

Scéalta 17
News & Information for
St. Mochta's National School Community
10th January 2018

Welcome Back

We hope everyone had a very enjoyable time over the Christmas holidays and would like to wish all our families a very **Happy New Year**.

Flu Symptoms

Over the last number of weeks, there has been a lot of commentary in the media about a strain of 'flu' which can be quite virulent. The advice given to schools is to discourage parents from sending children to school who are showing symptoms of 'flu'. This advice has come from the Department of Health and the Department of Education and Skills. For further information you can click on the following links:-

[Guide For Parents](#) , [Infection Control Advice](#), www.undertheweather.ie

For your information, children in the school have been suffering with various ailments including winter vomiting bug, the flu and glandular fever. School plays a critical role in protecting the health of their students, staff and the community from contagious coughs, colds and tummy bugs. Please do not send your child to school if he/she presents such illness. On your child's return to school, please send in a note to your class teacher explaining the absence. There is no need to provide a letter from your doctor.

Sacraments

- A parent meeting for children preparing for 1st Communion will take place at 8.00pm in St. Mochta's Church on Monday 15th January.
- The Faith Friends Program for 6th Class students will start on Tuesday 16th & Thursday 18th January 2018. Children will be assigned one of the evenings. The program takes place here at St. Mochta's National School from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

School Photographer

County Photos will be in the school on 17th & 18th January. Individual and Class Group photos are being taken. It is important that your child wears **full school uniform** on these days.

HSE Vaccinations

The HSE will be completing vaccinations for our Junior Infants on 29th and 30th January 2018. Further information will be emailed directly to parents of Junior Infants towards the end of this week.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week 2018 will be celebrated for the week commencing 29th January. The theme for this week is **Catholic Schools: Families of Faith**.

The Laudate Festival (as part of Catholic School's Week- Primary School Music Programme) presents an evening of Music and Reflection. All families are invited to attend and the entry is free. Should you wish to attend, the Festival takes place on the following dates and location:-

- Monday 29th January at 7pm at St. Colmcille's Church, Knocklyon
- Tuesday 30th January at 7pm at Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun
- Wednesday 31st January at 7.00pm at Church of the Guardian Angels, Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock

School Reminders

- Frosty Mornings - Please note that on frosty mornings the yards need to be salted before school can commence. This may result in a delay opening the gates at 8.30am. We apologise for any inconvenience and we appreciate your understanding.
- Drizzly Mornings – Kindly note that when there is a light drizzle falling, wet morning procedures do not apply. We ask you to send your children to school with a suitable coat and they will remain in their lines on the yard until school starts at 8.50am.
- Once children arrive to school, please be advised that they must stay on the premises and cannot leave until the end of the school day.
- Kindly note, dogs are not allowed on any part of the school premises. Thank you for your co-operation.
- School begins at 8.50am. All pupils are expected to be on time. If you are late, please sign your child in at reception and give a reason for the late arrival.
- Collecting children for appointments – should you need to collect children for appointments during school hours, **please avoid the times below** as you may have to wait and be delayed until children are back in their classes.

Class Levels

Junior Infants – 2nd Class

3rd Classes – 6th Classes

First Break

10.30am to 10.40am

10.15am to 10.25am

Lunch Break

12.35pm to 1.05pm

12 noon to 12.30pm

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

We are currently updating our school's policy on attendance and creating a strategy statement to support its implementation. We wish to remind you that by law, we are not allowed to support any child being withdrawn from school for a family holiday. We would like you to consider this when booking holidays for 2018. We have to report the name of any child who misses 20 days or more during a school year to TUSLA. Twenty days or more is considered Low Attendance. Remember Every Day At School Counts!

Peter Pan Fundraising

Tesco Roselawn Community Fund – St. Mochta's NS/Variety Group

From Jan 21st St Mochtas NS Musical/Variety group will be one of the nominees in the Tesco Roselawn Community Fund. There's no financial contribution needed. All we ask is that if you are in Tesco Roselawn for the 6 week period from Jan 21st, that you take a blue token and drop it into the St Mochta's NS Musical/Variety group container on the way out. Or maybe if you are there before it starts, hold on to your tokens until 21st January. At the end of the 6 weeks €1,000 will be divided between the 3 nominees based on the number of tokens each receives. Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours to do the same. The money collected will be used towards our upcoming school production of Peter Pan. Thank you for your participation!

Peter Pan Pub Quiz – Clonsilla Inn, 8th February

Please keep this date free. We are organising a fundraiser for the show. The cost will be €10 per person, €40 for a table for four. Further details will follow.

Unwanted Prizes and Gifts

We are appealing to the whole school community to support our upcoming production of Peter Pan. To help with fundraising we would be delighted to receive any unwanted gifts, prizes or sponsorship to help towards the costs of the show. Please drop any gifts & prizes to reception. If you are interested in an advertisement in the programme please email stmochtas.musical@gmail.com for further details. Many thanks.

Community Notices

Junior Football at St.Mochta's FC

St.Mochta's FC, Dublin 15's oldest and most successful Football club, is delighted to welcome all boys and girls aged 4 to 6 years old to our hugely popular Junior Academy every Saturday morning at our grounds on Porterstown Rd. Excellent coaching and loads of fun every week with top class coaches and facilities. 4 & 5 Year olds start 09:45 and 6 years olds start 10:45. For more information call Colin (087) 785 2285, Victor (087) 287 0294 or Robert (086) 020 3252.