% read every day + 30% most days

1. Buy more books for library (76%)
2. Incentive e.g. competition (29%)

6th

37% read for pleasure + 57% sometimes  
27% every day + 37% most days

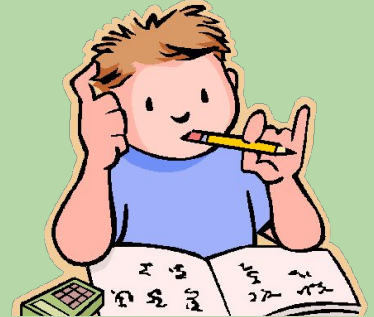
1. Buy more books for library (63%)
2. Assign reading homework (32%)

# Journal

**NB- Not a HOMEWORK journal**

**Communication between home and school- most efficient way to send notes to and from school/home. Check journal regularly. See extra pages e.g. cursive writing, spelling strategies, maths tables.....**

**Attendance notes- see back of journal**





# Emergency Contact

- We will **always** try to contact parents first.
- In the event that we cannot reach either parent we require an **EMERGENCY CONTACT**.
- This person may be a grandparent, aunty/uncle or a neighbour.
- Please ensure that emergency contacts are up to date.

# Head Bumps

**Head bumps reported home**

**Serious head bump- call**

**Other serious injuries- call**

# Please!!!

- Parking- best place Spar, remember our neighbours
- School grounds- dismount bikes, scooters at the top of the hill
- Cycle lanes/pedestrian lanes on paths to school- stick to correct lane
- School website [www.stpatricksns.ie](http://www.stpatricksns.ie)
- School communication- Journal, Aladdin
- Dropping off essential items/Early collections
- Contacting office
- Contacting staff: journal OR [info@stpatricksns.ie](mailto:info@stpatricksns.ie) \* (teachers teaching all day- please be patient!)



# Please!!!

- Dogs (be mindful of nervous children- stay back from entrance/top of ramp)
- Lines- please walk BEHIND not through moving lines in the morning
- Smart watches- Not allowed (see Mobile Phone Policy)
- Punctuality - start of day an important time for children- please be on time for line
- Earrings- studs only, no necklaces, bracelets etc for safety reasons



Thanks

