 

**St. Patrick’s National School,**

**Glencullen,**

**Dublin 18.**

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Roll Number: 17507F

**UPCOMING EVENTS JANUARY 2016**

***Happy New Year everyone from all the staff at St. Patrick’s NS!***

**Welcome back Ms. Scanlan**

We are delighted to welcome back Ms. Scanlan from her maternity leave. I know the children were sad to say goodbye to Mr. Terry who did great work with 5th class but we will see him soon in Strictly St. Patrick’s!

**New Board of Management**

We would like to welcome all our new members to our Board of Management & wish them every success in leading our school.

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| Brian Murray: Chairperson  Pat Cullen: Treasurer  Fr. Andrew O Sullivan: Patron’s Nominee  Rhian Maguire: Community Nominee | Kathleen Byrne: Principal  Nicola Mulvey: Staff nominee  Ruth Fitzsimon: Parent Nominee  Jason Sinclair: Parent Nominee |

**Jingle & Mingle**

A huge thank you to everyone involved in making our  Christmas community event 'Jingle & Mingle' a huge success. **€2730** was raised for the school while a further **€438** was raised for the WH 5 Loaves Homeless Centre in Bray.

Thank you to everyone who organised, volunteered, baked, cleaned & spent money!! A special thanks to those named on the windows who generously donated to our raffle & cake sale.

**Swimming**

A new swimming term will begin in Meadowbrook pool on 7th January 2nd, 3rd & 4th class. Pupils have the option to return by bus or to be collected by a parent. However we kindly request that parents choose an option and remain with that option for the term of swimming. We understand that in an emergency it may be necessary to change arrangements. But it is not acceptable to change arrangements weekly without informing the school or the child. Please choose an option and remain with that decision for the duration of the term.

Should your child have a medical condition that prevents them from swimming, please write to the Board of Management requesting an exemption. Our swimming policy is available on [www.glencullenschool.ie](http://www.glencullenschool.ie)

**Winter Weather**

Please take care driving to school each morning as often the hill from Kilternan is not gritted. Please take care walking around the school grounds – every effort is made to cordon off icy areas but remain vigilant. Children on school grounds before 9.20am should be supervised by their parents/guardians. Thank you to those who have adhered to this advice.

**Credit Union**

Our Credit Union Savings scheme will be up and running again after the holiday break from Thursday 14th. It is a great opportunity to teach and encourage children to save. If any parent wishes to join please enquire at the office. As part of our participation in the scheme, we received a donation of **€500** from Dundrum Credit Union which we gratefully appreciate!

**Child Protection Reminder**

As the New Year begins, we wish to remind all families that we have a firm Child Protection Policy in place which can be accessed on our website or in the front foyer. This also includes having Child Protection as an ongoing issue on all Board of Management and Staff meeting agendas. Should a parent or child ever have a concern surrounding a Child Protection issue, please speak with Ms. Byrne who is our Designated Liaison Person. Should Ms. Byrne be unavailable, Ms. Quigley is our Deputy Designated Liaison person.

**Silly Socks Day**

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our fundraiser Silly Socks Day on Friday 18th  December. A total of **€323** was raised for ‘STEMS for Niamh.’

**Catholic Schools Week**

Catholic Schools Week 2015 will begin on **31st January.** The theme for this week is “Catholic Schools – Challenged to proclaim Gods Mercy” and gives everyone involved in Catholic education the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the contribution that our Catholic schools make to Irish life. Catholic schools support the work of parents in teaching their children about Jesus’ love for them. Parents are encouraged to take time to reflect on what it means to have your child as part of a Catholic school community and to consider how you can support the work being done in your child’s Catholic school. Any parent wishing to examine the programme for Catholic Schools Week can find it at [www.catholicbishops.ie/catholicschoolsweek](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/catholicschoolsweek)

**Positivity & Friendship Week**

From the **25th January** we will be holding our annual Positivity Week in school for all in our school community. The purpose of this focus on positivity is to provide some balance to the pervasive news of economic gloom and media coverage of international disasters, terrorism etc. Often children are too aware of such serious issues and can sense the effects of adult stress and worry. The basic idea is to get everyone to laugh a little more and generally be nice to one another. We will have lots of fun activities for the children throughout the week. We ask parents to join us in instilling some positivity into our pupils and overall school community.

**Strictly St. Patrick’s**

We urge everyone to get on board and support our big fundraiser for this year ‘Strictly St, Patrick’s’. A letter will go home outlining how you can do your bit to help your child’s school. A great night is expected so keep **February 12th** free!

**Golden Book**

As you know we have a special initiative to recognise pupils who demonstrate exceptional skills, talents, academic achievement, acts of selflessness, generosity & kindness in our school. These children are nominated by teachers or peers and are honoured with being included in our Golden Book.

This month’s honourees are;

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| Saoirse Handley 1st class  Alannah Sanchez Sen. Infants  Riona Moulton 5th class | Sinead Fitzsimons 5th class  Marco Alonzi 3rd class  Maresa Vard 3rd class | Harry Mc Gowen 1st class  Brady Walsh 3rd clas |