

HSCL NEWS

Parents Plus - Our Parents' Plus course with Suzanne Lindsay will be starting on Thursday 11th October for 6 weeks. This course is aimed at helping you build positive relationships with your child and helping them cope with difficulties which may arise for them. There will be a note home with more details next week.

Clothing collection - We will be collecting clothing, textiles and shoes for recycling to raise money for our school from the 15th-18th October. If you are doing a clear out between now and then don't forget us! More information to follow.

Halloween - We will have our annual spooky walk on Thursday 25th of October. We will be holding a cake sale in aid of the Laura Lynn foundation on that day. If you have any cake donations please bring them to the Parents' Room that morning. We will send out a reminder message to you.

Activities for Parents - If you have 2 minutes to spare I have a survey on our facebook page for parents, this will help me plan activities for the year based on your interests. Just click on the link on the page and each question will pop up for you. Thank you to those who have already completed it.

County Photos

Our School photographer (County Photos) will be here on Monday 15th October to take individual pictures of all our pupils and group pictures of our Junior Infants.

Climate Action Week

We are working towards a 7th Green flag for our school this year. It will take a big effort from pupils and staff. To begin the work we are taking part in Climate Action Week from 15th – 19th October.

Incredible Years

Incredible Years is a programme that helps to manage emotional and behavioural difficulties in children. It is promoted by the Department of Education. Several of our teachers are receiving training in this valuable programme during the year.

Please see our school calendar dates on our website to see the dates for 2018/2019 school year.



Dates for this term:

October 1st

Junior Infant Vaccinations

October 26th

School Closed - Presidential Election

October 25th

Mid-Term Break begins

November 5th

School returns after mid-term break

November 20th and 21st

Parent/Teacher Meetings

December 21st

Christmas holidays begin at 12.00

ST. DOMINIC'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

MOUNTAIN PARK, TALLAGHT, DUBLIN 24. D24P7XC

Phone: 01-4512443 / 01-4512219 Email: secretary@stdominicsns.ie

Web: www.stdominicsns.ie Principal: Séamus Vaughan

ST. DOMINIC'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

Monthly News

SEPTEMBER 2018



Welcome back to all who have returned after the summer holidays. We are delighted to welcome our new children to Junior Infants who will be taught by Ms Pyne, Ms Higgins and Ms Byrne. We welcome children who joined other classes also.

E-Payments

Book Rental and Materials/Supplies may be paid online. This is a very secure method of payment and helps the school reduce the amount of cash we have on premises. Thank you to all the parents who pay using this method. All payments to the school are entered on our Aladdin system and you will receive a text or email as receipt.

Book Rental

Book rental money is now due. Please pay at the school office as soon as possible. There is a book grant for parents who need help with this. Please speak to the principal as soon as possible to apply for this.

Materials/supplies amount

This figure is due now. This is a single figure that covers art, craft, photocopying, computers, personal accident insurance and school journal (1st -6th). Please check the booklist for the amount payable. Parents can pay €5/€10 on a weekly basis if they would rather not pay it all in one payment. The school will send a reminder again shortly about payments due.

Absence

Every absence from school during the year must be recorded on our

administration system Aladdin. The Education Welfare Act requires schools to record absences under certain categories. Parents can now record their child's absence on the Aladdin Connect App. Please use it the next time your child is absent.

If you do not use Aladdin Connect App, a written note must be handed to the class teacher, as has been the case previously. Any absence greater than 20 days is automatically reported to Tulsa.

Our overall attendance for 2017/2018 school year was 93.2%, which was a reduction on the previous year.

Uniform

The uniform for our school is a red jumper, white shirt, red tie, grey trousers/skirt. Uniforms can be purchased in many department stores (Dunnes Stores, Lidl, Debenhams, The Sisters uniform shop, etc). School tracksuits are available to purchase from the office. We expect children to wear uniform each day. They wear their tracksuit on PE days, if they have sport after school or attend swimming. School crests are an optional part of the uniform. Most children wear un-crested jumpers from local retailers. If you do wish to purchase a crest, they are available in the office at a cost of €5.

Spare Uniforms

We have an area in our parent's room for school uniforms and tracksuits. If you are finished using any uniform items and they are still in good condition you can donate them to the school. We already have lots of red jumpers, white shirts, trousers, tracksuits and ties that are in good condition. Parents may take any of these uniform items if you need them. In general, shops do not sell uniforms after September.

