



Parteen National School
Parteen
Co. Clare
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Principal: Gerard Ruane
Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian

School Community Newsletter
25/1/2016

Attendance

December

Boys 95.4% Girls 95.6%

Early Closing

The school will close at 12.10pm for J1-2nd and 12.15pm for 3rd – 6th on Friday, February 5th for Department of Education approved staff training. We have informed Bus Éireann and they will operate at the earlier time.

Enrolment

Enrolment application forms must be with us by February 1st. Forms are available from the school office. We have informed local childcare facilities – if you know of any families who may not have heard the message there please let them know.

Uniform

The uniform policy was ratified by the Board of Management last April following a parent survey, consultation with the Parents Association and repeated consultation with the general parent body. At

the time, further review of the PE Top was needed as described in the policy:

Further Review: PE Tracksuit Top

The cost and quality of this is to be reviewed. A generic option is also to be reviewed. Further research needs to be done on this in consultation with the Parents Association.

This will be completed by February 2016 and be ready for the 2016/2017 school year.

Review January 2016

*The Parents Association have carried out a review of appropriate sports top that represents good quality and value for money. They have concluded that the Parteen National School P.E. top should now be purchased from Fennessy's. It will still be navy with a blue collar and school crest. It will cost €25 for ages up to 10/11 and €27 for ages 11/12 +. Parents who wish to purchase a generic option may purchase a navy sweatshirt and **sew on a crest** which is available for purchase in the school office. Students can continue to wear their existing Parteen National School Rugby top – when they need to be replaced please go to Fennessy's or purchase the generic option.*

If anybody has any feedback please email parteenoffice@gmail.com by February 2nd. A sample top has been left in the school office.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from Monday, February 1st to Friday, February 5th. During this Catholic Schools Week, we will explore with the children how they can be the face of God's mercy in our classrooms, the playground, our school, our families and our community. Please consider discussing each of the daily themes with your child and saying an 'Our Father' to help us with that topic.

Monday

Today we focus on how we can be the face of God's mercy when we are kind and compassionate. We pray that we will be kind and compassionate to others. Our Father...

Tuesday

When we think of others before ourselves, when we share, and when we love those around us, we are the face of God's mercy in our world. We pray to help us think of others before ourselves. Our Father...

Wednesday

We thank you Lord for our grandparents, help us to be thankful for all they do and share with us. We pray for our grandparents. Our Father...

Thursday

When we treat others fairly at home, in school and in the community we are acting as Jesus asked us to when he said, 'Act justly and love tenderly'. We pray that everyone can act fairly and justly. Our Father...

Friday

Trying to live like Jesus can be difficult. He told us to love one another, to be kind and caring and to forgive those who hurt us. We pray and ask for help to forgive others. Our Father...

Rugby Tournament

The girls from 5th and 6th will attend a 'Lep' Rugby Tournament on Wednesday at Thomand RFC. They will leave school at 10.30am and will be back at 1.30pm. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to go. We are asking each child to bring €2 for the bus.

Literacy-Lift-Off

We will be introducing Literacy-Lift-Off to Senior Infants and both first classes between February and June. We will start with Ms. Neylon's 1st, then Mr. Hickey's 1st and finally Ms. Sheahan's Senior Infants. Literacy-Lift-Off involves a number of teachers working with the one class at the one time on reading and writing. The children will be put into groups and each group will work at a different activity i.e. word work, writing, new book, familiar book and the independent station. Each group works at each activity for approximately 10 minutes. For the reading, each child will be assessed to find out what book level they are comfortable reading. This will be their starting point. Each week they will have a book home and it is essential that this book is read at home each night. Children should progress up reading levels through the period of intervention. The books to run Literacy-Lift-Off cost approximately €7000 and this has been paid for by the Board of Management. If a book is damaged or lost there will be an €8 charge for the book. We ask that each child in Senior Infants-1st class send in €4 to cover the cost of stationary required – folders, markers, pencils and copies.

Mata sa Rang

Ms. Gleeson, Ms. Sheahan and Ms. O'Rourke will be implementing a new maths initiative in this term in Senior Infants called 'Mata sa Rang'. A note will issue to the parents of this class on how the programme can be supported at home.

Rugby

Rugby training is continuing on Thursday afternoons. With the recent spell of inclement weather training sessions have had to move from St. Munchin's College to Sean Choill all-weather pitch. The cost of this has been covered from the Munster Jersey Fundraiser.

Children are learning a range of skills including scrummaging, line-outs, passing, evasive running, etc. Attendances at training sessions are

averaging at about 35/36 children. The children are coached by Ms. Curtin, Ms. Finnegan, Ms. Neylan, Ms. O'Dwyer, Ms. Gleeson, Mr. Hickey and Mr. Crowe.

A series of blitz games will take place in the coming weeks for boys and girls.

We are particular proud to see a number of past pupils excelling with the St. Munchin's College and Ardscoil Rís senior & junior cup teams.

School Building

The extension is progressing well and there have been no delays reported to date so we expect to be able to move in after Easter.

Main Building

Toilets in all the classrooms in the main building were painted over Christmas as were parts of the corridor.

Parents of 1st and 5th Class

The Parents Association are looking for parents from 1st Class to help with tea and coffee for First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 21st and for volunteers from 5th class to help with tea and coffee for Confirmation on Tuesday, March 15th. Please leave your name with Catherine in the office if you can help.

Fashion Show

The Parents Association will be running a Fashion Show in the Strand Hotel on Thursday, April 21st, to raise money for the all-weather pitch. There will be a limited number of stands available on the night where businesses can display their products – if you are interested please leave a message with Catherine in the office.

Hockey Trip

The Parteen girl's hockey team will be playing a friendly match against Laurel Hill on Tuesday the 26th of January at 9:30 am. We would appreciate if the girls could come to school in their hockey gear at 8:45am as there will be a bus waiting to transport them into Laurel Hill. This will be a great opportunity to see the secondary school and to meet some teachers and pupils. They should be back in Parteen between 11.30am and 12noon. The bus costs €120 and will be paid from the €400 given to the hockey team from the Munster Jersey Fundraiser. Please let the teacher know if you do not want your child to go.

Irish Soccer Team

Three members of the Ladies Irish Soccer Team will visit the school in February. The date is to be confirmed. They will be presenting us with €1000 worth of sports equipment. They will do a soccer training session with the girls who went on the trip to see them play against Spain. Thanks again to Mike Quaid who entered the competition.

Mass

Thank you to Fr. Tom for the lovely mass on January 6th and to all the teachers who prepared the children.

Kind regards,

Gerard Ruane

Mairéad Guckian