



Coinnigh an solas ar lasadh

St Patrick's National School

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Roll No: 18040L
Principal:
Paul O'Donnell

2nd October 2025

Term 1 Updates

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Individual Pupil Expenses - Many thanks to all those who have paid the Individual Pupil Expenses for photocopying, texts, pupil insurance and art materials. If you did not get a link from Sharon for the payment or if you have a difficulty with this payment, please contact the office.

Child Protection - Our current Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is on our school website [here](#). I am the school's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Lorna Gerrard is our Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) for any child protection concerns. I will also be speaking to pupils at assembly about how we keep them safe. We also have a child friendly version of our Child Safeguarding Statement at reception. As part of our review of risks of harm to pupils, if you have anything to share or suggest regarding activities in school and how we can improve child safety, please email them to office@slanens.ie

Bí Cineálta (Be Kind) Anti-bullying - I have already spoken to all pupils about our strategies to deal with bullying behaviour. There are child friendly posters in every room, as well as chat boxes in senior classes. Please find a copy of the child friendly policy attached. The steps pupils follow are: 1. Say no, 2. Sort it yourself, 3. Walk away 4. Tell'. I have also modelled the language to be used to help pupils to try to sort their own difficulties first but to immediately go to an adult if they do not work. Please reinforce this at home. The full policy is [here](#)

Board of Management & Parents' Association - A warm welcome to Soren Jensen, who was elected as new father nominee on our school's Board of Management. Please find a draft of Board priorities on page 2. Welcome, also, to new Parents' Association members and officers and a special word of thanks to departing members, including Chairperson Bridget Kerrigan, who worked so hard in the role and was a pleasure to work alongside.

Nasal Flu Vaccine - The nasal flu vaccine has been made available free of charge by the HSE for children between 2 and 17 years of age again this year. It will be administered by Nobber Medical Practice on Monday the 20th of October. Your child will bring home an information and consent form in hard copy this week. If you wish for your child to receive the vaccine, return the completed form by Wednesday the 15th of October. If you do not wish for your child to receive the vaccine, do not return the form.

School Closures - We have a number of school closures this year for various reasons. I am conscious of child-minding difficulties for parents and have communicated closure days as early as possible as a result. We have also been informed that we will have no electricity on Tuesday the 7th of October. Rather than closing on that day, we will remain open with contingencies in place to keep things as normal as possible.

Swimming Lessons - Lessons resume for all classes from 1st to 6th this year between Hallowe'en and Christmas. We will be sending letters home with more information and the link for payment before the Hallowe'en break.

Le gach deá-ghuí,

Paul O'Donnell Principal and Board of Management Secretary



Proud of our school's achievements

Board of Management Priorities 2025-2026

Governance and Curricular	Status
1. Updating and reassessment of school policies (year 3) 2. School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process (2023-2025) Year 3 (Wellbeing and Music) 3. Introducing the Primary Curriculum Framework (PCF) 4. Embedding the new Primary Mathematics Curriculum (PMC) 5. Embedding the Primary Language Curriculum (PLC) 6. Revision of whole school English and Gaeilge plans 7. Implementing new child protection procedures 2025 8. Implementation of attendance and wellbeing strategies	
School Building	Status
1. Pathfinder retrofit school building programme completion 2. Reconfiguration of mainstream class to autism class completion 3. Amendments to school car park 4. Changing internal carpets to marmoleum flooring 5. Installation of storage solutions in various classrooms 6. Internal repainting in halls/ classrooms 7. Additional loose parts resources for outdoor play 8. New outdoor play structure 9. Additional digital resources 10. Additional curricular resources (Maths, Gaeilge and English curricula)	
Other School Initiatives	Status
1. Creative School project (year 2) 2. Reading recovery training to improve literacy levels (year 2) 3. Student teacher, student SNA & transition year student placements 4. School activities - gaelic football, athletics, & 5 a side soccer, choir & school band 5. An Choill Bheag – greening school planting project, outdoor learning & risky play 6. Outdoor learning & risky play 7. Staff CPD - Maths, new curriculum, autism, outdoor learning and child protection	

