

# Scéalta 5

News & Information for  
St. Mochta's National School Community  
25<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## **Notice from the Board of Management - SET DOWN AREA**

We would first of all like to thank the many parent volunteers who gave of their time in recent weeks to supervise the set down area at the beginning of the new term, to instruct parents on the new system and to promote and develop good habits for everyone's safety in this area.

Unfortunately some of our volunteers experienced some shocking and unacceptable behaviour from some parents in recent days. Two of our parents were subjected to appalling verbal attacks. The level of abuse that was experienced was upsetting for all who witnessed it, parents and children alike. The school have since reported both incidents to the Gardaí.

It is important for all of our parents, our children and all members of our school community to know that the school will be taking a zero tolerance approach to this type of behaviour in our school grounds. It shows a complete lack of respect for our staff, our parents and most importantly for ALL of the children in our school. No child should witness or experience such abuse and for them to witness this in the grounds of their school where they should be safe and feel secure is unacceptable to us.

It is important to know that any dangerous, disrespectful or abusive behaviour by drivers will not be tolerated and will be reported by the school to the Gardaí. We will also have to consider closing the set-down area as a drop-off/collection facility if any action by those using it places children, parents or guardians at risk of injury.

We built our new school by working together and supporting our common goal. By respecting the guidelines and good respectful practices in our **SET DOWN AREA** we will make access to and from the school safer and more accessible for everyone. Please help us to achieve this.

We look forward to the school year being a happy and safe one for everyone.

## **Set Down area – Further work to be done**

Additional works, including installing Belisha Beacons, are due to be completed in the Set Down Area in the coming weeks. This may mean closing the Set Down Area for a short period. Further details will be forwarded to you as it becomes available.

## **New Junior Infant – Academic Year 2020/2021**

Application Forms for Admissions for Junior Infants Academic Year 2020/2021 are now available for collection. This form, together with appropriate documentation, should be returned to the school on one of the designated registration dates – 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October from 10am to 12 noon. An evening registration will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 7pm to 9pm. Admission Application Forms received outside of these dates will be deemed late applications.

## **Book Rental/Arts and Crafts Fees**

Many thanks to everybody for paying the above fees. A reminder letter was sent to those with outstanding amounts.

## **Current Junior Infants**

A Junior Infant Curriculum Meeting will take place for all parents of our current Junior Infants. Parents/Guardians are invited to attend this meeting in the PE Hall tomorrow morning Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am. For your information, the meeting will conclude at approximately 10.00am. The Parents Association will host a tea/coffee reception.

### **Curriculum Letters**

Each class group of teachers are compiling letters on the curriculum your child will be learning during this academic year. These letters will be emailed to you in early October.

### **Important – Nut Allergy**

Some of our pupils have a severe allergy to peanuts/nut products, cross contamination and breathing products in the air. Since this condition can be life threatening, please minimise the risk to this child by:-

- Avoiding giving children nuts in school lunches
- Avoiding giving peanut butter sandwiches, other spreads such as Nutella and snacks/bars containing nuts or labelled “may contain nut traces” in school lunches
- Asking children not to share lunches

Due to the severity of the problem, it is important that all parents in **every class** carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of allergic reaction to these children. Many thanks for your co-operation.

### **Board of Management**

The current Board of Management will soon complete its term. We will be seeking new parent nominees, one male, one female, to the new Board of Management which will commence in December. The Board meet once a month to oversee all aspects of managing our school. If you have skills that could benefit the school and you are interested in serving on our Board of Management please contact the PA or Ms. O’Boyce, Acting Principal.

### **Message from the Parent Association**

Clothing collection will be held on Saturday 19th October from 10am to 1pm at the school. Please bring as many bags as you can to raise funds for our school.

### **Primary Language Curriculum – Professional Learning Programme for 2019/2020**

The Department of Education and Skills has informed the school that there will be a one day training session provided to all teachers at St. Mochta’s National School. The date has been confirmed and will take place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019. There will be no school for children on this day. Please keep a note for your records.

### **Action Care Plans**

These plans were due to be returned to the office last Monday. Please return the forms to the office. It is important to return the forms whether there has been a change or not to the care plan.

