



# Howth Primary School Newsletter September 2017

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## School Makeover

Throughout the duration of the summer holidays passers by would have noticed that the exterior of the school was being transformed day after day by a team of helpers under the expert guidance of James Burke (6th class teacher).

Thanks to their amazing work, Scoil Mhuire now has a fresh modern look with a vibrant colour scheme and a

clever design based on the school's maritime location. James himself worked on site for more than 40 days during his summer break, ably assisted by Sandra O'Rourke (parent) who coordinated the entire project. Thanks also to fellow painters Mary Moore, Barry Nicholson, Lisa and Eamon Reilly, Declan and May Burke, Renee Carton, Joe Doherty, David



Caulfield, Jonathan Cooke and Darrell Clarke. Congratulations also to pupil Conor Doyle for all his work. Thanks to Crown Paints, Sign Solutions, Coastal Garden Maintenance (David Quinn), Neal Cronan and Natural Stone Sullies (George Cooke). Well done all!

## Welcome Back

Fáilte romhaibh go léir ar ais taréis na laethanta saoire. Fáilte freisin roimh na daltaí nua i Naionáin Shóisireacha agus i na ranganna eile tríd na scoile. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh said go léir taitneamh agus tairbhe as a gcuid ama i Scoil Mhuire Beann Eadair.

It is that time of year again! Back to school! I would like to welcome our pupils, parents, teachers and staff to a new academic year. We are delighted to welcome Ms. Mary O'Donnell, Ms. Emma Maher, Ms. Ciara Fagan Barrett & Mr. Osmond Devlin, new members of our teaching staff and fáilte arís to Ms. Muireann Ridge who returns to us. Special greetings to our Junior Infants who have eased into Scoil Mhuire under the diligent care of their teachers Ms. Aisling Heerey & Ms. Roisín Slattery. Welcome also to new pupils: Victoria, Shu Wei, Rena, Adam, Harry, Brooke, Conor, Elizabeth & Shawana, *Ar aghaidh le chéile!*

Our annual 'Tea & Tissues' Reception for New Parents held in the Hall on the first morning of term was hosted by the Parents Support Group—and much enjoyed by all !



## Top Tips

**Mornings**—Pre-school hours are usually hectic. To smooth the morning's rough edges invest time to teach your children valuable life skills such as dressing themselves, brushing hair and tying shoelaces. Re-set your clock 15 minutes early and allow yourself plenty of time

**Pack a healthy lunch**—Sneak in some healthy options using

plenty of fruit and vegetables if you can. Fresh ideas include: a small tub of coleslaw, fruit yoghurt or yoghurt drink, dried fruit or nuts and a carton of pure orange juice. **At the end of the day**—have a healthy snack ready to give your child to replenish energy levels. Allow some behavioural leeway for the first couple of weeks as they set-

tle into a new routine which is often exhausting

**Bedtimes**—get into a routine of preparing for school the night before. Let your child become involved with packing lunch or laying out **clothes**. Also, start finding a bedtime routine and get them to bed early.



## Homework Hints

Establish a routine

\*Set up a quiet comfortable venue away from distracting noises

\*Be available to help—especially if your child is in a Junior Class

\*In Senior Classes while your child will probably be more independent, make time to discuss what he/she is doing and **how** it is being done

\*Don't give the answers

\*Try to make homework a positive experience

\*Don't forget oral work that may be given as part of the homework assignment

\*If children are distracting each other try putting them in separate areas or separate rooms

\*Check the work and sign journal



## Hair Care

Tá fadhb Leanúnach le snéacha uaige sa scoil. Iarraimid bhur gcabhair chun an fhadhb a choimeád faoi smacht. Seiceáil gruaig do pháiste gach deireadh seachtaine. Úsáid cíor fineálta chuige seo. Má tá gruaig fhada ag do pháiste ceangal suas é. Cuir fios ar an múinteoir má fheiceann tú sné-

acha.

We have, as most schools do, a problem from time to time, with hair infestation. It would help if every child's hair was checked and finely combed at weekends. Long hair should be tied up. If infestation is discovered please treat immediately

and inform the class teacher.

All information is dealt with discreetly.



