



Parteen National School

Parteen

Co. Clare

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(061) 340457

Principal: Gerard Ruane

Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian

School Community Newsletter October 2018

Safety

Please obey all rules of the road and allow for plenty of time when dropping off and picking up children. Please report dangerous driving/ parking directly to Mayorstone on 061456980. Gardaí are monitoring the area around the school in the morning and evening. Please respect access points for neighbours.

Lunches and Uniform

Well done to everybody on all the healthy lunches and full uniform. It is fair to everybody when everyone complies. Spare uniforms are available if anybody is stuck.

Use of School Toilets

We have had an increasing number of requests for people to use the school toilets with young children. We are of course happy to facilitate people – however our toilets have been left unusable on a number of occasions. Please use facilities before you leave the house and if you do require to use ours, please ask at reception, sign in at reception and leave our facilities as you found them. For security and child protection purposes, everybody must report to reception.

Communion and Confirmation

Confirmation will be on Thursday, March 28th at 1.30pm. Communion will be on Saturday, May 18th. Ms Sheahan's Class will be at 10am and Ms. Neylon's Class at 12 noon.

There will be a meeting for parents of children in the First Holy Communion Classes on Monday, October 22nd, at 7.30pm in the Greenhills.

There will be a meeting for parents of children in the Confirmation Classes on Tuesday, October 23rd at 7.30pm in the Greenhills.

Hockey

Hockey has commenced for another school year for 5th/6th class girls. We have a big turnout with over 40 players. Our first blitz will take place on Wednesday 24th of October in Corbally United against Scoil Ide. We will be playing from 12noon to 2pm and all supporters are welcome! We will depart at approximately 11.30am and return by 2.30pm. Children will be notified about the cost of the bus. Please send in a note if your child goes to training but you do not want your child to attend the match. Thank you to Ms. O' Donovan and Ms. Cuddy for this.

Rugby

Kenneth from Munster Rugby will coach 6th and 5th Classes on Friday October 12th & 19th and Thursday, November 8th. He will coach 4th Class after Christmas.

Cycling

6th Class will receive Road Safety Authority approved cycling training on Friday, November 9th, 16th, and 23rd. A letter will be sent to 6th Class with further details.

Charity Policy: Donations and Team Hope

Well done to Ms. Cuddy's 6th Class of last year who raised €260 for Milford Hospice and €260 for Limerick Neo-natal from their Bake Sale in June.

We will be participating in the Team Hope Shoebox collection this year. A leaflet is being sent home today. Please send shoeboxes to the school hall on Wednesday, November 7th.

Our Charities Policy is available in the Policy Section of www.parteenschool.ie.

Chess

Thank you to Ms. Needham who has volunteered to give chess lessons to 6th Class after school. They will run on Tuesdays after Halloween (2.40pm – 3.40pm) until Christmas. There are 20 places and they will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please send a note to Ms. Needham if you are interested.

Parents Association Clothing Collection

There will be a used clothing collection on Wednesday and Thursday November 7th and 8th. You can drop bags off between 8am and 9.30am to the school hall. Money raised will go towards the Outdoor Project. Clean clothes, belts and shoes in pairs can be recycled. Pillows, cushions, duvets and cuddly toys are not allowed.

Enrolment

Closing date for enrolment applications in Friday, February 1st 2019. The Admissions Policy is on our website. Application forms are available from Catherine in the office.

Outdoor Project

Last year the Board of Management published a Draft Outdoor Project and sought feedback on it. We thank all members of the school community who sent us feedback. We also met with local residents and have taken on board their observations.

Having considered all feedback we are now progressing the project. It is available in the Newsletter Section of this website. Thank you to Mr. Crowe who has ordered the set-up of

the sensory room and it should be in place in eight weeks. Thank you to Curtin Scaffolding for a donation of €1000 and to Tony Grant who is flooring it for free.

Some work will take place on the garden so it will be ready to use come spring time.

