



## March Newsletter 2019

St Patrick's NS, Rathvilly, Co Carlow

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am delighted and privileged to have joined the staff of St Patrick's NS in Rathvilly. I look forward to getting to know all the pupils, parents, staff and community of Rathvilly over the coming months and years. Thank you for the warm welcome and best wishes.

Kind regards,

Helen Molloy (Principal)

### School Assembly

"Actions speak louder than words" was the theme of this month's assembly. 2<sup>nd</sup> class delivered a well-rehearsed message to all the pupils of our school, emphasising the importance of kindness with a smile.

### Eason's Spelling Bee

Well done to Aoibheann Curry of 5<sup>th</sup> class who represented our school in the county finals on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of February held in Bennekerry NS.

### Cycle Right Lessons

5<sup>th</sup> class commenced a 6 week course of cycling and road safety with Jason of Cycle Right. **CYCLE RIGHT** is the National Standard for Cycle Training and provides practical cycle safety and skills training to promote competent and confident cyclists.

### GAA Skills

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class started football skills under the guidance of coach, Robbie Molloy in partnership with Carlow GAA club school link. The sessions are all inclusive and are based on fun and participation for all students.

### Computer Classes

Coding and Scratch are the programmes which 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class are working on every Thursday for the next few weeks. Ms Nora Kavanagh delivers this programme to our pupils.

### Music Generation    Walton's Music for Schools Competition

Auditions for this competition have been held in the school and there has been a great response and interest. The competition is to promote the enormous benefits of creative music making. Please be aware that places are limited so only a certain number of children will be involved in the competition. Thank you to all who auditioned.

### Road Safety

Sgt Michelle Byrne (Carlow Traffic Division) visited the school in February and recommended a traffic solution to the parking issue outside our school. This new **one way drop zone** which is located in the bus parking area has been working very effectively. Thank you to all those who are availing of this new system and keeping our pupils safe.

## After Schools' Activities

**French:** Mrs Mc Namara's French lessons are continuing for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class on Tuesday and Thursday after school.

**Spanish:** Ms Heydon's Spanish classes are now on Thursdays from 3pm to 4pm.

**Choir:** Choir for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class is now taking place on Tuesday and Thursday from 3pm to 4pm in the hall in preparation for St Patrick's Day Mass on Sunday 17th. Instruments welcome.

## 6 Week School Draw

Thank you to all who supported our school draw and especially the Parents' Association, BoM and volunteers who gave up their Monday nights to help with the procedures. Funds will be used to develop the courtyard area in the school for the pupils.

## Reminders

Please take note of the following **Health and Safety** issues:

- Parking outside the school has been improved by a **new one way set down system in the bus parking area**. This is to safeguard our children at a very busy time of the school day and improve traffic flow. Please **use this system correctly** and have kind regard for our children.
- We would kindly ask that **dogs or any animal are not brought on to the school grounds** for Health and Safety reasons.

## Communication

- Under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 parents are responsible for making sure their child receives an education. Therefore, **please inform the school of any absence and reason**. The school is legally obliged to inform the statutory Educational Welfare Services of the Child and Family Agency if your child has missed 20 days or more in the school year, or if it is concerned that your child is missing too much school.

## Change of address or contact number

Please inform the office as soon as possible of any change of address or contact number. We operate a texting service and it is extremely important to have a contact number in case of emergencies and for information texts.

## **Dates to remember**

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**      **Book Week**
- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**      **Seachtain na Gaeilge**
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> March**      **Confirmation Meetings 6<sup>th</sup> class**
- **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**      **Green Day (details will be given in school)**
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March**      **School Closure**
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**      **Penance Service 2<sup>nd</sup> class**
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April**      **Ceremony of Light 6<sup>th</sup> class**
- **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April**      **Confirmation 6<sup>th</sup> class**
- **Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>**      **12pm School Closure**      **Easter Holidays**
- **Monday April 29<sup>th</sup>**      **School reopens**