



ST. PATRICK'S NATIONAL SCHOOL
Ballinamuck
Co. Longford

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3rd September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You are all very welcome back after the summer holidays. We hope your children have settled back into school life. We will be having a service to celebrate the new school year on Friday 20th September. This will take place at 10am in the school hall. All are invited to attend.

We would encourage all children to wear the correct school uniform. Children should wear navy jumper/cardigan/pinafore with school crest (available in the office, €3), white polo shirt and gray trousers. On warm days, children are free to wear white polo shirts and accompanying plain gray, navy, black shorts with no logos. GAA shorts or leggings are not permitted.

Please refrain from sending in treats or fizzy drinks with your children. We've a Healthy Eating Policy. One small treat is permissible on a Friday. Please have fruit cut as you would intend for your child to eat at break-time. Invitations for birthday parties are not to be circulated in the school.

Thank you to all the parents who have contributed €40 towards the cost of photocopying/arts and crafts and online subscriptions such as Aladdin and teacher resources for the core subjects (Irish, English & Maths). There is a facility set up on Aladdin to pay in installments.

There are a number of extra-curricular activities scheduled for this term. These include Dance, Hurling, Football, Music and Gymnastics. Ciarán Maceochaidh will take all classes for Hurling for 6 weeks beginning 10th September. Aimie Duignan, of Peelo School of Dance will facilitate Hip Hop Dance lessons beginning on Wednesday 25th September for all classes. Music Generation returns on Tuesday 24th September (again for all children). We would like to thank the Parents Association for funding Dance and Music Generation. The PA are also contributing €10 towards the cost of Gymnastics for each child. French will be taught as part of the Primary Languages Sampler again this year for children from 3rd to 6th class. This will begin on the week beginning 30th September and will be for a duration of 10 weeks.

The Cumann na mBunscol league will be returning in a few weeks. Please be patient with us here as fixtures are often arranged at short notice. Dial a chef will be sponsoring a new set of shorts and socks for our Cumann na mBunscol team. Fr.Manning Gaels are again going to contribute towards the cost of half-zips for children from 3rd to 6th class.

Brendan Larkin has kindly informed the school that he wishes to continue funding the after school French lessons for children from 3rd to 6th class. A poll will go out on Aladdin in the coming days to see what the uptake would be. All going well, French lessons will begin after the Halloween break.

There are two school closures to make you aware of. On the 27th September, we are having a full day staff training day on site. The second day is on October 18th. This is an off site training Day in Carrick-On-Shannon Education Centre for the new Maths Curriculum.

Best wishes to the under-13 Girls who will be competing in the league final against Clonguish this Thursday evening. The game will take place in Pearse Park, Longford and throw-in is at 7pm. Best of luck also to the under-12 Boys who will take on Colmcille in the league final. Again, the game will take place in Pearse Park next Tuesday evening.

Wishing all the children the very best of health and happiness for a new school year.

Is mise le meas,
Damien McIntyre



Dates for your Diary:

County Photos	13th September
New Year Service	20th September
European Sports Day	26th September
School Closures	27th September, 18th October
Mid-Term Break	Week of the 28th October