**St. Paul’s J.N.S. - Newsletter – Term 3**

**June 2018**

Maths for Fun

Junior Infants, First Class and some volunteer parents/guardians took part in Maths for Fun this term over a four week period. The children loved involving the parents/guardians in their Maths activities and all who took part really enjoyed the experience. Thanks to all the parents/guardians who gave up their time to make it a great success. Maths for Fun runs at various times during the year and volunteers are always welcome.

Health and Safety

The safety and well-being of all children is a top priority for us here in St. Paul’s J.N.S. A small number of parents/guardians are walking through the teachers’ car park with their children in the morning and at home time. Staff and visitor vehicles use this car park throughout the day and especially at these busy times. In doing this you are choosing to put your children and yourself at risk and in harm’s way. It is important that we set a good example for the children in St. Paul’s and we ask that for health and safety purposes you do not walk through the car park. Please use the allocated gates. One accident is too many, particularly when it can be easily avoided. Please also remember we are a smoking, vaping and dog free campus.

* CCTV

We have CCTV cameras in operation on our premises for security and health and safety purposes. Incidents of trespassing and vandalism on school property are, and have been, reported to the Gardaí when necessary.

* GDPR – Please note that all new data protection legislation and regulations are in operation. Our updated data protection policy will be available on our website next week.

First Holy Communion

We congratulate the second class children who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday 19th May in St. Paul’s church. With their class teachers Ms Dutton and Ms Maguire, they put in lots of practice and preparation and the results were clear to be seen in how well the ceremony went. We hope the grace they received on the day will continue throughout their lives. A special thank you also to Ms. Mc Dermott, Fr. Corcoran and to Ms. Fallon and the senior school choir. We would like to wish our second class children lots of luck with their graduation at the end of June and hope they are leaving St. Paul’s JNS with many happy memories.

Parents’ Association

Sincere thanks to the Parents’ Association for their invaluable involvement and support throughout the year. Their consistent hard work and fundraising efforts contribute so much to school life and continues to fortify the strong home school community links that we share. Thank you on behalf of all the staff and children for all you have done.

Book Lists and Book Rental Fee

Thanks to all those who have sent in the €50 book rental fee. Please make sure that the children have everything on their book list on their return to school on 3rd September and that it is clearly labelled. We would appreciate full payment of the book rental fee by all

School Self Evaluation

Next year we will be taking a particular interest in your child’s writing, with the aim of improving learning outcomes here in St. Paul’s J.N.S. We will be sending home some questionnaires throughout the year in conjunction with this and would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete these and return them to your child’s teacher.

Discover Primary Science and Maths Awards

We are delighted to report that we have been awarded our 13th Discover Primary Science and Maths Award of Excellence. It hangs proudly on the wall outside the principal’s office. We are very proud of this achievement. All our young scientists enjoy and benefit from the hands-on experiments that they undertake throughout the year, as well as taking an active part in Science Week and Maths Week. Each class has also had the benefit of an invited speaker on a certain aspect of Science, including Biology, Astronomy, Physics, and Sensory Science. Particular thanks to Ms. Foynes our DPSM co-ordinator and all the class teachers who plan, drive, implement and document the scientific learning and experiments in their classes.

Healthy Lunches

A little reminder that the only drinks allowed in school are water and milk. (Fruit juices and even Mi-Wadi cause tooth decay.) Sandwiches filled with cheese, chicken etc. and fruit and yoghurts are ideal for the children. No bars, (breakfast bars are not recommended for children) no chocolate, no chocolate spread, no crisps, no sweets. Also please remember that we have nut, fish and kiwi allergies in our school, so we are a **nut, fish and kiwi free school.**

Departing Teachers

We would like to thank all staff members who have come to the end of their time with us in St Paul’s. Ms Roe has worked as part of the Special Education Team and has greatly contributed to the role, including sharing her artistic talents with the staff and children over the course of the year. We have had the benefit of Ms Foley and Ms Costello teaching in resource roles at various stages over the course of the year and their assistance and contribution has been invaluable. We also look forward to welcoming Ms. Mc Grath back onto the teaching staff in September. Sincere thanks to all for their expertise and professionalism and we wish them well in the future. Go raibh maith agaibh.

Sports Day & Cake Sale

Thank to everyone also for your support with our cake sale and sports day this year. We raised a whopping €900! The Parents’ Association will use this to fund fun activities for the children throughout the year. The support for the cake sale was overwhelming and the school would like to extend our thanks to all children, parents, and relatives who baked and contributed on the day. Everyone enjoyed it greatly and there are some pictures from the day on the school website. Special thanks to the Parents’ Association for co-ordinating and organising the tea and coffee on the day and all who helped out due to the unprecedented demand. Thanks to Ms McCarthy for organising all the Sports Day activities and to David and the mentors for the GAA games station which the Dublin stars of the future really enjoyed taking part in.

World Cup

The wait is over, the teams have been selected, and finally the matches can begin. It can only mean the annual St Paul’s World Cup for Second Class! All the teams are practicing at break times and looking forward to kick-off next week. Thank you in advance to Ms Fitzpatrick who referees the matches.

Local Residents

I would like to take this opportunity to compliment all local residents on the beautifully kept gardens and colourful flower boxes in the neighbourhood. Please help keep our community clean and tidy.

Active School Week

A big thank you to Ms. Mc Carthy and Ms. Kenny for organising Active Schools Week. The children had a great time taking part in St. Anne’s Park run and coming to school on the walking bus.

WOW week Golden Clock

We are concerned at the number of children who are consistently late in the mornings. Teaching children to be punctual is training them in good manners. When the teacher goes to collect her class all the children should be there ready and waiting. If children come into the classroom late they often interrupt what is going on and they themselves get embarrassed at being late. So renewed efforts please. In the line at ten to nine. ☺ We will be rewarding the most punctual class with a golden clock at the end of each week from September. Please remember to use the entry door allocated to your child’s class and do not walk through the school.

School Tours

School tours are a highlight of this term and the children love the day out. The Junior and Senior Infant children will be going to Imaginosity. First class pupils will have a day out in Pine Forest Art Studio. Second class pupils have had an adventurous day out in Gormanston. Thanks to Ms McDermott for her contribution to organising the school tours.

School Calendar

School closes at noon on Friday the 29th June. The school year 2018/2019 will start on Monday the 3rd September and a school calendar will be available on our school website. [www.stpaulsjns.ie](http://www.stpaulsjns.ie)

Summer Holidays

We remind children and parents to take great care when playing, near water or swimming during the holidays. We also encourage children and their parents to visit the library and to continue their enjoyment of reading throughout the holidays. The school will re-open on Monday 3rd September.

We wish you and your family a very enjoyable summer.

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E. Mc Nulty and Staff.