

Principal's Report September 20th 2017

There are **428** pupils in the school, 242 boys and 146 girls. Two children yet to come so we could have 430. We returned an estimated figure of 427 on September 30th. We are accepting applications from children who have no school place and we not accepting transfers from another schools after September 30th.

Staffing

New Permanent Appointments

CIDS new this year; Deirdre Walsh , Komeera Pillay and Sinead Foster

Permanent on Interview Katie Lynch, Tania Daly and Aoife McHugh

We have one new SNA, Ivana Kosutic, a parent and working in 1st class red.

Health and Well-being week

Monday – Self Care / being positive towards yourself / taking time to relax

Tuesday – Move more – we are highlighting the importance of physical activity. Take your class on a 1km or walk around the grounds. Walk and Talk ☺ Aoife B will be doing Yoga in the hall with 5th & 6th class

Wednesday – Kindness & compliments – encouraging showing kindness to others. How kindness feels. Also how to give and react to a compliment. This can be done in circle time or written compliments.

Thursday – Eat Well – Looking at the importance of healthy eating. Parents will be coming into the class with platters of fruit and veg and encouraging children to try them. Aoife will be coming into the class to do sound meditation with 3rd and 4th

Friday – Meditation – online guided meditation available and taking time to pause and relax.

Parental Involvement Activities for 1st term

- Junior Infants and Senior Infants parents' night on Thursday 28th September at 7:30pm.
- Health and well-being week activities for parents all this week. Monday- Paediatric First aid for parents. 9am – 3pm in the hall with Safety Ireland Tuesday 5km walk with parents Wednesday – Mindfulness/yoga in the hall at 9.30 with Siobhan Nola Thursday – Nutrition talk with Rachel from Carambola. Then parents helping out with healthy eating for kids. Friday – coffee morning in the hall from 9.30
- Literacy in Junior Infant CLOVER
- Maths for fun in 1st Class
- Parent plus in October
- Maths week in October Junior infants up to 6th
- Mother tongue
- PTA AGM in October
- Garda Vetting for parents

ECAS

So far these are the teachers that are interested in doing an ECA. I'm hoping there will be a few more in the next few weeks.

Carmen – Spanish Club

Niamh/Rob OB – Scratch Club (3rd-4th)

Rob W – Football

Heidi – Gaelic Football (1st-3rd) (4th -6th)

Music Generation (part funded by the PTA) is starting in 3rd class on Friday morning. High quality singing lessons and music teaching for 30 mins in two 3rd classes.

Request for Leave. Rebekah Connolly has requested one week parental leave (Unpaid) on the week prior to the October break.

New Language Curriculum

DES are introducing a new language curriculum in all primary schools commencing this September. The new Primary Language Curriculum/Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile for English and Irish has been developed by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). This curriculum is for teachers of pupils of all abilities in the junior primary years, i.e. from junior infants to second class inclusive. Teaching of English and Irish. The oral strand is to be introduced in Junior to second this year. Each individual child has to be plotted on a continuum of fluency and the teachers are doing that at the moment. Sarah Tighe prepared a lot of testing materials for all the staff who are very grateful for her input.

Future Events The visit of President Michael D Higgins to our school on November 22nd to officially unveil the Book of Climate Bells. Great honour for our school.

Fire drill: Our first fire drill was carried out on Friday last . 3 mins to get everyone out of the building 5 minutes to have everyone lined up and accounted for in the big yard. Small suggestions made to be discussed with staff at next meeting.