 

St. Patrick’s National School

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**APRIL NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Tidy Schools Competition & National Spring Clean**

This month we are taking part in the DLR Tidy Schools Competition and the National Spring Clean. Already the children and staff are making an extra effort to keep our school clean and tidy. A special thank you to Betty & her husband Michael for her beautiful window boxes & painted tyres to the front of the school, to Denis for all the work around the school, to our 6th class gardeners and to Ms. Skelly for leading the project. Together we can keep our school a beautiful, enjoyable place to learn & play in.

**Cumann na mBunscol Hurling League**

Good luck to our school hurling team who begin the league Thursday 6th April at 3pm at the Stars of Erin pitch against Carysfort NS. Our next match against Lucan ET takes place at home Thursday 27th at 3pm. This will be followed by their third match away on Thursday 4th May at 3pm against Our Lady’s BNS in Marlay Park. All supporters welcome! Many thanks to our coaches Peter Keane, Sean Kelly and Jason Sinclair. Thanks to Mr. Coughlan and Ms. Doyle for assisting Ms. Byrne with the supervision.

**NCC Choir Performance**

The pupils of 5th & 6th class are eagerly making final preparations for their national performance in the National Basketball Arena on Wednesday 5th April. All parents attending are in for an amazing experience. We take this opportunity to thank Ruth Fitzsimon and their class teachers for all their preparation throughout the year for this big event.

**Swimming reminder**

A new swimming term will begin Thursday 27th April in Meadowbrook pool for Junior Infants and 3rd classes. 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.

Gemma Mooney, Parents Rep for Junior Infants, will be happy to speak to any new parents regarding swimming.

And please remember there is no supervision for siblings at 3pm so if you need to make arrangements with other parents or family members for collection, please do so.

**Easter Cake sale**

Our annual Easter Cake Sale will take place on the last day of school, April 7th, when school ends at 12.30pm. All donations of baked goods can be dropped into the hall that morning. There will also be a raffle this year with some wonderful prizes up for grabs! Tickets are on sale every morning at 9.20am outside Bettys office.

**Bags to School Collection**

All bags of donated clothing will be accepted on Wednesday 26th April between 9.00-9.30 in the Rachel Murphy Hall. Bags cannot be collected after this time as they will be collected by the company Bags 2 School that day. **Under no circumstances are bags to be left on school grounds at any time.** Many thanks to Shona Leonard for organising this.

**New Primary Language Curriculum: In-service Training**

With the introduction of the new primary language curriculum, all teachers in Ireland must partake in compulsory whole school in-service. We have received word that our training will take place on **May 29th**. Therefore our school will be closed on this day.

**School Closures**

We will close for our Easter break on April 7th at 12.30pm and reopen April 24th. Wishing you all a lovely break.