## Home / School Liaison

Is féidir le tuismitheoirí cabhrú linn in a lán slite chun oideachas maith a chur ar fáil anseo i Scoil Mhuire. Seo roinnt de na rudaí ar féidir le tuismitheoirí a dhéanamh. Bíodh do phaiste ar scoil in am, idir 8.40 r.n. agus 8.50 r.n. Cuireann páistí déanacha isteach ar an rang agus caileann siad féin obair ranga. Ná tog laethanta saoire i rith na scoilbhliana gan gá. Tá orainn liosta a chur ar fáil don Oifigeach Leasa Oideachais de na daltaí a chaill 20 lá nó níos mó. Cloigh le rialacha an bhóthair agus tú ag tiomáint nó ag páirceáil i dtimpeallacht na scoile. Léirigh meas ar muintir na háite agus ar a ngeataí. Bíodh an éide cheart scoile ar do pháiste gach lá.

Parental support in the following areas is much appreciated: Ensure your child arrives in school between 8.40 and 8.50 a.m. Late arrivals cause disruption. Try not to take holidays during school time. We are now obliged to inform the Education Welfare Officer of any child who misses 20 days or more during the school year. The Education Welfare Board has applied new rules with regard to pupil absences from school. It is now necessary to keep a written account of absences and of reasons for them. If a pupil is absent we must receive a note from the parent/guardian giving a reason for the absence. A phone call to the office or a word with the teacher is no longer sufficient. The notes we receive will be kept as a record of absences.

## Road Safety / Access

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Voluntary One Way Traffic System at school opening / closing time—one-way traffic flow up Tuckett's Lane/St. Lawrence's Tce., up St. Peter's Tce., and then left turn back down to Main St. from 8.40 to 9.00 a.m. and from 2.20 to 2.40 p.m. while our Traffic Warden is in attendance. Please

obey the traffic warden at all times.

The road leading along the school wall to Fairyhill Playschool is closed to traffic in the morning at school opening time and in the afternoon at school finishing times.

We have had some complaints from residents re' driveways being blocked by parked cars, and the

possibility of difficulties for emergency vehicles accessing homes due to congestion at these times – please consider the needs of people living in the area



## School Noticeboards

We ask that any representative from a local cultural/sporting group check with the school secretary before notices are placed in the school. Notices should be dated and fixed neatly to the proper notice-

board (the board beside the secretary's office) after being approved and stamped in the school office. Posters/notices/children's work already attached should not be obscured by new material. Notices etc. should be removed by the indi-

viduals who placed them when they are no longer relevant. We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter so that our refurbished corridor/reception area is kept as neat as possible.

## Music Makes Magic

Our ongoing Music Makes Magic project continues this year. Classes began on Wednesday 20th September in the Multi Purpose Room for senior classes with music teachers Naoise Dachs and Shane Cavanagh. Orchestra lessons (after school) are scheduled each Wednesday (Multi Purpose Room) under the baton of Shane Cavanagh. Ciara Cavanagh's lessons with Junior classes started on Friday 22nd .

## Post Primary Choices

Sixth Class Pupils have made their informed choices regarding Post Primary Schools for next year. Best wishes to them and to their teacher Mr. Burke in the challenging year ahead. Information meetings /Open Nights for the neighbouring Post Primary Schools have been taking place over the past few weeks with representatives from these schools also visiting our 5th & 6th classes.

## Safety—Dogs

**Please do not bring your dog inside the school grounds, some children are afraid of dogs and become very upset if confronted by them in the playground.**



## Sports News!!



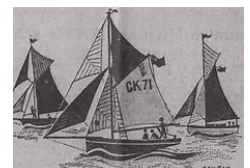
This academic year has got off to a flying start in the sports department. In GAA the senior girls and boys teams and the Junior Boys are in the middle of their Cumann namBunscoil games. The GAA club's new GPO Paddy Gorey will begin sessions with 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes this Tuesday.

Hurling lunchtime training will begin soon with Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Devlin.

Athletics has an exciting year ahead with the school participating in the Clonliffe Harriers Cross Country in October, 3 race meets in the Fingal Athletics League in October, March and April ending with our annual entry into the Santry Sports. Soccer lunchtime training is every-Friday with Mr. Flynn with alternating days for 3rd/4th and 5th/6th. Thank you to Howth Celtic for their assistance also. Tag Rugby sessions will commence for our 5th classes on October 5th during school. 6th

class took part in an interschool blitz last week and enjoyed it immensely.

