



## Great News, New Post Primary School Announced for Enfield

Following a long campaign Enfield is to get a new Post Primary School. Minister Bruton, Department of Education and Skills will make the announcement today, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of April. As Principal of the Primary School that has grown from 200 to 575 pupils and is still growing, I have recognised this need for many years. In recent weeks a parent representative and I had the opportunity to meet with the Minister. We were aware that Enfield was being considered as part of a review of possible sites for new schools. Thank you to all those who signed the petition and supported this work. The new school will give a focus to the town and will provide facilities for the community including a large hall that has been sought for the area. The Department stated that the school will open in a temporary premises in 2020 and the permanent building will be constructed once the planning process is complete.

### Dates for your Diary:

- **Primary Language Curriculum: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018:** Reminder that the staff of the school will be attending an In-service day in relation to the new Primary Language Curriculum on this date so the children will not be attending school.
- **Midterm Break: Closed Monday May 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday May 11<sup>th</sup> Inclusive**
- **Child Protection Guidelines Training: Half day on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of June.** You may have heard in the media that the Guidelines in relation to Child Protection have been revised. The Staff of the school will receive training in relation to this area on the afternoon of Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of June. This will mean that the school will close to children for a half day. **Infant children will finish at 12.15 all other classes will finish at 12.30.** The staggered times will help to ease congestion. Children from senior Classes should not be collected at 12.15 as teachers will be busy finishing off the activities for the day. This is in line with school policy that only children with Medical Appointment etc should be collected within 25 minutes of going home time.
- **End of Year:** The last day of school this year is Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June. **Infant children will finish at 12.15 all other classes will finish at 12.30.**

### Assessments:

End of year assessments take place in the month of May.

### Tours:

Tours take place in the month of June. Further details will be issued at a later date.

**Cycling:**

The children from our two Fifth Classes will be completing the Cycle Safety Programme this week. We now have our local Greenway along the canal which is safe for cycling. Of course it can also be used for walking and running! It is a shared area. If parents believe that their children are able to be responsible on the way to school on a bicycle and there is a safe route this may be an option especially during the final term.

**Walk to School:**

We encourage families to walk to school, especially during this term, which should help to ease traffic congestion around the school.

**Run –a – Mile:**

We are hoping that the field will soon be dry and this will allow the children from the senior classes to take part in the Run-a-Mile initiative at lunch time. This is supported by the Meath Local Sports Partnership.

**Safety:**

The issue of traffic was again discussed at the recent Board of Management meeting and the Board have commissioned a report in relation to this. The final report will be sent to the Department when received. The Board are asking parents not to park in the Glenidan estate across from the school as parking in this area is causing difficulties for residents of the estate. The Board noted that it is dangerous to park on the road entering Glenidan estate also so please do not park close to this junction.

**Cycling Safety Film recorded at school:**

Cycling Ireland recently recorded a film at the school highlighting the “Blind Zones” around a truck. This will be available for viewing on the cycle right Section of the Website.

**Fun Day in school:**

The Sixth Classes have participated in the Junior Entrepreneur programme this year. This has been a very busy but worthwhile initiative. It was very well supported financially by the families in the school who purchased bookmarks and stress balls. So this year we are not asking children to bring in money for the Fun Day. Last year we developed some new activities for the children on the day of the Bazaar and this year we are making some more changes. These included Board Games, Disco, Fun Computer Time, Colouring Competition, Story time. There will be no shopping in the hall for toys etc. But other activities will be added instead. **The Fun Day takes place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.**

**St Patrick’s Day Parade:**

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who participated. We received the Perpetual Cup for being the best school in the parade on the day and a trophy for the school to keep.

**Reading resources:**

Thank you to all who supported the Readathon and Book Fair which helps to provide additional resources for the school. As a result of the Book Fair we will be able to purchase books to the value of €4327. The Night of Stories could not take place because of the snow but the Puppet Show that was due to take visit on that night came to the school during the day before Easter. The puppet show and the visiting author were funded by your generous donations.

**World Down Syndrome Day**

On March 21, all were asked to wear different socks to school to raise awareness about how people with Down Syndrome are different but the same. The €614 raised was given to the Parents’ Association to be donated to the Down Syndrome Association

**Swimming – Third and Fourth:** They are attending lessons at the local hotel at the moment. This helps to keep the cost down as we do not require a bus. The fact that we are able to remain in the locality also means that we do not lose time travelling. Classes are available in the Johnstown Estate Hotel, for all children in the school. Further information will be distributed on a separate leaflet.

**Tennis – Second and Sixth:** A local coach will be launching this programme this week. We have managed to secure a very reasonable rate again this year

## **GAA**

Our boys and girls teams are participating in the Cumann na mBunscoil competitions at the moment. All classes have received football coaching and Sixth and First classes are now getting hurling coaching. Details were distributed in relation to playing with the local Na Fianna club who have now such good facilities in Enfield. Contact the coach for your child's age group if you want to get involved.

## **Sacraments**

First Communion for the children from our Second Classes will take place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> of April in Rathmolyon Church. Ms Gillespie's Class at 10.30am. Ms Cashin and Ms Mc Nelis at 1.00pm. A photographer will visit the school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of May to take photos of all the children from second class. Children should wear the clothes they wore to the church on that day. Children not making their communion should not wear their uniform but the clothes they want to wear for the photograph instead.

Congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> Class Children who made their Confirmation on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **Stay Safe – Presentation to Parents**

During the final term the children will be completing the Stay Safe programme which is part of the SPHE curriculum. You would have received an email or letter in relation to this topic. There is a lot of discussion at the moment in relation to changes that may need to be made to various programmes which are part of the SPHE curriculum. In the light of this it is timely to have a speaker for parents on the Stay Safe Programme. The presentation by Rose Cullen, from CAPP (Child Abuse Prevention Programme) for all parents will take place in the school hall on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of April at 7.30

## **School Garden:**

The school will be participating in the Pride of Place competition organised by Meath County Council. The two fourth classes have started work on the garden. Judging will take place in June.

## **Lost Bike:**

A large bike was found at the school and was reported to the Gardaí at the time. This has not yet been claimed. If you know of anyone who has lost a bike in the recent months, please contact the school.

## **Darkness into Light**

The Board of Management approved the use of the school to host this very worthwhile community event. It takes place on the morning of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of May. To facilitate those who wish to take part you can register in the following ways:

- At the school gate on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of April 8.30 – 9.15 (morning) and 1.30 – 2.00, 2.30 – 3.00 (afternoon)
- In Supervalu on the following Saturdays: April 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> from 11.00 – 3.00
- On line at [dil.pieta.ie](http://dil.pieta.ie) under the heading Enfield

More information is available on the Darkness Into Light Enfield Facebook page.

**School Calendar 2018 – 2019**  
**St Mary's P.S. Enfield, Co Meath**

<b>School Reopens</b>	<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018(all classes)</b>
<b>Halloween Midterm</b>	<b>Closed Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2nd November 2018 Inclusive</b>
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>	<b>Closing <u>on</u> Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 Re-opening Monday 7th Jan 2019</b>
<b>Spring Midterm</b>	<b>Closed Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 22nd February 2019 inclusive</b>
<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	<b>Closed Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b>
<b>Easter Holidays</b>	<b>Closing <u>on</u> Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of April Re-opening on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b>
<b>Closed</b>	<b>Closed Monday 6th May 2019 (Bank Holiday)</b>
<b>Closed</b>	<b>Closed Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June (Bank Holiday) and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2019</b>
<b>Summer Holidays</b>	<b>Closing <u>on</u> Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>