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Principal: Mrs. Keira McCallan BA (Hons), PQH

Monday, 24th September, 2018.

Dear Parent,

Please read the following notes carefully:

- This is **European Languages Week**. Please find attached a flyer detailing various activities planned this week.
- Our **Annual Continental/Irish Breakfast** takes place on the morning of **Friday, 28th September** from **8.00 - 9.00am**. Breakfast is priced at **£2** per child and **£3** per adult. Children who have not started school yet eat for free. Please support this event as **all proceeds are in aid of school funds**. Pupils must remain in the dining hall or Mrs. McCallan's classroom until 9.00am to ensure adequate supervision. School staff will not be available to supervise children until 9am. If anyone is available to help out that morning, please contact the school office. We would greatly appreciate any help.
- I am delighted to inform you that we have secured **After-School Fundamental Skills Coaching** on a **Thursday** from **2.00pm to 3.00pm** for pupils in **Year 1/2 pupils**, commencing this **Thursday, 27th September**. This coaching will be provided free of charge and will be delivered by **Mr. Keenan** from the **Ulster Council** who has recently started working with Years 1-4 on a Thursday during school and Years 5-7 after school. The duration of this coaching will be dependant on continued funding from DENI and has been secured until at least Halloween. Please complete the permission slip attached if you wish your Year 1/2 child to attend and return it to school by **Wednesday** of this week. Please also indicate who will be collecting your child at 3.00pm or whether they are to go home by bus.
- The following PE sessions have been arranged for pupils, **so far**, for **Term 1**.

Year 1/2: Thursday- Ulster Council Coaching during school.

After-School Gaelic Coaching provided by Ulster Council.

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Friday- Multi-Sports Coaching provided by SkillSchool NI
After-School Multi-Sports provided by SkillSchool NI

Year 3/4: Thursday- Ulster Council Coaching during school.

Friday- Multi-Sports Coaching provided by SkillSchool NI
After-School Multi-Sports provided by SkillSchool NI

Year 5/6: Thursday- After-School Gaelic Coaching provided by Ulster Council.

Friday- Multi-Sports Coaching provided by SkillSchool NI
After-School Multi-Sports provided by SkillSchool NI

Gaelic Coaching to be confirmed.

Year 7: Thursday- Gaelic Coaching- Student teacher from St. Ciaran's College
After-School Gaelic Coaching provided by Ulster Council.

Friday- Gaelic Coaching/Cross-Country Running (SkillSchool NI)
After-School Multi-Sports provided by SkillSchool NI

Therefore all pupils are asked to wear their PE uniform every **Thursday** and **Friday**.

- Our **ICT co-ordinator, Mrs. Barrett**, will be issuing some information regarding **NewsDesk**, next Monday.
- **Parents of pupils in Year 7:** Thank you for taking the time to complete your evaluations regarding the **Information Night for Parents**. The feedback was very positive. I will reflect upon all your comments and use them to inform my planning for future Information Sessions. A copy of the **PowerPoint** will be available on the Year Seven page of our school website, for your information, from tomorrow.

St. Ciaran's College, Bally gawley have kindly offered us the assistance of a University Of Ulster student teacher to assist with **Gaelic Coaching** on a **Thursday** morning until **Halloween** with our **Year 7** pupils. This will begin this Thursday, 27th September. I am currently awaiting confirmation of the student's name.

Please note that the **Year Seven** after-school **Homework Club** takes place on a Monday afternoon from 3.10pm to 4.30pm. Pupils are asked to bring a small snack with them.

Interviews for the positions of **Head Boy** and **Head Girl** took place on Thursday. All the interviews were excellent and the selection of a Head Boy and Head Girl

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won't be easy as all pupils who were interviewed were very able candidates. Staff will be participating in a secret ballot this week and all pupils who attended for interview will receive a letter in the post by **Saturday, 29th September**.

- Staff from **St. Ciaran's College, Ballygawley** have also offered our **Year 7** and our **Year 6 pupils** the opportunity to participate in an **8 - Week Moving Images/Art** programme as part of our continuing Transition Arrangements. These sessions will take place on a **Friday** morning from 9.30am to 10.30am, starting on **28th September**. Pupils will travel by bus and will be accompanied by school staff. **Year 7** pupils will participate for the first 4 weeks, then **Year 6** pupils will participate for the remaining 4 weeks. Pupils will be leaving school promptly @ **9.15am**. Please complete the permission slip attached and return it to school by **Wednesday** of this week.
- Our school has recently become involved in the **CASE Peace IV Shared Education Project**. Further information to follow this week.
- I am delighted to inform you that our school has recently secured a **Defibrillator**. It will be positioned inside the school for ease of access by staff. All our current school staff have recently been fully trained on its use. Only those who have received the appropriate training are permitted to use this equipment. A sincere **Thank You** to everyone who contributed to our fundraising activities last year which helped us to raise the money to purchase this vital piece of equipment for our school.
- A **provisional** date for **First Holy Communion** has been set. **First Holy Communion** has been arranged for **Saturday, 11th May @ 12pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**. **(Please note that this date is provisional only as the date for Confirmation is yet to be announced.)**
- Details of our **Annual Parent-Teacher Meetings** to follow shortly. If the date and/or time don't suit, please inform the class teacher, rather than swaping with another parent, as changes may affect the timetables of other teachers. **Year Seven** meetings have been arranged and confirmed.
- A reminder that the school office will be open at the following times:

Monday:	8.30am to 4pm
Tuesday:	8.30am to 4pm
Wednesday:	CLOSED
Thursday:	8.30am to 4pm
Friday:	8.30am to 12.30pm

If you need access to the school on a Wednesday, please ring the buzzer at the front door. If a member of staff is unable to come to your attention, please knock on my classroom window and someone will attend to you as soon as possible.

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- Extra copies of our Monday Note are available for collection at our Parents' Noticeboard at the main entrance of the school. Should you need extra copies, please feel free to take some. The Monday Note is also available from our school website- www.stpatrickspeskra.co.uk
- Please ensure that names are clearly marked on all items of school clothing. One pupil's grey jumper has been misplaced. Please check the labels on your child's clothing to make sure you have the correct items.
- A reminder that dinner is **£2.60** and milk for this term is **£10**.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Keira McCallan
(Principal)

Permission Slip- Year 1/2

I do/do not give permission for my child _____ to participate in **After-Schools Fundamental Skills Coaching** for pupils in **Years 1/2** from **2.00pm to 3.00pm** every **Thursday**.

My child will be getting the bus. YES/NO

_____ will collect my child @ 4pm.

Signed:

Date:

Permission Slip- Year 6 and Year 7

I do/do not give permission for my child _____ to travel by bus to participate in **Moving Images/Art Workshops** held in **St. Ciaran's College, Ballygawley** on a **Friday** morning for **4 weeks**.

Signed:

Date: