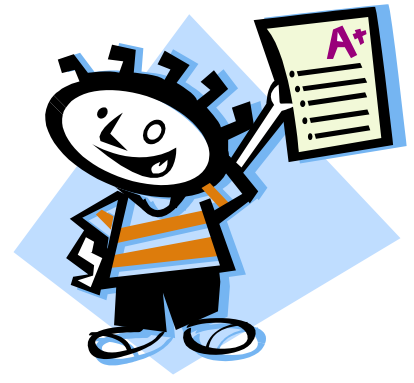




ST JOSEPH'S BOYS' SCHOOL
TERENURE

SEPTEMBER 2010



WELCOME BACK! We extend a big welcome back to everybody and a special welcome to all our new pupils.

Enclosed with this newsletter is the school calendar of closings for the coming year.

Important Closure: Please note the school will be closed on Monday 4th October for School Development Planning.

Our next staff meeting will be held on Friday 1st October with closing at 1.00 p.m. and 1.30 p.m.

School Maintenance: New carpets were fitted to the entrance area of the school and to our general purpose room during the summer holidays. A special Summer Works Project for the resurfacing of the junior yard did not go ahead due to technical/structural problems. It is hoped that this work can be carried out before the end of this month.

School Building Programme: Arrangements for the building of additional accommodation at the school are at an advanced stage with planning permission just being granted. With luck, we hope to commence work on the building in mid October. The Board of Management and the Parents' Association will set out a fund raising programme to meet the cost of the new buildings. The Department of Education and Skills has agreed to provide €90,000 of grant aid for the buildings.

Education cut-backs continue to affect the school. The increase in class size announced in 2009 which resulted in the loss of a teacher has not been rescinded. This means that the provision of learning support in mathematics for the boys has been reduced. It also affects the level of substitution cover being provided for a teacher who may be absent. The school year will more than likely see boys being allocated to other classes in the event of a teacher being absent. The school is also losing the service of a Special Needs Assistant following a review by the NCSE.

Parent/Teacher Meetings: Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on 30th November, 1st and 2nd December. More details will follow regarding closing times.

Sacraments: The boys in 2nd Class will receive their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 14th May** and the boys in 6th Class will be confirmed on Tuesday 29th March 2011.

2nd, 3rd and 4th Class Football League: The football league will commence Thursday 16th September in the VEC Grounds. Please collect children from the grounds at 3.45 p.m.

Parents' Association: The Annual General Meeting of the Parents' Association will take place on Monday 27th September at 8.00 p.m.



Extra Curricular Classes: All after school extra curricular classes will commence on the week beginning Monday 20th September (with the exception of Mr. Reale's chess class - 13th Sept). Notes will follow from individual teachers next week.

Activity	Teacher	Class	Day
Rock Climbing	Mr. O'Riain	5 th & 6 th	Wed
Chess	Mr. Reale	2 nd to 6 th	Mon Beginners Tues/Wed Improvers
Drama	Ms. Rooney/Ms. Hogan Ms. Moloney	1 st – 6 th Infants Only	Mon/Tues Tues/Wed 1.30p.m.
Art	Ms. Larmer Ms. Harte	1 st & 2nd 3 rd to 6th	Tues/Wed Tues/Wed
French	Mr. O'Flynn	5 th & 6 th	To be decided.
Spanish	Mr. Ring	To be decided depending on interest.	
Recorder	Ms. O'Riordan	Nov. - for last year's students only.	
Swimming	Mr. Hallinan	Beginning 25 th Sept.	

Junior Football teams will train on Mondays and Thursdays in Bushy Park and matches will take place on Tuesdays.

Senior Football teams will train on Mondays and league matches will be played on Thursday.

Parents should note that boys (both junior and senior teams) are not supervised by a teacher on the way to Bushy Park and should be collected at 4.00 p.m.



Templeogue/Synge Street Gaelic Football Club: Football for all boys/girls age 5 upwards in Bushy Park on Saturday mornings at 10.30 a.m. For more details contact Ciaran Deeley at 0876207280.

Faughs Hurling Club: (Beside the Spawell) provide coaching and training from Senior Infants upwards. For more details contact Sean Crowley 0860548533.

Registering prospective pupils for the school: If you have a child for Junior Infants next year (Sept. 2011) who has not been registered, it is important to contact the school immediately. Applications for Junior Infants will be processed in January 2011.

School Insurance: The Board of Management is concerned in relation to its duty of care to the large number of pupils who come into the school premises before the official starting time of 8.50 a.m. The school insurance applies to pupils within school hours and during teacher supervised activities outside of school hours. **The Board cannot accept responsibility for pupils arriving before 8.50 a.m. A similar situation arises in relation to caring for pupils after school hours. The Board does not accept responsibility for pupils who await collection after 2.30 p.m.** A premium of €6.00 for personal accident insurance has been included in the school expenses which should be paid directly to the class teacher. This insurance applies to pupils on a 24 hour basis.

School Attendance and the Education Welfare Act 2000: Parents are advised of the following requirements regarding school attendance under

the Education Welfare Act. Section 21 of the Act obliges the Principal of the school to maintain a record of:

- (i) *all pupil absence for each school year and*
- (ii) *the reasons for each absence.*

The school Principal is obliged to notify the school's Education Welfare Officer when a pupil is absent for twenty or more school days and when a pupil is not attending school regularly. In order to implement these requirements the Board of Management has decided that when a pupil returns to school following absence, the class teacher should be informed in writing of the reasons for the absence. The school is obliged to keep the written records which may be inspected by the school's Education Welfare Officer.

School Uniform: Thank you to all parents for your co-operation in implementing the school policy on school uniform. It is still important to remind some of our pupils that they are requested to wear a plain white tee-shirt – logo free – with their track-suit on PE days. **It is important for the boys to have an identity mark on items of clothing such as tracksuit top and bottom, sweater, tie and coat.** A large amount of lost property has accumulated in the school and will be on display in the general purpose room on **Monday 13th September**. Unclaimed items will be given to charity.

Mobile Phones: Children with mobile phones must have them switched off during school hours. Mobile phones with photographic or recording capability may not be used in any way which will offend the privacy of any school individual and/or be damaging to the reputation of the school.

Scooters/Skateboards: Scooters and skateboards are not allowed in the school.

Dogs: Parents are advised that dogs should not be taken into the school premises.

School Lunches: In providing lunch for your children we urge you to consider its nutritional value. The development of good food habits in a child will help to eliminate weight and health problems in later life. It is requested that you do not include sweets, biscuits, chocolate or fizzy drinks in their lunch packs. Chewing gum and crisps are prohibited in the school.



