



NEWSLETTER

January 2013

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Welcome Back:

We hope you all had a good Christmas and wish you the best for the New Year. As with each New Year, it's the time for a few New Year's Resolutions! Please find below some for St. Patrick's Boys' N.S.

1. **Uniforms:** It is the overwhelming wish of the parent body that uniforms and school tracksuits be worn by the boys. Please continue your support for this by ensuring full uniform (including tie) is worn each day – tracksuit on P.E. days.
2. **Healthy Lunches:** We are close to achieving our Health Promotion School's Flag. Please continue to give your son a healthy lunch each day – treats on Fridays only. No fizzy drinks, crisps etc. please.
3. **Homework:** Please keep an eye on homework Mon. – Thurs nights.
4. **Attendance:** As you are aware we are obliged to report the names of pupils who miss 20 days or more and **the reasons for such absences** to the N.E.W.B. (National Educational Welfare Board). Therefore it is essential to fill in the "Explanation for Absence" form at the back of the Homework Journal. Parents of children missing 20 days or more may receive a letter /visit from the Educational Welfare officer – depending on whether the absences are for genuine reasons etc. Every day counts.
5. **Security and Safety:** We are determined to be extra vigilant in terms of access to the school and seek your continued co-operation in this matter. Parents / visitors are always welcome – please note the following:
 - (a) Access is through the intercom access system on the front door. (All other external doors cannot be opened from the outside). Call to the Office – 1st door on left. **Do not go directly to the classroom.** All children going home early / for appointments etc. **must be signed out in office.** Any lunches etc. should be dropped to office and will be given to your child at break time. To exit front door press white switch on the right of the office door. CCTV monitors the grounds of the school and all entry / exit doors.
 - (b) In an effort to decrease unnecessary pedestrian traffic through the school grounds, the gate between the school and the field will be locked during school times. We can open it for classes to go to the pool / field etc. All secondary school pupils have been informed of this and signs are erected to inform members of the public.
 - (c) In the interests of health and safety please **do not** drive into the school yard in the morning and evening when children are entering / exiting the school (Medical reasons excepted) Children should cross the road with our School Traffic Warden. Consultations are under way with the Council / Market Sq with a view to enhancing safety at our entrance – the drop off for our parents spaces on the road down to the Market Sq. Car Park are to be re-instated and monitored. Full details later.

On a lighter note

Our Christmas Concert was a great success – thanks to all who helped out in any way. €1700 was raised and an enjoyable night was had by all. DVD's of the concert will be available soon.

p.s. there are still a few of St. Pats Calendars available for sale.