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



Newsletter September 2017

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Dear Parents/Guardians

**Fáilte ar ais**

Welcome back to all our boys, parents and staff. I hope everyone had a lovely summer and everyone is back refreshed and ready for a new school year. A very special welcome to all our new Junior Infants and to Troy, Charlie, Thomas, Wiktor, Riley and Hao Yu who have joined us in other classes.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend our deepest sympathies to Ms Angela Sawyer and her family on the death of her mother, Cáit Uí Chonchúir RIP. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time.

**Collection Time**

Collection time, especially for our new Junior Infants is a very busy time of the day. We ask parents to help make this as easy and as safe as possible for all the boys. When you are standing in the yard, please try not to stand on the yellow lines that the boys line up on. Allow the teacher to bring the whole class out onto the line and dismiss them one by one. This way the class teacher knows that every child has been collected. On wet days the teachers will dismiss the boys from the doors. We know that this can take time but we appreciate your patience and cooperation.

**Head Lice**

We have a number of classes with incidents of head lice at the moment. We are asking all parents to actively check your son's hair on a regular basis. It is vital to use proper nit combs to check as a visual inspection is not always reliable. If you find that your son does contract head lice, the only way to get rid of them properly is to comb the hair using the nit combs every three days for at least two weeks. We have purchased a number of Bug Buster Kits and they are available from the office for €10. This contains all the combs you will need to check for and clear head lice and nits. This kit is reusable time and again so it is a once off purchase that is highly recommended.

**Healthy Lunches/Allergies**

Just a reminder that we encourage the boys to have a healthy lunch at school every day. Please have a read of our Healthy Eating policy which is on the website. The boys may drink water at all times during the day but please ensure that the bottle has a sports cap on it to avoid spillages. As we have a number of children in the school with nut allergies we ask parents to avoid giving nuts, peanut butter, chocolate spread and other products containing nuts for lunch. Also, remember that birthday cakes/party bags should not be sent in to the teacher for distribution.

So that you are aware of what your son is eating at school, we encourage the boys to put all rubbish and uneaten food back into their lunchbox. Please ensure that your son has a lunchbox that he is able to open and close by himself.

### **Meeting your son's teacher**

Parents are always welcome in our school and teachers are happy to meet with you to discuss your son's progress. We do ask that, while a brief chat is possible at home-time, for serious issues it is always best to make an appointment. It is very difficult for the teacher to talk to you in the mornings as the focus then is on bringing in their class, talking to the boys themselves and getting started on the day's work. If you drop a short note to the teacher or make a phone call to the office we will organise a suitable time for a meeting.

### **Photographer**

The Photographer will visit the school on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. He will take photographs of all the boys. Further details will issue closer to the date.

### **GAA**

Mark Cooper is back on Tuesdays for GAA training with all Senior Infants and First Class boys. The Junior Infants will begin GAA after Christmas. We thoroughly enjoyed our Day for the Dubs last Friday. Great to see the boys wearing their colours! Fabulous win for the Dublin team to make it three All-Ireland titles in a row. Let's hope the girls will bring more success on Sunday!

### **Parents' Committee**

The Parents' Committee have a vital role in ensuring that the boys have a memorable three years in our school. As always they are looking for volunteers to help out. The date for the AGM has been set for **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm** in the Fifty Pence Room in the Parish Centre.

### **Attendance**

We encourage good attendance at all times and we request that, if your son is absent from school, you send in a note to the class teacher. If any child is absent for 20 days or more during the school year, we are obliged to report the details to the National Education Welfare Board.

### **Signing out**

If you need to collect your son from school before dismissal time we ask you to come to the office and sign him out. This ensures we have a record of children leaving school early.

### **Medical Information Form**

If your son has a medical condition, please ensure to let us know and fill out a Medical Information Form. This should be updated on an annual basis.

### **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**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October - Parents' Association AGM

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Photographer

Clodagh Farrell  
Principal