



ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ESKRA

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

Monday, 27th September, 2021.

Dear Parent,

- Thank you to everyone who attended our **Beginning Of Year Mass** last Tuesday. The pupils participated with reverence throughout, as always. **Thank You** to **Fr. McGahan** for celebrating the Mass with us. A special **Thank You** to **Mrs. Mulligan, Mrs. Shevlin and Master Meenagh** for preparing the children so well and to **Mrs. Carson** for preparing the booklets.
- A sincere **Thank You** to **Siobhan Neeson (nee O'Hagan)** who recently donated **£150** from fundraising event towards our school's outdoor environment. We hope to use the money to purchase plants and other items for our sensory garden.
- This week is **European Languages Week**. A flyer can be found on our school website under **Important Information**. Unfortunately we are unable to hold our European/Irish Breakfast, this year, due to Covid – 19.
- All our **Annual Parent-Teacher Meetings** from Year One to Year Seven will take place after school during the fortnight of **11th to 24th October**. Please complete the **electronic form** sent to your mobile phone today to indicate whether you would prefer a face-to-face meeting or a telephone call. Once the forms have been collated your child's class teacher will issue a letter of invitation with a specific date and time. If the date and/or time you have been allocated does not suit, please contact your child's class teacher to rearrange. Please refrain from swapping your time with another parent as teachers plan for siblings to have consecutive meetings.
- **Monday, 4th October** is the **Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi**. Pupils will be completing work based on the life of St. Francis next week.
- **Parents of Pupils In Year Seven:**
Our school has recently received two funding streams – **Engage Funding** and **SEND A Funding** to be utilised by the end of **March 2022**.

‘We learn to love and love to learn.’

The **Engage Funding** is being used to develop outdoor learning and our outdoor environment. I am the World Around Us co-ordinator in school, so I will be taking the lead responsibility for this project.

The **SENDA Funding** is to be used to facilitate the implementation of the new Special Educational Needs and Disability Act NI. As SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) I am responsible for this body of work, also.

To ensure that this work can be completed by the end of March 2022 and that the funding is used effectively, I am being released from classroom duties for a temporary period. Therefore, Master Meenagh will be teaching Year Seven full-time until Christmas. This arrangement may be extended beyond Christmas, depending on finances. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Master Meenagh every happiness and success.

Master Meenagh and I will continue to liaise closely and plan together for the teaching, learning and assessment in Year Seven. I will continue to prepare the children for the Sacrament of Confirmation and I will be delivering Forest School/Outdoor Learning sessions with the pupils.

This funding has provided us with a wonderful opportunity to build on the great work undertaken last year by staff to develop outdoor learning in our school. We aim to provide further information to parents regarding our plans for the future and on how you can get involved in the coming weeks.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Keira McCallan

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)



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