**Halloween News**

**Calendar dates**

All schools will close for the mid-term break next week. School will reopen Monday 6 Nov.

Halloween Dress-Up Day Fri 27 Oct. Children may dress up for Halloween fun. School will close at the usual time.

**Attendance**

We will be awarding the children and classes with the best October attendance at assembly on Friday. We are also on the lookout for the best IMPROVED attendance. See the list of names of SuperAttenders on the Parent Noticeboard. We have class prizes for the classes with best attendance.

If your child is not able to come to school on any morning, please phone the office at 8348770 and let Jackie know. The teachers will not see Dojo messages during the day as they are working.

We are legally obliged to notify the Education Welfare Service if children develop a persistent pattern of poor attendance.

**November moment**

1st November is the feast of All Saints and 2nd November is the feast of All Souls. At this time, we pause to remember our deceased past pupils.

**Board of Management 2023-2027**

In November, all schools are setting up new boards of management to oversee the running of the schools for the next four years. We need two parent nominees, ideally a mother and a father, to join the board. This is an important voluntary role. Meetings are usually held on a Monday afternoon at 3pm and there are about six or seven meetings a year. If any parents are interested in being nominated, could they contact the office for further details. We are encouraging fathers to consider putting their name forward for nomination.

**Thank you, thank you, thank you**

Our Fergals and Brigids Go Gold fundraiser day (in late September) was a huge success. We had a great day of celebration and raised over €1000 for the Irish Cancer Society, donated through St Fergal’s School. Thank you to everyone for showing your support.

Our recent Tesco Clearwater blue token fundraiser raised €1072 for playground activities. The giant cheque was collected by Grace and Oliver from Senior Infants room 17. Take a look at their photo in-store. We intend to install horizontal wall-climbing frames on the walls in the shelter. This will keep the children active during lunchtime.

The staff are very appreciative of local company Kitchen World who treated us to a fabulous new fitted kitchen free. Award-winning kitchen designer Shannen (a former pupil of our school) used her creative skills to design a sleek modern fitted kitchen for our staffroom.

**Safety at the school gate**

Please support our school wardens to help our children cross the road safely. Keep the yellow lines clear so that the wardens can have a clear line of vision up and down the road.

We expect ALL staff including our traffic wardens to be treated with dignity and respect as they carry out their important job. We say to the children inside school that the rules are there to keep us safe. Outside on the road, the traffic rules are there to keep us safe.

**Out in the fresh air**

We encourage all children to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

Hop off the bikes and scooters at the gate and wheel them up the path please! Children can bring spare socks and bottoms in case they get their feet wet on rainy days.

Now that winter is coming, children should have warm jackets, hats and gloves. We go out to play in the fresh air every day. We have spare coats and hats. Contact Olwen if you need one.

**Now enrolling**

We are taking applications for the 2024/2025 school year. Call to the office for an application form. You will need to have your child’s birth cert and proof of PPS number and your Eircode.