



Coinnigh an solas ar lasadh

St Patrick's National School

Slane, Co. Meath

(041) 982 4229
office@slanens.ie
www.slanens.ie
Roll No: 18040L
Principal:
Paul O'Donnell

8/10/2026

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

INTO & FORSA Work to Rule & Industrial Action

- A work to rule notice is in place from the INTO (teachers) & FORSA (SNAs). It does not currently affect day to day running of our school but may affect November parent teacher meeting times if it continues.
- In addition, two industrial action days for both unions are proposed for the 14th and 21st of October. As things stand, our school will close on both of these days as there will be no staff available. If there is any change, I will communicate it to you as soon as possible.

Nasal Flu Vaccine

- The nasal flu vaccine is available free by the HSE again this year. It will be administered by Nobber Medical Practice on Wednesday the 14th of October or a later date if the school is closed on that day.

Swimming Lessons

- Swimming is an extremely important life skill and pupils rate school swimming lessons as one of the highlights of every year. Lessons take place for all children from 1st to 6th this year between Hallowe'en and Christmas. Letters with information and Aladdin payment links will issue next Monday 12th of October.

Attendance

- Improving attendance will continue to be a big focus this year. Our school attendance in recent years can be seen below. We hope to increase this again this year as part of our attendance strategy.

2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
90.9%	92.2%	93.1%

Board of Management Updates

- As a Catholic school, our Board of Management runs the school on behalf of our Patron, the Bishop of Meath. Members are Fr. Richard Matthews (Chairperson), Annette Fitzpatrick (Patron nominee), Sandra Walsh and Susan Murray (community nominees), Sarah Jane Lynch and Soren Jensen (Parent nominees), Ruth Collins (teacher nominee) and myself, (as principal and Board secretary).
- The first Board of Management meeting of this school year took place this week. The Child Safeguarding Statement, Bí Cineálta Anti-bullying, Admissions, Critical Incident Policy, Emergency Closure and Safety Statement were ratified. The updated Code of Behaviour was also ratified, so bringing digital devices, like smartphones and smart watches to school for use after school will be phased out over the next few years.
- The Board thanks all who engaged with the Department of Education survey and reviewed the results. As there was no clear majority to change the current co-educational pupil population, English language instruction or Catholic patronage, it was decided that no further exploration will take place at this time.

Finally, many thanks to the PA members who helped co-ordinate the traffic flow change in the car park. Their time was much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Paul O'Donnell
Principal & Board of Management Secretary

*Additional school information is communicated at PA meetings each month and is also available on our website [here](#)



digital schools
award

léargas



Proud of our school's achievements