### **Boys GAA Training**

The 3rd and 4th class boys will have GAA training on Wednesdays during lunchtimes weather permitting. The boys will need boots, shorts and t-shirts and a gum shield. They must have a gum shield to train. These are not trials, it is open to everyone who wants to play gaelic football for the school team in the future.

### **Sports Updates**

- Congratulations to our Girls Football Team who won their match against Scoil Oilibhéir last Wednesday. We wish the Team the very best of luck as they play their next away match against St. Brigid’s. Palmerstown this afternoon. Many thanks to Ms. Schmidt, Ms. Egan and Ms. Reilly for their work with the team. Good luck girls!
- Hard luck to our boys team on last week’s game. We wish the Team all the best also as they play their next match tomorrow against Scoil Aine Aofa. Thanks to Mr. Boner for his work with the team. Good luck boys!
- Congratulations to all our runners who did so well at the first meeting of the Fingal Athletics League 2019. We finished the day with four victories. Two of these victories came from debutant runners Antonina Cygan and Saul Casey from 4<sup>th</sup> class, Louis Dowling from 5<sup>th</sup> class also crossed the line in 1<sup>st</sup> position and our perennial winner Eva Crowe from 6<sup>th</sup> Class. Our other podium finishers on the day were: Ben Crowe, Andrea Reilly, Robert Kane, Cara Faherty, Tadhg Coyle, Alex Martin, Maia Mulligan, Saoirse Phelan and Ben O’Neill all came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Chloe Martin, Niamh Hughes, Chloe Tolan and Katie Roe rounded off the day in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Thanks to all the parents who accompanied the children and helped out with supervision in Porterstown Park. A particular thanks to Mr. Kenny and Mr. Brennan for their work preparing the team at training and at races.

***Thank you also to Caoimhe McDermott, 6<sup>th</sup> Class, who wrote this informative update on our athletes.***

## **Illness in School**

It's that time of year when illness can spread easily. School plays a critical role in protecting the health of their students, staff and the community from contagious coughs, colds and tummy bugs. Please do not send your child to school if he/she presents such illness. On your child's return to school, please send in a note to your class teacher explaining the absence. There is no need to provide a letter from your doctor. For some helpful tips, please click on the following [www.undertheweather.ie](http://www.undertheweather.ie)

## **Community News**

- There are some spaces available in **Tigers Afterschool**. For further details, visit [www.tigerschildcare.com](http://www.tigerschildcare.com) or contact Amanda Jones on 086-170-4001 .
- Coolmine Community School will hold an Open Evening at their school at 7.30pm on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Information went home with some of 6<sup>th</sup> Class students today. For further details, please visit [www.coolminecs.ie](http://www.coolminecs.ie) or call 821-4141.
- Fáilte Isteach involves local people who volunteer to facilitate Conversational English with people who have come to live in Ireland from many different countries. Classes take place at Ongar Community Centre on Tuesdays from 10am to 12 noon, Empower, Dillon House Coolmine Business Park on Tuesdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and on Thursday afternoons from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. To book a place please contact 01-8209550 or email [failteisteach@bap.ie](mailto:failteisteach@bap.ie).
- Improve your ability to speak Irish through the art of everyday conversation in a relaxed and entertaining atmosphere. Classes will resume in Corduff Resource Centre starting Thursday mornings 26<sup>th</sup> September from 11.00am to 12.30pm. For further details, contact Monica 829-5047 or email [mshannon@empower.ie](mailto:mshannon@empower.ie).
- St. Vincent's College, Castleknock, will hold an Open Night on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Boys in 5<sup>th</sup> Class Only are welcome to attend with a maximum of two family members to accompany them. To book a place please log onto Eventbrite, <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/st-vincent-castleknock-college-open-night-2019-tickets-68146312455>. The Open Night will commence at **7:00pm**. Parents and boys will have an opportunity to tour the school facilities, chat with students and staff. The evening is scheduled to conclude at 8:30pm approximately. Please note the closing date for applications for **First Year 2021 is 31 December 2019**.