We moved the location of the **private** play area based on feedback. It will be located on the green area to the left of the school (as you look at the school – see map in the Newsletter Section). A suitable fence will be installed to ensure there is no access to it - it will be locked outside of school hours. Just a section of this grass area will be used. Planning permission will be sought in the coming weeks.

The full details of the Outdoor Project is available in the Newsletter Section of www.parteenschool.ie.

Secondary Schools

It is essential that you attend the open night and read the enrolment policy of each secondary school that you are interested in your child attending. Primary school teachers or management have absolutely no influence in securing places for children in secondary school, it is solely the responsibility of the family of each child. We of course offer advice on making the transition to secondary school.

Spanish

Thank you to Ms. Quilty for offering Spanish lessons after school to 6th Class.

Data Update

This week we will be sending home a print off of all the contact details we have for you and all the consents you have given. If there are any changes to be made please note them on the sheet. **Please read, sign and return it even if there are no changes.**

Fire Safety Upgrades

Cathal Quinn has been appointed to manage the fire upgrades to our main building. He will carry out the tendering for the project and manage it until it is complete.

Watch House Cross

3rd Class will attend a talk by Aaron Tower on Roald Dahl's BFG on Friday, October 12th. Cost of the bus is €3. They will depart at 12 noon and return by 2pm. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend. Thank you to Catherine for organising this.

Recorder Recital

Both 4th Classes will attend a recorder recital with some interactive activities in St. Mary's Cathedral on Friday, October 12th. They will leave the school at 10.15am and return at 2pm. If you do not want your child attending please send a note to the teacher. Cost of the bus is €5. Thank you to Ms. Needham for organising this.

Colours Day

Children can dress up for Halloween on Thursday, October 25th. We ask that each child bring in €2 towards the Outdoor Project.

Christmas Cards

Thank you to the Parents Association who are organising the sale of children's Christmas Cards. Money raised will go towards the Outdoor Project.

Classroom Assistants

Thank you to Ms. Carey who is currently in the process of organising university students interested in teaching to work here as classroom assistants. This will be of huge assistance to us and benefit to the children. Denise Collier will be working two days per week in the Junior Infants until Christmas and we hope to have a number of assistants here between January and June.

Teaching Practice

We welcome Ms. Small who is completing Teaching Practice in Mr. Collins' class for the next two weeks.

Parent Teacher Meetings

These will take place on Monday and Tuesday November 26th and 27th. School will finish at 2.25pm on those dates. The bus company have been informed as has the lollipop lady. You will be sent appointment times. Everybody will have a ten minute slot with each teacher. Where parents have more than one child, the second appointment will be given ten minutes after the end of the first appointment and so on, to allow time for you to move room to room. We have 361 appointments for 239 families so we ask for your cooperation on two matters. Please do not spend longer than 10 minutes with a teacher and please take the slot that is allocated to you. If at any other stage you need to meet a teacher please just make an appointment through the office.

Parents Association AGM and Internet Safety Talk

The A.G.M of the Parents Association will start at 7.45pm on Thursday, October 4th. The minutes of the last A.G.M. have been posted on the Parents Association Section of www.parteenschool.ie. Click About Us to access it. Please read these in advance of the meeting. Please see the attached flyer for an Internet Safety talk which will start at 8pm. All children in 2nd- 6th have completed an online survey of internet use and the results of this will be presented on the night. We cannot stress enough how important it is to attend.

Kind regards,

Gerard Ruane

Mairéad Guckian

ZEEKO

Parents Internet Safety Seminars

"17% of first class children have spoken to a stranger online"

Zeeko featured in The Irish Times, 05/01/2016

- 1) Why do our kids need to use the internet
- 2) Active mediation - Find a Chatbudi
- 3) Cyberbullying
- 4) Online Gaming
- 5) Stranger Danger
- 6) Media / Screen Time
- 7) Excessive internet use
- 8) Social Media
- 9) Inappropriate Content
- 10) Digital footprint



Where and When

Parteen NS

Thursday 4th October @ 8pm

Email: info@zeeko.ie Ph: 01 906 0291 www.zeeko.ie

