



*Parteen National School*

*Parteen*

*Co. Clare*

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*Principal: Gerard Ruane*

*Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian*

### **School Community Newsletter November 2018**

#### **Internet Safety**

We have published a comprehensive guide for parents/ guardians on internet safety as well as a report on internet usage from 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class.

Internet Safety Guide:

<http://parteenschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Zeeko-Internet-Safety-Guide-1.pdf>

Report on Internet Usage by 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Class children in Parteen N.S.:

<http://parteenschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Parteen-Trend-Report-on-Internet-Usage.pdf>

These guides along with the talk for children and parents cost €725 and was paid for by the Board of Management. We urge you to read this internet safety guide and follow the recommendations.

#### **Enrolment**

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, we had 361 pupils. This entitles us to have our fourteen mainstream teachers for the 2019/2020 school year as the required figure was 351.

We need 56 children to enrol for next September, 2019, in order to maintain our fourteen mainstream teachers for 2020/2021. 35 children have applied to-date with other applications given out but not returned. If we do not reach this figure some classes will have to be regrouped in 2020/2021 as we will have thirteen mainstream teachers.

#### **Parents Association**

Following the P.A. A.G.M., the following committee has been re-elected:

Audrey Dillon and Ger Smyth (Joint Chairpersons), MJ Geary (Secretary), Ann Hopwood (Treasurer), Pauline Gaffney, Ann-Marie Bermingham, Karen Williamson, Sharon

Deedigan, Suzanne O' Connell, Irene O' Connell, Natal Carroll, Audrey Considine, Joyce Healy, Louise Moriarity Sharon Maloney, Catriona Clancy, Tara Quinlivan and Bríd Ryan.

We thank them for their commitment. For information on the workings of the Parents Association, please read the Parents Association Constitution:

<http://parteenschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Parents-Association-Constitution.pdf>

Thank you to the Parents Association for organising the Christmas Cards and to all the teachers who completed the activities with their class.

€500 was raised from the recent Colours Day. Thank you to all who contributed to the clothing recycling - €1370 was raised.

### **Singing**

Thank you to Ms. Sheahan who is running singing lessons after school.

### **Spanish**

Thank you to Ms. Quilty who is running Spanish lessons after school.

### **Chess**

Thank you to Ms. Needham who is running chess lessons after school.

### **Choir**

Thank you to Ms. Parkinson and Ms. O' Keefe who are running the school choir after school.

### **Hockey**

Thank you to Ms. O' Donovan and Ms. Cuddy who are running hockey after school.

### **Relax Kids Club**

Thank you to Miss Barry who will run a Relax Kids club for children in 3rd and 4th class in January. Relax Kids is a relaxation programme, aimed at helping children to feel confident and calm, with 7 steps in each class: Movement, Games, Stretching & Balancing (Yoga), Massage (Peer /Self), Breathing, Affirmations and Visualisations. There will also be a chance to do some mindfulness-related art and crafts in some sessions. The club will run for a 6 week block and will take place on Tuesdays from 2.40-3.40pm. There are 16 places available and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send a note to Ms. Barry if you are interested.

### **Shoebboxes**

Thank you to all who sent in the Team Hope shoeboxes. 197 shoeboxes were collected.

### **Football**

The football training season is now complete. Over 60 children from 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> took part after school. Thank you to Ms. Neylon, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Breen, Mr. Collins and Mr. Crowe who trained the boys on Wednesdays in Parteen G.A.A. and to Ms. Guckian, Ms. O' Dwyer, Ms. Quilty, Ms. Needham and Ms. Small who trained the girls on Tuesdays on the astro-pitch.

### **Ranger Visit.**

Thank you to David Lyons who visited 3<sup>rd</sup> Class to teach them all about bats.

### **Classroom Assistants**

Ms. Carey has organised for four University of Limerick students to work as Classroom Assistants in our school from January to June. We look forward to welcoming them. This will have a hugely positive impact on the school. Thank you too to Ms. Neville who sat on the selection interview board.

### **Sensory Room and School Garden**

The sensory room has been ordered and will be in place before Christmas. The vegetable garden and sensory garden is currently being designed based on pupil and teacher feedback. Some physical assistance is needed with getting it started – if you are in a position to help please leave your name in the office. Thank you to Mr. Crowe for his work on these projects.

### **Teaching Practice**

Ms. Small is currently completing a two week teaching practice placement in Ms. O' Keeffe's Senior Infants.

### **Front Car Park.**

Thank you to Cllr. Crowe who has confirmed that Clare County Council intends to spend a fund of approx. €20,000 on resurfacing and line-painting works in the car park area at the front of the school. This work forms part of a list of 37 planned projects in the Shannon Municipal Area and is subject to change, but we believe this to be unlikely. It is anticipated that the aforementioned works will be completed by the end of April 2019.

### **Rugby**

Thank you to Mr. Hickey and Mr. Breen who are taking a rugby team to a blitz in Thomand today. A separate note has been issued.

### **Hockey**

Well done to the Hockey team who enjoyed a blitz with Scoil Íde recently. The 6th class hockey team will be taking part in a hockey blitz on Friday, November 16th. The blitz will be taking place in the Catholic Institute between 11am-1pm. Parteen will be playing teams from Scoil Íde, An Mhodhscoil and a visiting team from St. Gerard's Primary School in Dublin. Please ensure the girls have their protective gum shields, shin guards and rain gear. The bus costs €5. All supporters are welcome. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend. Thank you to Ms. O' Donovan and Ms. Cuddy for organising the blitzes.

### **Book Fair**

Thank you to Ms. Carey who has organised the book fair for November 21<sup>st</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Each class will receive a timetable. 60% of all money spent at the book fair is returned to us in the form of book vouchers. Books make an ideal Christmas gift.

### **Choir**

The choir will sing in St. Mary's Cathedral on November 22nd at 7.30pm at a concert celebrating Focus Ireland's 20th anniversary. Children will need to be there for 7pm. Tickets are €10 and can be bought on [eventbrite.ie](http://eventbrite.ie) or directly from St. Mary's Cathedral. Full choir uniform to be worn. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend. Parents must be available to pick up their children at the front door during the interval.

### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

Reminder: School finishes for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> at 2.25pm on Monday and Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> to facilitate meetings. Appointment times are going home today.

### **Watch House Cross**

3<sup>rd</sup> Class will attend a talk by Aaron Tower on Roald Dahl's BFG on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. They will depart at 11am and return by 12.45pm. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend. Thank you to Catherine for organising this. This trip was previously cancelled due to bad weather.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Class**

6<sup>th</sup> class will go to the Ardscoil Mhuire Christmas Show in L.I.T. on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. They will leave at 9.30am and be back by 12.30pm. The cost of the show and bus is €5. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend.

### **Christmas Bake Sale**

There will be a bake sale on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please support by sending in some baked goods. The hall will be open from 8am. All classes will be timetabled to visit the bake sale.

### **Christmas Shows**

This year 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> will perform shows in the school hall on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Please see times below:

Ms. Collins	9.00am
Ms. Barry	9.50am
Ms. Needham	10.40am
Ms. Quilty	11.30am
Mr. Collins	12.25pm
Mr. Crowe	1.15pm
Ms. Cuddy	2.00pm

### **Attendance**

September: Boys: 97.7% Girls: 95.9%

October: Boys: 97.4% Girls: 96.3%

### **Rugby**

Rugby coaching for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> with Kenneth McNamara has been postponed until Fridays in January. 4<sup>th</sup> class will have coaching with him after April.

Kind regards,

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Gerard Ruane

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Mairéad Guckian