

St. Colman's N.S. Newsletter April 2016



April 21st
2016

EDITION

6

Principal's Notes

School is back in full swing after the Easter Holidays and there is a great buzz of learning around the building. We had a great run in to the last term with some special events.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with everyone our gratitude to our Parent's Council for sponsoring a new Guided Reading library which is going to be a fantastic resource in the school.

We will be starting a fundraiser in the last term to purchase laptops and Ipads for our pupils to use. Hopefully we can have these for September all going well. Any donations or sponsors would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards, C. Ruane



We had a very busy end of last term with the National Proclamation Day and the raising of the Tri-Colour. Fr. O'Connell & Fr. Kelly were guests on the day and the ceremony was very special. A big thank you to the School Band who played on the day and who also took part in the St. Patrick's Day parade. The band and the school choir have been busy practising for months thanks to Mrs. Oxley, Mrs. Ashe, Mrs. Moran and Ms. Fitzpatrick.



Active School Week



Next week is national Active School Week and we are getting involved!! With the recent increase in obesity and inactivity in children we need to promote fitness and health as much as possible. Our pupils will be active every day during the week with a huge range of activities taking place. We are asking children to wear their tracksuit every day of the week, on Wednesday they can wear their own tracksuit to give an opportunity to wash the school one if needed. We will be running, playing games, dancing and hopefully going on a picnic!

We have a whole school running challenge called 'How Far Can We Run'. In our yard we have mapped out a 100m track and we are going to record the number of laps we run to see how far the whole school can run within the week, we can't wait to hear the final distance!!

Have your child log on to the Media Team page on the website to enter the Active Week Competition.

We are a Green School again this year!!



A huge congratulation to Mrs. Carroll, Liz Mulhall and the school Gardening Club as they have just received the Green Flag Award for the 5th time, this flag has been awarded for Bio-Diversity. A huge amount of effort was put into to achieving this award so congratulations to all involved.

School Tours

School Tours are now booked up and parents are kindly returning permission slips and payments which we appreciate.

E-Payment

Our e-payment facility is now live and will be used for the first time for the Book Money etc in May/June. You will receive a text from Aladdin when a payment is online. We will obviously still accept cash/cheque payment which is currently in place but the online would be fantastic for us from an administrative point of view.

If you do make a payment online your child's teacher will know directly through the Aladdin programme we use in school.

Back to School Books & Stationery

We are trying to plan ahead for next year and have decided to start a new initiative regarding buying the workbooks and stationery that you normally would have had to sort out yourself.

This year all books and stationery (copies, pencils, colours etc) will be available to purchase here in school. We hope this will be fully supported by you the parents. The reason why we are doing this is that we in turn will get a discount for buying in bulk. You will have to pay no more than you would in a shop and all items will be listed with prices for your comparison.

After the May Mid-Term we will send out an info sheet with everything and asking whether you will opt in, which hopefully you will.



Parent Information

School Uniforms – Can you please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform including footwear. Pupils need to wear the correct tracksuit bottoms too and not branded ones.

5th & 6th School Tour – Our pupils are very excited to go on the overnight trip to the Uisce Centre in Mayo.

NO DOGS ALLOWED – Can you please refrain from bringing dogs on to the school grounds as they are scaring some of the children.

Parking in Set Down Area – For those who drive their children to school, the set down area in the front of the school is for set down only so please do not park there. I thank you for your support in this matter.

Child Protection – If you have any concerns related to child protection be sure to contact the school. The Designated Liaison Person is Mr. C. Ruane and the Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Ms. R. Brennan.

After School Club – Please remember that there is now an after school programme available to all parents. If you want any more information please contact 087-7847898 or stcolmansafterschoolclub@gmail.com

School Sport

We are extremely busy with sport at the moment. We are delighted to have GAA coaching back with Liam Knowles on Thursdays. Joe Carbury is in from the IRFU coaching senior classes. We have teams playing in the hurling & camogie leagues. Basketball Teams are competing in a Blitz next week and we were very successful with our soccer 5-side teams with our girls being crowned Laois Champions!!