



**Booterstown National School**

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## **School Newsletter**

**February 2017**

As our midterm is fast approaching, the following is some updated news, information and dates for your diary!!

### **Write a Book Project**

All the children took part in the Write a Book project in January. The project is organised by the Blackrock Education Centre who arrange the independent selection of a merit book in each classroom. The children write an extended story which is bound as a book and illustrated. They have been submitted for judging and we await the results! Every pupil will receive a certificate for their hard work.

### **“Walk in my Shoes Talk” for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class**

We had a visit from a School Outreach Officer from St. Patrick’s Mental Health Service to give a talk to 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class about positive mental health and wellbeing. The presentation focused on what emotional mental health is, how to connect with others, resilience, self-care and how to manage stress. Both the teachers and the children found it very beneficial.

### **Cyber Bullying Safety Talk**

The children in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class had a talk on internet safety, understanding what cyber bullying is and how to deal with it. This was followed in the evening with a talk for the parents which was extremely informative and we would like to express our thanks to the Parent Teacher Association for funding these talks.

### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

All our Parent Teacher Meetings have now been held for this academic year and we thank you all for attending them.

### **N.B - Punctuality**

We have noticed since Christmas an increase in the number of children arriving late to school and not reporting to the office to be marked in the ‘Late Record Book’.

The school day starts officially at **8.30am** and there are designated activities in each classroom at this time. Teaching begins when the bell rings at **8.50am**.



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Children arriving after this time are causing great disruption both to the other pupils and the teacher teaching the class, plus safety concerns on whether a child has arrived to school or not.

Please note that from after the midterm break – **From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017,** children arriving late to school (after 8.50am) should be accompanied by parent/guardian who should go straight to the office to sign the 'Late Book'.

Pupils from 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class who come to school unaccompanied and arrive late should also sign the late book in the office.

### **Thank you**

We would like to say a thank you to a family who donated a generous sum of money which has been used to purchase both a new basket ball net for the playground and for some new PE equipment for all the children to use.

Thank you also to Christian Stokes and Gerald Harrington who gave up a lot of their own time to put the basketball net together, the children really appreciate it!

### **Old Newspapers**

Please could you drop in any old newspapers you have as we use them for art and craft activities. These can be left on the bench in the school lobby. Thank you

### **Head lice**

With the midterm break upon us, we would appreciate if you could take this opportunity to check your child(ren)'s hair for head lice and treat if necessary. This has been a persistent problem through the school for the past couple of months and if everybody makes the effort to check and treat over midterm break, we may be able to put a stop to it.....for a while. I have attached an information letter regarding the treatment of head lice.

### **School Closure – Reminders**

School will be closed on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March** for St. Patrick's Day.

Please also note that the school will be closed for all pupils on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March** to facilitate the staff to attend an in-service day on the Implementation of the new Primary Language Curriculum.



### **Teaching Practice Student**

Jl/SI class will be welcoming a Teaching Practice student from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Sporting Achievements**

Congratulations to all the hockey teams on their achievements so far and a thank you to Steve Hiles and all the parents who help with lifts and offer great support to the children at their matches!

Congratulations also to Hannah Poynton who represented the school at the Irish Minor Schools Swimming Championships – Well done Hannah!

### **Dates for Diary**

Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Classroom visits (8.30 – 8.45am)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Mid Term Break
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	-	School reopens at 8.30am
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	-	PTA Meeting
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Board of Management Meeting
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	-	School Closed
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	-	School Closed – Inservice Training Day
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	-	International Day – (Info to follow)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	-	PTA Meeting
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Classroom visits (8.30 – 8.45am)
		Last Day of Term.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	-	School reopens for the Summer Term.