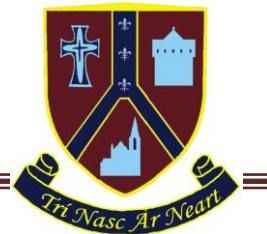


St. Mary's Parish Primary School

Bryanstown, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Telephone: 041-9845374 • Email: office@smpps.ie • Web: www.smpps.ie



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

12th October 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Safety: We have 2 lollipop ladies at the moment but there may be days over the rest of this term when we will be down to one as one of these ladies may be called away as relief to some other school in the town. In the meantime please approach and leave the school with caution.

NOTICE FROM LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL:-

Louth County Council is currently seeking to recruit Relief School Traffic Wardens for the mid and south Louth areas.

We held a recruitment campaign in May 2017 and unfortunately there was no applications from the Drogheda area which has resulted in a shortage of Relief School Wardens for these areas. This has left us in a position where we are currently unable to provide relief cover in all cases where existing school wardens are absent due to sickness or holidays. We will be placing an advert in next week's Drogheda Independent (10th October edition) in an effort to fill these vacancies.

Application forms, particulars of office and qualifications for the post will be available from Tuesday 10th October on the Louth County Council Website at www.louthcoco.ie/vacancies, [Twitter@LouthCoCo](https://twitter.com/LouthCoCo) and Customer Services in Drogheda (Tel. 041-9876100).

I would be grateful for any assistance you could provide to ensure that we have a suitable pool of applicants to ensure that we can provide cover in the event of sickness, holidays and retirements etc. which will occur over the remainder of the school year in the Drogheda area.

The closing date for receipt of applications will be 25th October 2017.

Many pupils ride a bicycle to school. Please note the following road safety advice. Your child needs to **wear a helmet** on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home. Many accidents happen in driveways, on sidewalks, and on bike paths, not just on streets. In fact, the majority of bike crashes happen near home. A helmet protects your child from serious injury, and should always be worn. And remember, wearing a helmet at all times helps children develop the helmet habit.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal – students from 2nd-6th class will be taking part in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Students will bring home a leaflet with full information. Boxes will be collected in mid-November.

On Wednesday next (weather permitting), we resume our **Green Schools WOW (Walk on Wednesday) Campaign**. Many pupils who live too far away to walk to school do a park and stride. Parents drive some of the way with pupils walking the rest.

We are currently **developing a play area in our Junior Yard** and we would be interested to hear from any parent with carpentry or building skills who would be interested in helping out. Contact the school office if you are available to get involved.

No parking or waiting allowed in set down area.

The **HSE Primary School Vaccination Programme for Junior Infants** will take place on the 14th/ 15th & 16th of November. Should parents require any further information please visit www.immunisation.ie or contact your local immunisation office on 042-9381262.

Boys Gaelic Team – Well done to the boys gaelic team who have represented the school so well winning two of their last three matches. On Friday they will play St. Joseph's at the Wolfe Tones pitch. If they win they will go through to the semi-final of the McArdle Cup. Best of luck to the team.

St. Mary's girls played their first blitz of the year on Friday the 6th of October. The girls have not lost a match in two years! This year Mr. Hanlon and Ms. Redden have assembled a new team as the majority of last years team have moved onto secondary school education. The names on the teamsheet might have changed, however, the performances have stayed the same. The girls won the three games convincingly. They played Mell in the first game and won this match by 14 points. They defeated St Paul's in the second game by 30 points and beat Aston Village by 15 points. Sophie Everitt, Niamh Leonard, Aoife Horan and Aimee Crowley were the star performers. We have to play the Presentation in the semi-final this Friday!

Parents Association Meeting takes place on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

Parent teacher meetings take place on Thursday 23rd November.

Friday 27th 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.

Junior infant enrolment forms are available for junior infants who are due to start September 2018. 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 19th January 2018.*

Please note the following dates:

Oct./Nov:	Mon. 30 th Oct.– Fri. 3 rd Nov., closed for mid-term break
December:	Close 12 noon Fri. 22 nd and re-open Mon. 8 th Jan. 2017
February:	Closed Thurs. 15 th /Fri. 16 th for Mid-term break
March:	Monday 19 th – Closed for public holiday St. Patrick's Day weekend
March/April:	Close 12 noon Friday 23 rd March, reopen Mon. 9 th April 2018
May:	Mon. 7 th May / Tues. 8 th May – School Closed
June:	Mon. 4 th June & Tues. 5 th June – School Closed
	Summer Holidays 12 noon Wednesday 27 th June 2018

Is mise,

Philip Ward