

St. Mary's Parish Primary School

Bryanstown, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

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Príomhoide – Philip Ward • Leas Phríomhoide – John Weir • Roll No.: 20205G

22nd September 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Reminder Parents Association AGM takes place tonight **Thursday 22nd September** at **8pm** in the junior PE hall. All parents are welcome.

Thank you to all parents and pupils for your co-operation with school procedures and policies. A special thanks to the Junior Infant parents for preparing pupils for school so well. Please note the following in the interests of safety:- No parking allowed in the bus bay, although it may be used as a drop off provided its drop and go with no delay. Only enter the bus bay from the same side of the road. **On a wet morning all pupils enter the school through the front door.** At going home time please stand clear of gates to allow pupils to exit. Unless bringing children into the car park we suggest meeting children in the area at front door or at the pedestrian exit.

Pupils may not enter through gates to car park.

Please ensure your child has a healthy lunch – no fizzy drinks, chocolate bars, crisps, sweets or popcorn allowed.

If you have not already paid for book rental (€50) please contact the office. Also **Arts & Crafts (€35) is now due.** (Junior infants have already paid this). If you have not paid, please pay online. Arts & Crafts is separate to book rental. Bookrental and Arts & Crafts may also be paid by instalments.

Cover for Allianz Personal Accident Scheme offers 24 hour cover including A & E charge for the year for €9. If you wish to join, please pay online.

Please check immediately with the local secondary school of your choice regarding enrolment procedures and closing dates, even if your child is in the junior classes as some schools operate a waiting list based on the date of application.

The following Secondary School Open nights – Drogheda Grammar School – Thurs. 29th Sept. 6-8.30pm; St. Mary's Diocesan School – Wed. 5th October 6.30-8.30pm; St. Oliver's Community College – Thurs. 6th Oct. 6-8pm; Sacred Heart – Thurs. 6th October, 5.30-8.30pm and Greenhills – Wed. 12th October, from 7.30pm.

RSE PROGRAMME (Relationship, Sexuality & Education) will be delivered to 6th classes later in the year by Accord. An **information meeting for parents** takes place in the Westcourt Hotel **on Monday 26th September** at 8.00pm.

Reminder of some of the school rules:-

- Tracksuits and runners are essential for PE and should be worn only on the appropriate days.
- Students should not wear any jewellery to school. Girls are permitted to wear stud earrings only.
- No dying of hair is permitted.
- Toys and other electronic devices are not permitted in the school.
- Mobile phones are not permitted in the school.

PLEASE LABEL ALL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS e.g. jumpers, tracksuit tops etc. Items get lost all the time and we have no way of returning them if there is no name clearly printed.



Junior infant enrolment forms are now available for junior infants who are due to start September 2017. Forms are available on the school website www.smpps.ie or by calling to the school office. *Please note the processing of applications will begin at 12 noon Friday 20th January 2017.*

On **Tuesday 18th October, Memory Lane photography will take an individual photograph of each pupil in Junior Infants.** A proof of each photograph will be sent home and parents may order a print if they wish. There is no obligation to buy!

Friday 28th October will be a dress up day for Halloween. Pupils may wear part of a costume, a costume or their favourite T-shirt. Children may come to school dressed up. Please make sure they wear appropriate footwear. Costume must be suitable for play outside during breaktime. Children are not permitted to bring accessories e.g. wands, swords, guns etc.

Parent teacher meetings take place on Thursday 24th November.

There will be a **First Holy Communion meeting** for parents/guardians on **Wednesday 28th September at 8pm** in **St. Mary's Church**. A parent/guardian is requested to attend.

First Holy Communion will be in St. Mary's Church on the following dates and times ~ 12 noon on **Sunday 7th May** for Ms. Smyth's and Ms. Dunne's classes and at **10.30am** on **Sunday 14th May** for Ms. Lambe's class and on **Sunday 14th May 12 noon** for Ms. Whelan's and Mr. Gallagher's classes. *Parents and families are invited for tea & light refreshments after the First Holy Communions [details to follow].*

FIRST CONFESSION takes place on Wednesday 8th March for Ms. Lambe's, Mr. Gallagher's and Ms. Whelan's classes and on Thursday 9th March for Ms. Smyth's and Ms. Dunne's classes at 7pm in St. Mary's Church.

The Sacrament of **Confirmation** will take place on Sunday 28th May 2016 in St. Mary's Church. [Details to follow].

Roll Call/Absences: Please note that the roll call for attendance is taken at 10am each morning. Students not present at that time are marked absent. (However teachers will make a note if the student comes in at a later time, but roll cannot be changed.) Also in the case of student absence parents must send a written explanation when the student returns to school.

The school building project is progressing well with the classrooms now finished and in use. Thank you for your contributions to the building fund.

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Philip Ward