**St. Anne’s N.S. Newsletter**

**October 2019**

**Board of Management**

The school would like to thank the outgoing members of the Board of Management whose 4-year term will end on 31st of October. This Friday (11th) is the deadline for those wishing to express an interest in serving as Parents’ Representatives on the next Board.

**Health and Safety**

Just a reminder that Rathangan NS has many pupils with serious **nut allergies** and, as such, nuts and foods containing nuts are not permitted. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

**Parents Association**

The school would like to say a huge well done and thank you to our Parents Association who are presenting the school with **€9000** which has been used to help with the purchase of 4 new touchscreen interactive panels for 1st , 1st/2nd 3rd and 4th classes. Next up is a “**Cash for Clothes**” fundraiser beginning next Monday 14th. Details went out this week and can also be found on the Parents Association’s Facebook page.

**Book Bills**

Thanks to all who have paid their book bills so promptly. We would ask those with outstanding Book Bills to pay as soon as possible. Some parents/guardians may find it difficult to pay Book Rental Bills at the beginning of the school year for various reasons – e.g. large number of children attending school, single parent families, medical card holders, unemployment, etc. If you require assistance, please contact the principal (if you haven’t already done so), as a limited amount of money is made available by the Department to help in such circumstances.

**Voluntary Contribution**

The Board of Management acknowledge the generosity of the families of St Anne’s in contributing financially to the school. The voluntary contribution for this school year remains at €70 per family. This essential funding goes towards the funding of teaching resources. This year we hope to use the Voluntary Contribution to furnish the last 3 classrooms with interactive touchscreen panels. The Voluntary Contribution can be paid by cash or cheque to the school office or by epayments. A text message with a link will be sent out in the next day or two.

**Parent Teacher Meetings**

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on **Tuesday 12th of November**. School will finish at **2pm** for all pupils that day to facilitate the meetings. Parents will be allocated a time before the Halloween Break. In some of the classes with large numbers, it may not be possible to accommodate all parents on Tuesday 12th. In this case, teachers may schedule meetings before or after school on a different day.

**Halloween**

As usual the pupils can dress up on the Friday (25th) before the Halloween Break. We are asking each child to bring €2 which will go towards funding our School Equestrian Team.

**Christmas Shoe Box Appeal**

The closing date for this year’s Shoe box Appeal is **Friday 8th of November**. Once again, thanks to everyone who donate so generously every year- “It is an opportunity to share a little joy and excitement with children who live in very difficult situations and might never have received a gift before.”

**Standardised Testing 2020**

Dates for standardised testing have been set as follows; - 14th of May- Spelling, 19th of May- English, 21st of May- Maths. It is very important that all pupils from 1st-6th are present on these dates.

**Rackard League Update**

Both the Girls and the Boys teams have been in action in this year’s Rackard League Football competition. The Girls were narrowly defeated by Tintern last week but had a great win over Taghmon on Monday. The boys were defeated by Piercestown in their opener but had a narrow win over Ramsgrange last week. The Rising Stars Boys were also defeated by Piercestown but had a super victory over Bannow on Monday. Both boys’ teams play Cushinstown tomorrow, while the girls are out again next week. The Mini- Sevens Boys qualified for Round 2 of the competition which takes place this Friday in Murrintown.

**Teacher appointments made through the office**

St. Anne’s N.S. has a welcoming ethos and we are always open to concerns/information about children in our classes. However, we are also conscious of our supervisory role to all children once the bell goes at 9.20am. Therefore, we ask that if you need to speak to a teacher, requiring a lengthy conversation, you contact the school secretary Jenny in the office and an appointment can be made to meet at an agreed time. This ensures that you get our full attention and the important business of teaching and learning in the classrooms is not interrupted.

**Communication for Parents**

The most effective method of communication for the school is **text-a-parent**. Should you have changed your mobile number or are not receiving our texts for any reason, please contact the office as soon as possible and we will update our records. The office phone number is 051 563167.

**Absent Notes**

Under section 21 of the Education Welfare Act 2000, the Board of Management must submit an annual attendance record with details of pupils who have been absent for **20 days** or more. A note of explanation is required if your child has been absent. This can be given to the teacher on their return to school. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

**Dates for your diary**

* Friday 25th of October- school closes for Halloween Break
* Tuesday 12th of November- P/T meetings. School closes at 2pm.
* Friday 20th of December- School closes for Christmas Holidays