
St. John Bosco Junior Boys' School,
Navan Road,
Dublin 7.



Newsletter January 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians

A belated Happy New Year to all our boys and parents on behalf of our Board of Management and staff. We are all full of good intentions for the New Year and this year we hope that you will put punctuality and attendance at the top of your list. The school opens at 8.50am every morning and during the initial settling in period, the boys get the chance to learn important social skills in an informal setting. They love to meet and chat with their friends. They also learn to source their activities, tidy up afterwards, share and keep rules of games. This time is also used by teachers for listening to reading and correcting homework. Regular attendance at school is also vital to the success of all students.

When you are sending your son to school, please remember that the boys are usually outdoors for at least 45 minutes every day. They need to have a warm coat and maybe a hat, scarf, gloves etc. Encourage your son to fasten his coat and wear his hat going out into the yard every day.

New Policies

The Board of Management have recently ratified two new policies, our **First Aid and Administration of Medicines Policy** and our **Healthy Eating Policy**. There are significant changes in both of these policies so I would ask all parents to take the time to visit our school website (www.stjohnboscojbs.com) and have a read through them. In line with the First Aid and Administration of Medicines Policy, all children with medical needs will receive a Medical Information Form to fill out this week. It is extremely important that any changes in your son's medical needs are reported to the school as soon as possible.

Website

We are currently working on updating our school website so we appreciate your patience while we work is ongoing.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Our annual Parent/Teacher meetings will be held next week. Teachers have already begun sending out dates and times for appointments. Each meeting should last approximately ten minutes. If you cannot make your scheduled date or time, please let us know and we will reschedule.

Parent Talk

The Parents' Association, in conjunction with the two other schools have organised a talk for parents by Joanna Fortune. The talk will be held on **Wednesday 1st February at 8pm** in the School Hall. Joanna Fortune is a Clinical Psychotherapist with over 12 years' experience working with children and families. She will give what promises to be an extremely informative talk on self-esteem, play, bullying and discipline. I have attended a number of talks given by Joanna Fortune in the past and

have always found her tips for practical parenting extremely helpful. We would encourage as many parents as possible to come along. This talk is funded by the Parents' Associations and admission is free for all parents. If you would like to read more about Joanna Fortune, log on to www.solamh.com.

Exceptional Closure

We have been granted an Exceptional Closure Day on **Thursday 16th March** so that all staff members can attend in-service training with the Special Education Support Service (SESS) in relation to our new class for children with ASD. Therefore, **the school will be closed for all pupils on that day**. This closure will provide an extremely valuable opportunity for teachers to benefit from the specialised support and expertise the SESS has to offer.

Rugby

Jonathan, from Coolmine Rugby Club, has begun working with the Senior Infant and First Class boys for a six week block of rugby training. It's a lovely opportunity for the boys to try a different sport.

GAA

Mark Cooper is back on Tuesdays doing GAA training with all Junior Infant and Senior Infant boys. Despite the cold mornings, the boys are enjoying this immensely.

Yoga

The First Classes and the boys from the ASD Class have begun yoga classes with Emily. This is funded by the Parents' Association and will last for six weeks. There are many benefits of yoga classes for children. It helps children to respect their body and mind, calm themselves and appreciate and understand the benefits of exercise and relaxation. The yoga classes are full of fun and games to expand the imagination and improve coordination and flexibility and the boys are thoroughly enjoying them.

Junior Infants 2017

We are currently accepting applications for Junior Infants September 2017. Application forms are available from the office, on our website or by email. The closing date is January 31st.

Emergency Contact Details

If you have changed your telephone number or moved house please remember to let us know as it is vital we have emergency contact details for all boys. Also, if you are not receiving text messages please contact myself or Marie so we can rectify this.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 1st February - Joanna Fortune Talk - 8pm School Hall

Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February - Mid Term Break - School Closed

Thursday 16th March - School Closed - In-service Day

Friday 17th March - St Patrick's Day - School Closed

Clodagh Farrell
Principal