



St John the Baptist BNS

NEWSLETTER

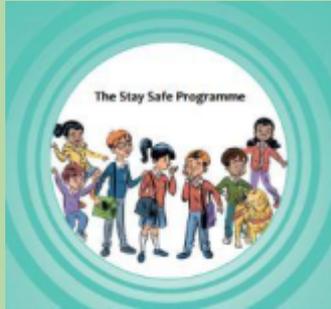
January/Mí an Eanáir 2024



New Year, New You!- *Hello everyone & welcome back after what I hope was a lovely break from school. Trusting everyone is doing well and looking forward to the month and term ahead. Great to have the boys back on the corridors and we hope for a great year ahead!*

Don't Forget...

This month and into February, all the classes will be doing the STAY SAFE programme. This is one of the most important things that we do in school.



What is it?: The Stay Safe Programme is a mandatory personal safety skills programme for primary schools – both mainstream and special. Its overall objective is to prevent child abuse, bullying and other forms of victimisation.



APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION for our Mainstream Junior Infants Class (2024/25) and our Seomra na Rí Autism Class are now open. Forms on the school website or from the office.

Aladdin Connect is our main method of home-school communication. If you've not downloaded the app or are struggling to do so, please contact the office or our Home School Community Liaison Rachel Hayes @ 089 4878635 (Phone, Text, Whatsapp). **All reasons for absence must be communicated through this app or by contacting the school office. Please check the app on a daily basis if you've not set your notifications for on.**



Dates For Your Diary

- ❖ **Hearing and Vision School Screening** for Junior Infants and new pupils *or* other pupils where there's a concern take place starting this **Thursday 11 Jan** onwards
- ❖ **Thursday 11 January:** Parent Association Meeting @ 8pm
- ❖ **Thursday 18 January:** Board of Management Meeting @ 7.30pm
- ❖ **Monday 22 Jan-Friday 26 Jan:** CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK. Grandparents Day For Junior Infants will be on the Weds.
- ❖ **Thursday 1 February:** First Penance @ 7.30pm in the parish church
- ❖ **Monday 5 February:** St Brigid's Day Public Holiday
- ❖ **Thurs 14 & Fri 15 February:** Mid-term Break



Are you forgetting your son's **uniform days**? Print out this handy guide for January and February by clicking here: [January and February Uniform Timetable](#)
Also posted on website.

READING

Our **CAPER (Juniors to 2nd)** and **Accelerated Reader (Third to Sixth)** Reading Initiatives need your support! We want to instil in **all** our boys a love of reading which we passionately believe will stand to them as they continue on their educational journey! Please ask if you need any support with these initiatives. We'd be only too delighted to help!



Special Events/Activities/News/Curriculum News

The **new Board of Management** commenced its term of office on 1 December 2023 and will have its first meeting as a full Board of 8 later this month. The following members comprise the new Board: Monica Shannon, Chairperson; Will Ryan, Principal & Secretary to the Board; Fr Enda Brady, Patron's Representative; Jennie O'Farrell, Teachers' Nominee; Brendan Guckian & Odharnaith Ní Allúin, Parents' Nominees, Julia Adamczak & Paddy Purtill, Community Nominees. Best of luck (and thank you) to the Board as it embarks on a new journey together (Dec 2023-Nov 2027). We wish them luck.

The previous Board ratified the

 [Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment 10 November 2023.pdf](#) This is a **very important document** and is available to read by clicking the above link or on our school's website. A hard copy can also be provided to any parent at any stage.



VIDEO FROM TERM 1

Check out the video that Mrs Perdue has uploaded onto the school website. It's a lovely way to look back on highlights from our first term. Here's to making lots of fun memories in the term ahead.

PE: Gymnastics is on the agenda for the next few weeks. It's one of six strands in the Primary PE curriculum, the others being Games, Athletics, Dance, Aquatics & Outdoor & Adventure Activities.

Reminders: -

- We're always on the look out for spare uniforms, shoes, football boots. Please drop to reception if any spare!

-Water only, please. No diluted water or juices. Quite a few boys are still bringing in juice and diluted/flavoured water.

- Please do not park in the bus bay.

-Food waste is frustrating. Please discuss the food options with your son and order appropriately on the Lunch Bag app.

News from our Parent Association

- What an amazing job our Parent Association did with WINTER WONDERLAND. We couldn't praise them enough for putting on an amazing evening for our families. Thank you to everybody who supported their efforts. Thank you as well for supporting our Christmas 50/50 draw! The PA also hope your son enjoyed his Christmas Annual.
- The next Parent Association Meeting date will be this Thursday at 8pm in the school. All new members are more than welcome.
- Niamh Doherty received samples of potential **half-zips** over the Christmas holidays. We'll share pictures on Aladdin Connect and will invite feedback.



Be the best that you can be!

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