

Newsletter: St. Mary's Primary School, Enfield

Vol. 11 Issue 5 04/06/2015

The final month of the school year has just begun. It may seem like November but it is actually June. There is plenty to do in the month ahead. Read on to find out more.

School Website:

First of all I wish to let everyone know that the revised website is now officially up and running from Wednesday 3rd of June. See www.enfieldps.ie We believe that this is now an important source of information in relation to the school and the community. The website and the use of text messages have reduced the need to use paper as a means of communicating with the wider school community. Sometimes it may still be necessary to send information in that format. The class teacher still remains the first point of contact for parents for matters in relation to their children.

Army take over St. Mary's P.S.



On Wednesday 3rd of June we had one of the best days of the school year. The Army Band under the supervision of Vincent Dolan visited the school. They performed two concerts, one for the Junior children and one for the Senior children. Both concerts were very enjoyable. Apart from listening to the lovely music, the children were introduced to the instruments of the orchestra. We had a few children who even got the chance to conduct the orchestra and others who demonstrated great ability in the area of dance. Ask the children more!

Tests and Reports

Many classes have started doing tests to examine the work of the children over the past year at their particular class level. Children should see these as opportunities to show what they have learned. We ask you as parents to encourage them to do their best. The end of year reports are based not just on tests at this time of the year but on the work of the children throughout the year. The effort made by the children to do their best is considered by the teachers. The reports will be posted in mid-June. **We are sending home an envelope for the report with this newsletter. Board have asked parents to write correct address and return with a stamp on it to the school by Wednesday 10th of June**

Communion and Confirmation

Congratulations to the children of the Second and Sixth Classes who have now received their Sacraments. These occasions mark steps along the way on their journey of faith.

Dates: The school closes for the Summer holidays on Friday 26th of June. Infants go home at 12.15 and all other children go home at 12.30. Please do not ask to collect older children at 12.15 as this makes the organisation of the exit of the older children difficult.

School will reopen for all children on Tuesday 1st of September as was communicated at an earlier stage in the year. School Calendar: The calendar for the 2015-2016 school year issues with this letter. Please note the dates and book your holidays during the breaks.

Firemen visit Third Classes



Each year members of the local Fire Service from Trim visit the Third Classes. Here we see Paddy and Garry with two of our students who received an information pack on Fire Safety. The visit took place on Wednesday 3rd of June. The important messages are to have **smoke alarms**, to **check the batteries** in the smoke alarms and to **have a plan to leave the house in an emergency**.

Sports Days

As always we are dependent on the weather but we are planning on having the Junior Sports day for children from **Junior Infants to Second Classes on Wednesday 10th of June**. The **Senior Sports day is planned for Thursday 11th of June**. Both will take place at the school and will begin at 10.00 a.m. We ask parent to vacate the yard at lunch time to give the children room to play. If weather is poor they will be postponed.

Booklists

The booklists have now been issued. The Book Rental scheme continues to be a success. We are able to add more books each year as there is practically 100% participation in the scheme. It offers great value. **The €25 must be paid to the class teacher by Tuesday 16th of June in order that books can be organized for September 2015**. There are a number of books that must still be purchased by the parents and we ask that the children have these when they come back to school in September. We encourage all parents to participate as this is the best system for providing a great variety of books for your children at a reasonable cost. The School Charges, as set by the Board of Management are not due until after the holidays. These are €60 per child or a maximum of €100 per family.

Enfield Credit Union make presentation of cheque for €700.00 to the school



St. Mary's P.S. participated in the **School Savings Scheme** for primary schools organized by Enfield Credit Union. This was the first year of the programme and children from Fifth and Sixth Classes participated. It has worked very well and we will be continuing with it next year. The main aim of the saving scheme is to encourage the children to adopt a regular savings habit and thereby sow the seeds of good financial management for the future.

New Junior Infants

We recently had a meeting at the school for the parents of the new Junior Infants. There are some familiar friends of the school but also many new parents that we are looking forward to working with over the coming years. The children visited the classrooms recently in order to be familiar with the new surroundings. They all enjoyed the visit and I hope they are looking forward to joining us in September.

Enfield Playground

The children of Enfield will have every opportunity to strengthen their muscles this summer. Thanks to the great work of the Enfield Playground Group, the support from the community and a number of organizations, Meath County Council have facilitated the building of the new playground. It is being constructed beside Supervalu and is expected to be ready for the Summer Holidays. There will be lots of fun and making friends there for many years to come.

Tours

School Tours begin this week with the Senior Infants heading off on Friday 5th of June. Please check the weather forecast the evening before and supply the children with raincoats or hats and suncream depending on what the Irish weather is sending us.

Parents' Association

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Parents' Association for all their work with us this year. Some parents have volunteered to make presentations to the senior classes on "Careers Day", which is coming up on 12th of June. Others have come in to assist us in the school in various ways. The Christmas Fair was a huge success and I understand they are thinking of new ideas for next year. Recently they purchased a new projector for presentations at meetings and have also purchased a significant amount of new PE equipment.

Sponsored Walk Last year the Parents' Association in conjunction with the Teachers in the school organized a very successful Sponsored Walk. This year's sponsored walk will take place during the last week of the term on Monday 22nd of June. The Sponsorship cards will issue shortly.

School Calendar 2015 – 2016
St Mary's P.S. Enfield, Co Meath

School Reopens	Tuesday 1st September 2015 – All Classes
Halloween Midterm	Closed Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2015 inclusive
Christmas Holidays	Closing <u>on</u> Tuesday 22nd December 2015 Re-opening on Wednesday 6th Jan 2016
Spring Midterm	Closed Thursday 18th Feb and Friday 19th February 2016
Easter Holidays	Closing on 16th March, 2016, St. Patrick's Day running into Easter holidays. Re-opening on Monday 4th April 2016
Summer Midterm	Closed Monday 2nd May to Friday 6th May 2016 inclusive
Closed	Monday 6th June 2016 (Bank Holiday)
Summer Holidays	Closing <u>on</u> Thursday 30th June 2016

Parent Teacher Meetings for 2015 - 2016

First to Sixth Classes Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th of November 2015

Junior and Senior Infants Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th of February 2016

Sports Days 2016 (Provisional)

Junior Infants – Second Classes: Wednesday 15th of June

Third – Sixth Classes: Thursday 16th of June

First Holy Communion: 11.00 on Saturday 14th of May in Rathmolyon Church

Confirmation: Time and Date not yet decided

On Half Days e.g. Christmas, Infants home at 12.15, All others home at 12.30