Our school sailing team took part in the ALL Ireland School Competition over the weekend and competed very well. Fiachra Farrelly, Harry Sanfey and Rocco Wright came 2nd in their team event and Fiachra came 4th in the individual event. Well done to all who competed.



## Special Education Needs

This year sees the further development of Special Education support service in our school with six teachers now working out of the SNUG, and Green Room areas. Our Special Education team are:

Ms. Claire Mannix	Learning Support	Ms. Niamh Keogh	Resource Teacher
Ms. Vivienne Buckley	Resource Teacher	Ms. Muireann Ridge	Resource Teacher
Ms. Ciara Fitzpatrick	Learning Support Teacher	Mr. Osmond Devlin	Resource Teacher

## School Events—Recent/Current/Ongoing-

**August 30th** Tea/Tissues Reception for new parents

Walk on Wednesdays (WOW) every Wednesday. If possible walk for all the way or part of the way to and from school. if it works on Wednesday why not build walking into your daily schedule

### September:

8th Principal and teacher Mr. David Flynn met Garret Doyle & Stephen Walsh Howth Celtic F.C. to set up a programme of school soccer. Mr.Flynn has embarked on lunchtime Friday soccer training

9th Hell and Back 2017—Congratulations to Craig Deerey and his fellow competitors (see details on page 6)

14th Tin Whistle lessons with local musician Tina McLoughlin commenced for 4th & 5th classes

15th Fun Day to celebrate our new look school plus the upcoming All Ireland Football Final between Dublin and Mayo. Thanks to Caitlin O'Connor Devine's dad Richard for leaving a replica Sam Maguire cup with us for the day

20th Sixth Class participated in the annual Tag Rugby Blitz at Suttonians R.F.C.

20th Minister of Education and Skills met with representatives from the teaching staff, school principal and Chair person, Board of Management to discuss our concerns re' Posts of Responsibility allocation in the school

21st Annual photography session with our new Junior Infants (Mr. Simon Archer)

23rd /24th 42nd All Ireland Inter Schools Sailing event. Well done to all the young sailors who took part—Aoibhinn Farrelly (school captain), Cillian Twomey, Hugo Crawford, Harry Sanfey, Rocco Wright, Fiachra Farrelly, Charlie Keating and Sienna Wright

27th Annual Parents Association AGM at 8.00p.m.

**Ongoing:** GAA Coaching (Paddy Gorey) on Tuesdays with designated classes

Tag Rugby (Andrew Kearney) Thursdays



### To Hell and Back 2017

Parent Craig Deery continues to raise the bar, having now completed this gruelling event for the 5th time. This year we had eight of our parents participating in this challenging endurance test—Craig Deery, Rachael Darkin, Glyn Darkin, Sandra O'Rourke, Suzanne Hanway, Mria Doonan, Emma Tomlinson and Mandy Bishop. Special mention to Ger Moloney who competed in an earlier Hell and Back and fundraised for the school and Suzanne Hanway who competed twice—in a gruelling 12km one with Ger and Craig Deery and again with the others just recently.



# School Calendar 2017/18

## October:

Friday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Primary Curriculum Day for Teachers	School Closed
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Halloween Fashion Show	
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov (inc)	Mid Term Break	School Closed

## November:

Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings	

## December:

Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	School finishes at 1.30 p.m.
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Taste of Christmas Show & Bake Sale	
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Closes for Christmas Holidays	at 12 noon

## January:

Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens after Christmas Holidays	
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	

## February:

Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> (inc)	Mid Term Break	School Closed
Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	

## March :

Monday	19 <sup>th</sup>	(for St. Patrick's Day) Public Holiday	School Closed
Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	School finishes at 1.30 p.m.
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	School closes for Easter Holidays	at 12 noon

## April:

Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens after Easter Holidays	
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	

## May :

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed	
Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	School finishes at 1.30 p.m.

## June:

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> & Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed	
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup>	School Closes for Summer Holidays	at 12 noon