CARAMBOLA LUNCHES

Carambola will continue to provide our school lunches for the coming year. The Department of Social Protection has made some changes to the menu this year. Please use your log-in sheet to change your child's lunch choice. The office will not change lunches in future; this must be done by the parent online.

All children must bring home lunch bags, bottles and sandwich wrappers each day. This is in line with our Green Schools policy.

Newsletters

The principal issues monthly newsletters, similar to this one. These go home with 'family messengers', so only one goes to each household.

After School Activities

The school has a range of after-school activities for boys and girls. Dancing, Gaelic football, hurling, camogie, soccer, athletics and basketball are some of the activities provided in the school. It is important that children stay active. We have a great sporting tradition in our school. I hope that we will be like the Dublin Men's and Ladies teams and play in Croke Park later in the year.

JUNIOR INFANTS

It is our policy that all junior infants are collected by an adult. To facilitate this, we have only one door for our infant classes to go home each day. Please confirm with your teacher the correct exit door. All infants line up on the yard in the morning and the teacher will collect the class at 8.50am from the line.

SECURITY

Security in our school is important. At 9.00am each morning external doors are closed and access is through the main office only. If you leave the building during the day, please ensure the door is closed behind you. All visitors must report to reception. Please do not be offended if a member of staff asks you to leave an area and report to the office. Your child's safety is our number one priority.

Morning Time

Pupils may arrive from 8.40am to our yard. Children may not arrive before 8.40am as they are not covered by our insurance. Teachers collect from yard at 8.50am. Parents should not enter the building at this time. Again, your child's safety is our number one priority and this is the reason we implement this policy.

On a wet day, Senior Infants to 6th Class go to the hall (from 8.40am) and wait in their line. Junior Infants are the only pupils allowed to go to the class directly on a wet day. They can wait in the block outside the classrooms.

Friendship Fortnight

Friendship fortnight will be taking place soon in our school. Teachers will do some extra activities on creating and maintaining friendships. We will also reinforce our Anti-Bullying Policy. It is a good time for parents to familiarise themselves with it again. It is available on our website.

TRAFFIC

There has been a large increase in traffic using Mountain Park and St. Dominic's Road in the morning. I would urge all parents to walk if they live near the school. Please be conscious of our neighbours. Parents should not park where it is illegal to do so or where they are causing an obstruction to residents. Our Community Garda has been asked to enforce this. We are lucky to have a lollipop lady to ensure children cross the road safely. Please follow her instructions when asked to slow down or stop.

Website

Our website is an excellent source of information for parents. It has many pictures and accounts of activities from different classes in the school. Updates from our website appear on our Facebook (St Dominic's Parents Page) and twitter (@stdominicns) news feeds.

Code of Behaviour

We spent the last year reviewing and updating our Code of Behaviour. It is an important document for our school and can be viewed on the school website, in the documents section. The Code of Behaviour sets out procedures in our school that allows positive behaviours to flourish and creates an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and consideration of others.

PARENTS ROOM

Our Parents Room is located in the resource block upstairs. This is a space in the school that parents can access during the day. There is a kitchen area adjacent to the room. Parents may use the room from 1.30pm each day if they are waiting to do a collection at 2.30pm. This room is for parents and their own children. One parent must not be in charge of several

children at any one time. Please ensure your child remains in the parent's room and is not wandering around the school building. The continued success of this room depends upon everyone adhering to these rules. Ms Murphy is responsible for managing the parent's room

Dogs

The Board of Management has instructed that no dogs are brought onto the school grounds. There are a number of children with allergies or a fear of dogs. Any breaches of this should be brought to the attention of the principal.

BREAKFAST CLUB

We have a breakfast club open to all pupils and it is free of charge. It is in place to support parents who leave for work early in the morning, etc. It is fully subscribed at present and we are operating a waiting list. Please contact our Home School Co-Ordinator Laura Murphy.

Insurance

Every child who pays the materials/supplies figure is covered under the Pupil Personal Accident scheme. This provides 24-hour protection and parents can claim for any medical expenses incurred following an injury, even for injuries outside of school. Please check our school website for information on how to claim.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management runs the school on behalf of the patron. One of our Parent nominees, Susan Maxwell, has completed her term on the Board. We are seeking nominations for a new parent's nominee (mother). Ciaran Prendergast will continue to be the other parent nominee (father). If you wish to nominate someone, please do so by Friday of this week by dropping in a name to the office.