

**1 SEPTEMBER 2018 – 31 OCTOBER 2018**

## **ST CLARE'S ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME . . .**



Dear Parents

We had such a lovely first week back at school. I thank you sincerely for the effort you have invested into ensuring that your children are beautifully dressed in correct uniform. They are a credit to you and to us. We love having them back and rejoice in how well they look and how much they have grown.

We warmly welcome our new additions to Nursery and Primary 1 who will be phased in over the month of September. We know your children will have a wonderful experience in our school and look forward to getting to know them and you!

I am excited to issue our first Newsletter giving you information and updates on the first term. We hope to release a similar Newsletter at the start of each term and would ask that you read each release. In future, we hope to release this digitally rather than in paper form, please let the school know if this would present a problem. We will compile a list of parents who require hard copies and will make the necessary arrangements.

*Mrs M Monaghan*

#### **CHILD PROTECTION TEAM**

I have a concern about my/a child's safety

I can talk to the Class Teacher

If I am still concerned, I can talk to

**Mrs Toner** (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)

(One of our Deputy Designated Teachers, NB Mr Sweeney – Main Deputy Designated Teacher)

**Mr Sweeney** (E Safety concerns)

**Mrs Doherty**

**Mrs Palis** (Polish speaking)

**Mrs Bennett** (for Nursery concerns)

**Miss O'Shea** (for ECPD concerns)

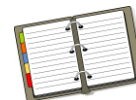
If I am still concerned I can talk to

**Mrs Monaghan - Principal**

If I am still concerned, I can contact

**Siobhan Gorman** (Designated Governor for Child Protection Matters)

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY THIS TERM**



#### **School Closures:**

24.09.18 – Staff Development Day  
31.10.18 – 2.11.18 – Halloween Break.

#### **Parents Evening/Movie Night:**

20.09.18 – keep the date.  
Details to follow.

#### **Parent Teacher Meetings:**

25.10.18  
(Half Day for Pupils – 1.00 pm)

#### **Primary 1 Welcome Assembly:**

22.10.18 at 1.30 pm

#### **Healthy Kids Fundraiser:**

27 September 2018

#### **Transfer Test**

Transfer date – 17.11.18



### **Updated Staff News:**

Some members of staff celebrated their marriages during the Summer months: Miss McShane, now Mrs Gallagher (P1 Teacher), Mr Digney (P5 Teacher), Miss O'Hanlon, now Mrs A McParland (P6 Teacher) and Miss Hollywood now Mrs Walsh (Nursery Assistant). We wish them all health and happiness for the future.

Miss Dyas (P5/6) and Miss Friel (P2) will be with us as substitute teachers for another year and we also welcome Miss Gilsean joining our staff as a P2 Teacher for the year.

Mrs Cribbin has returned from Maternity Leave and we are delighted to have her back in P1.

Mrs McGoldrick will be on Maternity Leave from 30 September 2018.

## Any other News

Morning Club and P1-P3 Afterschool Club has commenced already. If you haven't already done so, please complete the letter if you are interested and return to school promptly. Please do not leave children off before 8.15 am in the morning. Children need to be collected promptly each day.

If you haven't returned your Data Form, please do as soon as possible.

The Warrenpoint Road Bus is back to running as normal.

The Barcroft/Carnagat Bus is running again in the morning time. Please contact Translink direct for information on the bus route. As yet the bus home to Barcroft/Carnagat is not up and running, if this would be of interest to you, please ring and speak to an Inspector at Translink. The more interest shown, the more likelihood the bus will be provided.

We encourage parents to purchase the 'bus card' direct for Translink to avail of reduced fare prices.

## Important Stuff

### School 'App'

We ask each parent to sign up for the St Clare's Abbey 'app'. This will be the first method of communication with parents for updated information in relation to school matters.

Please go to 'Play Store' or similar and search for St Clare's Abbey. Download onto your device. Please sign in as a parent and tick each Class Teacher associated with your child/children. Also please tick any other activities that may relate to your child/children. If you are having difficulties, please contact the school office.

### Contact Information

It is very important that you contact the school with any updated information in relation to change of telephone numbers or addresses. We request at least 3 contact names in case of emergencies.

### School Grounds

Once again we remind parents of the need to drive carefully into the school grounds and to be aware of the school crossings. The school operate a 'drop-off' zone for pupils. Parking is not allowed in school grounds and particularly not in the drop off zone or bus parking areas.

Please park carefully outside of school grounds. A crossing patrol is available on Courtenay Hill.

### 'No Nuts'

Due to severe allergies, our School operates a strict **'NO NUTS'** Policy. We also have one P1 class in which we are making arrangements to manage a **dairy allergy**. Parents of pupils in this class have been contacted.

## Achievements

We are delighted that in conjunction with the School Council we raised **£6,401.59** last academic year for the following charities: KBRT, Lions, African Project, Trocaire, NI Children's Hospice, Southern Area Hospice, SVP. We thank everyone for their generous support.

## Sports Fundraising Event

As school budgets have been cut nationwide in the last few years, we intend to hold a **sports fundraising event** on **27 September** to raise funds to allow us to **employ 'Active Kids'** to come to the school to carry out a range of multi-sports with our children. Sponsor cards will be sent home this week and we encourage support for this event.

Many prizes will be on offer including a bike, jersey, footballs and skipping ropes. **It promises to be a great day!**

## And so:

You're off to great  
places.

Today is your day.

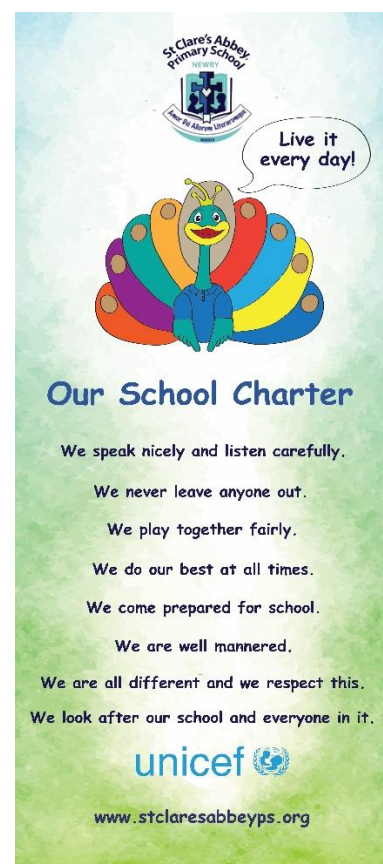
Your mountain is  
waiting,

So get on your way!

Dr Seuss

## Introducing . . .

**POP The Peacock** - We worked hard last year on our Rights Respecting School work. We have developed our new School Charter and will be working with all our pupils on each item of our Charter. Please speak with your children about the importance of all these points and ensure that they are fully understood and carried out on a daily basis.



## JUST TO FINISH . . .

The Transfer Test will take place on **17.11.18**. Please ensure you have your application forms submitted by **21.09.18 by 2.00 pm.**

Mr Sweeney will commence his Transfer Club on Monday **10 September** from **3-4 pm**. **Please refer to our school website for any information as it is updated regularly.**