



# BALLINTEMPLE NATIONAL SCHOOL

## Newsletter

### Welcome Back

Welcome back to all the children and families to Ballintemple NS. There have been many changes over the summer months with five new staff members joining the school. A warm welcome to senior infant teacher Ms. Crowley, 2<sup>nd</sup> class teacher Ms. Harrington, 3<sup>rd</sup> class teacher Ms. Clancy and 5<sup>th</sup> class teacher Ms. Harris. Also, a warm welcome to the new junior infant class and the new students who have started in various classes throughout the school.

### Attendance Certificate Winners

Congratulations to the boys and girls who recently received their certificates for full attendance in school for the school year 2017/ 2018.

### Sciath na Scol

The boys and girls in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class are busy training and playing in the Sciath na Scol football competition. The school is in a very tough group but under the guidance of Mr. Lucey and Ms. Kennedy, I am sure they will be a match for any team. Fixtures are as follows:

Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September versus Belgooly in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September versus Rathcormac in Rathcormac.

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October versus Ballygarvan in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October versus Carrignavar in Páirc Uí Rinn.

### Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons have started for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils in Douglas Swimming Pool. The lessons will last for seven weeks.

### School App and Website

The school is getting an app developed as a means of communication between the different members of the school community. The app will have many features on it including school news, school calendar of events, gallery, messaging service, an advertisement section along with much more. The app is currently being developed and will be live in the coming weeks. The school website is also currently being updated along with a school twitter account and facebook account.

## **After School Care- Infant Building**

After school care is being provided for the infants in the infant building from 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm every day

### ***Important Dates for Your Diary***

**Lord Mayor Visit- Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9.50 a.m.**

**Infant Photographs- Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> October.**

**School Closure- Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> October due to Presidential Elections**

**Hallowe'en Family Day- Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.30p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

**Parents Social Event- Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (details TBC)**

## **Swimming Competition**

Boys and girls in the school are participating in the Munster swimming championships which are being held in the University of Limerick on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> October. Best of luck to the boys team being captained by Charles Howlett and the girls team being captained by Sarah Tarbatt.

## **STEAM**

STEAM- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths is an initiative that is becoming ever more important in today's world. Here in Ballintemple, we are ensuring that the children will have many opportunities to engage with STEAM throughout the school year. The school has been sponsored by Biopharma with an engineer coming into 5<sup>th</sup> class over a ten-week period to teach some lessons to the class. There will be many more events during the year including trips to Blackrock Observatory, maths week events, engineering week events and engineer visits to the school.

## **Junior Entrepreneur**

6th class, under the guidance of Ms. Parfrey are participating in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme this year. The class will set up a mini business project with the idea of selling their goods to make a profit.

## **Parent's Association**

### **Fundraising Initiative**

As most of you are aware the Parents Association embarked upon a new fundraising initiative at the start of the 2017-18 school year. The purpose of the new initiative was to ring fence funding that could be spent annually to procure much needed resources and equipment that the school would otherwise be unable to purchase. This year we are once again encouraging families to make a €10 per month contribution (regardless of the number of children in a family that attend Ballintemple N.S.). A letter will be sent to parents over the coming days in relation to the initiative and will also include correspondence from School Principal, Mr Bryan McCarthy. We would once again encourage as many families as possible to contribute this much-needed funding, which will enhance the experience of all of our children.

## **Class Reps**

At the outset of this school year four new Class Reps were required for Junior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class and 5<sup>th</sup> Class. On behalf of the Parents Association I would like to welcome Erica Mahony as the new Class Rep for Junior Infants. I would also like to thank Jo-Anne O'Brien and Tara Minogue for agreeing to stay on as Class Reps for 1<sup>st</sup> Class and 5<sup>th</sup> Class for another two-year period.

However, as things stand 3<sup>rd</sup> Class has no Class Rep. This is an important role that lasts for two years and we would like the position to be filled as quickly as possible. As such this is a request to the parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> Class pupils to put themselves forward to occupy the vacant role of Class Rep. If anyone has queries regarding what is involved in the role they are welcome to contact me directly in confidence on 087 9037101.

On behalf of the Parents Association I would like to extend sincere thanks to outgoing Class Reps Anne-Marie Russell and Ruth Walsh for the work that they have done over the past eight years and four years respectively.

## **Upcoming Events**

Halloween Family Day - Sunday, October 21, 2018 (2:30pm-4:30pm)

Parents Social Event – Friday, February 8, 2019 (details TBC)

## **Parents Association A.G.M.**

The current Ballintemple N.S. Parents Association comprises the following members:

Peter Finnegan (Chairperson), Alison Walsh (Vice-Chairperson), Marianne O'Connell (Treasurer), Aisling Haly (Secretary), Denis O'Regan, Martin Ryan, Colm Murphy, Orla Kavanagh, Aoife Ó Riordáin and Jo-Anne O'Brien.

The Annual General Meeting (A.G.M) of Ballintemple N.S. Parents Association will take place in the Main School at 8:00pm on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. There are a total of ten positions on the Committee and this year two vacancies will need to be filled. The workload is distributed evenly amongst the Committee Members so it is not an overly onerous task but it is important that these two positions are filled. If you have any query as to what is involved in becoming a Committee Member you are welcome to contact me directly on 087 9037101 or alternatively speak to any other Committee Member.

There was a very large attendance at last year's A.G.M. This is the only meeting that parents of Ballintemple N.S. pupils are asked to attend in the calendar year and as such we would appreciate it if you could pencil this date in your diary and make a special effort to attend.

We look forward to your continued support during this school year.

Peter Finnegan

Chairperson, Ballintemple N.S. Parents Association