

# November Newsletter 2020.

## ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Principal: Anne Mc Guinness

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***"To be the best it can be, every day in every way!"***

### Welcome to our November Newsletter.

### COVID19 School Update and Reminders:-

Once again, I must ask for full support from you, our parent body, in helping to maintain the new procedures at St Patrick's PS and ensure continued compliance and respect for **the need for social distancing at all times at the school gates by maintaining your 2-meter distance from all other adults.** PLEASE, it is now equally as important that **all adults wear face masks at the gates when dropping off or collecting children.** All parents and carers MUST always remain off school premises during this pandemic.

NO ADULTS other than staff will be allowed into the school building or mobile units.

If your child is unwell **DO NOT** send them into school; if they show any of the signs of COVID19 – high temperature, new cough or loss of taste and smell – **DO NOT** bring your child to school but instead, book a test for COVID19 through online NI Direct website and stay at home and follow the guidance and directive from Public Health Agency on the next page.

In the event of a school closure, or that a class bubble or any larger group of pupils across a year group need to self-isolate, the Department has asked schools to have contingency plans in place for the delivery of remote learning. We have followed all directives at St Patrick's PS and have our remote learning contingency plans in place [www.stpatrickssannaghmore.com](http://www.stpatrickssannaghmore.com) the link for all classes and Primary 6 and 7 have both be reintroduced to Google Classroom before the mid-term break.

It is vital that children in every class have the full support of parents to access and complete tasks set and then upload a copy of these to class teachers. Once again, as with home learning, not all pages and tasks require printing in order to be completed. A lot of tasks online can be completed by working from the screen onto a page. Please engage with your child while they complete online tasks and they will learn so much more in completing them.

I have been identified as a '**close contact**' via  
'HSCtracing' text or through the StopCOVID app



What does this mean?

Go home →



Stay home



Can I go to the shops?

No ✗



Can I go to work or school?

No ✗



Can I go out for a walk or exercise?

No ✗



Can I meet up with friends outside?

No ✗



Can I go into my garden?

Yes ✓



Can I visit my friends or family?

No ✗

Does this mean I will  
definitely get COVID-19?

No but you are at risk - a 'close contact' is a person  
who has been close to someone who has tested  
positive for COVID-19.

How long do I need  
to stay at home?



14 days

As a close contact you need to self-isolate at home because  
you are **at risk of developing symptoms in the next 14 days**  
and could spread the virus to others before the symptoms begin.



If you develop symptoms book a test.

[www.pha.site/coronavirus](http://www.pha.site/coronavirus)



Public Health  
Agency

### Staggered Start and Finishing Times

It is essential that these times are respected and adhered to daily. We must control the number of parents/carers at the gates at any single time and social distancing is essential while there.

**PLEASE DO NOT HOLD CONVERSATIONS AT THE SCHOOL GATES.**

### Late Arrivals:

ADULTS MUST NOT ENTER SCHOOL GROUNDS with children who arrive late to school. The child/ren to go straight to their classrooms following the arranged route for their class. Adults should drop children at the gate and leave and phone into the office to say you are dropping the child/ren off.

## PTA Christmas Card Design

Sharon and Bronagh are organising for each child to design their own Christmas Card for printing in packs of 12 per design. The packs will cost £5 per pack and we encourage all parents to please support this venture for our school.

It is reassuring all pupils that Santa will be coming and Christmas will happen 25th December 2020 – despite Coronavirus! The 'buzz' has started!!

**Your child's card design will be sent home Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to be 'parent approved' along with an order form for you to pre-order the number of packs you want for your child's design. The order form must be returned by the end of next week signed with cash only payment for the packs ordered.**

**Please note:** On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November we will send a single order to the company and cannot accept any late orders.

## Flu Vaccine:-

The individual permission letters and forms will be going out with each pupil tomorrow afternoon.

**I cannot emphasise enough the importance – especially this year due to COVID – for every child to receive the vaccine on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November when it is scheduled to be given to our school.**

The vaccine is a simple nasal spray given by the school nursing team and is a matter of a split second to administer, so your child can be protected against the Winter Flu which, if allowed to combine with COVID, will be a truly devastating situation to find yourself in.

## Welcome to our world, Baby Kinsella...

Many, congratulations to Paula and Warren on the birth of their Baby Daughter, Clare Roise on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October! We wish them all every happiness and every blessing for the future.

## Communication for parents/carers:

**Phone** into the school and ask for a call back from teachers or principal if you have a concern or a query for us to respond to; staff will ring back when they are available to do so and at the first opportunity they can.

**NO ONE** will be able to engage staff at the gate for any reason due to the 8 different staggered start and end times for our classes. We must clear the gates as quickly as possible at all times.

**Email** the school using:

info@stpatrickps.coalisland.ni.sch.uk

This email address can be found as part of the school letter heading on all letters on website. It defaults to the principal and will receive a reply the day it is received.

**A meeting can be arranged** through Mrs Conway in the office, for after 3:30pm when all pupils have left the school. These meetings will take place in the school hall so 2 metre socially distance regulation can be fully implemented and all adults will wear a mask. Sanitising regulations at all doors must always be followed and you must complete the COVID19 Register when entering and leaving.

## **Dinners**

ALL parents whose child/ren are entitled to free dinners must apply for them for this school year. Unless you have returned the form sent to you by EA or filled out the form on the EA website for free school meals, for 2020/21, then your child will not receive dinner until you do so.

Dinners can be bought for £2:60 per child a day or £13:00 per week.

**ALL dinner monies MUST be paid on a Monday morning ONLY for dinners your child will be taking during that week. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT DINNER MONEY during the week.**

**Dinner Menu is on the website for October under Parent Area for your attention.**

Choice is minimal due to the need to restrict movement in the dining room and avoid surfaces being cross contaminated so, all children will always be seated. Dinners will be plated and served at the tables to children by kitchen staff. There will only be 3 children at each dinner table to socially distance in bubbles as much as possible. Each bubble will have their own yard to play in at both break and lunch time.

Lunches in each bubble will be eaten in the canteen to remain part of their class bubble. All lunch items will be binned after eating and nothing will be carried home. Children will not be permitted to return to their classrooms but will go straight outside unless it is raining.

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL EACH DAY WITH A COAT** and ensure their name is written clearly on their coat in multiple places.

### **Our School Prayer.**

***Dear St Patrick,***

***Help us to make our school***

***A happy, caring and safe place***

***Where we can be***

***The best we can be***

***Every day in every way,***

***A-men.***

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