

## ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ESKRA

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

Monday, 11th September, 2017.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please read the following notes carefully.

- I am delighted to inform you that both staff and pupils have settled back into school life.
- September is Roald Dahl month and Wednesday, 13th September is Roald Dahl Day. Pupils will be learning about Roald Dahl and his books during this month. Perhaps you could visit your local library and borrow a Roald Dahl book to read together or rent a film based on one of his novels. There is also a website dedicated to his life and works- <a href="https://www.roalddahl.com">www.roalddahl.com</a>
- Our Beginning Of Year Mass will take place on Wednesday, 20th September
   @ 11am in St. Patrick's Church, Eskra. Everyone is welcome.
- Our After-School Music Club will start on Thursday, 14th September at the usual time. Mrs. Taggart sent out a letter on Friday afternoon.
- Please make sure that all homework is checked and signed each night. Please check your child's Home School Messages Book each evening and sign any notes from the Class Teacher.
- Please find attached your child's Newsletter/Learning Support Sheet for September.
- Please find attached a flyer for European Languages Week.
- Our Annual Continental/Irish Breakfast takes place on the morning of Friday,
   29th 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

'We learn to love and love to learn.'

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 **Mrs. Edel McGirr** (Chairperson of the PTA) has secured another **Bag Packing Day** in Asda for our school on **Saturday**, **16**<sup>th</sup> **December.** Details to follow closer to the event.
- 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.
- Parents of pupils in **Year Seven**: Please note that the **Year Seven** after-school **Homework Club** will commence **tomorrow** from 3.10pm to 4.30pm. Pupils are asked to bring a small snack with them.
- Please complete and return your child's Data Collection Form by Friday, 15<sup>th</sup>
   September. Thank you to those parents who have returned their forms already.
- In the interests of Health and Safety and Child Protection it is our school policy that pupils are to be collected from their lines **inside** the school gate at home-time. Pupils will not be released until a parent/guardian has approached the teacher or classroom assistant at their child's line.
- If you would be interested in joining our Parent Teachers Association, please complete and return the attached slip by Friday, 15th September. The Parent Teacher Association has the following aims.
   To:

Raise funds to help the school provide extra resources for pupils.

Run social events for parents and children; providing an opportunity for people to meet and get to know each other and have fun, and,

Provide support for school trips and outings and other special events.

All parents are encouraged to be fully involved in the activities of the association.

Parents are given the opportunity to join the PTA at the start of each school year, however, parents may join at any time throughout the year by contacting the Principal (Secretary Of The PTA).

Meetings will be held in the evenings, outside office hours.

Please note that current members do not need to complete the slip attached.

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- Applications Forms for the positions of Head Boy and Head Girl are due in by 12noon on Friday, 15th September. The positions are open to Year Seven pupils only this year. Interviews will take place on Thursday, 21st September.
- Unfortunately, due to cuts in funding, sports activities in Years 1-4 provided by Macartan McKenna will only be available until October. This is very sad news as Macartan has provided our school with years of excellent service. We wish him every happiness and success for the future. Macartan's starting date for this term has yet to be confirmed.
- Coaching for pupils in Years 5-7 is also under threat. Pupils in **Year 7** will receive **Gaelic** coaching every **Wednesday** until Halloween with Fergal McCann. I am unable to confirm if there will be any further coaching opportunities after this time, however, I will keep you informed of any changes or developments.
- Pupils in Years 1-6 are asked to wear their P.E. uniform on a Friday until notified otherwise.
   Pupils in Year 7 are asked to wear their P.E. uniform on a Wednesday and a Friday.
- Due to the high interest shown, I intend to hold a **Key Stage Two Information Evening For Parents** on **Wednesday, 27th September @ 7.30pm**. Key Stage Two staff will be present during the evening. Please note that the purpose of this evening is to inform parents of particular Key Stage Two routines and practices and to clarify expectations regarding behaviour, homework, etc. In the interests of professionalism and mutual respect it won't be a platform for discussing individual children or parental concerns or complaints. If you have any concerns, please continue to follow the procedure outlined in our Handling Complaints Policy. I look forward to meeting with you on 27th.
- New milk arrangements are working very well. Please sign the reply slip attached to indicate whether or not you wish your child to avail of these new arrangements.
   Please complete the reply slip even if you don't want your child to receive milk.
- A reminder that school dinners have been £2.60 per child per day from 1st September, 2017.
- The Mobile Library Van will be coming to our school on Monday, 3rd October from 1pm to 2pm and then fortnightly.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)

## **Expression Of Interest**

I	am interested in becoming a member of the PT/	Α.
Signed:		
Date:		