



Harold Boys' National School
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NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome back to everyone! A special word of welcome to 2nd class for Hugh Casey and Nicholas Shuttleworth and the boys who have transferred from Loreto. Welcome also to George Bourke, Oisín Kennedy & Rory Redmond who have joined 3rd class, Devin Wu & Qynn Lacey who have joined 4th class, Ronan Kennedy who has joined 5th class and to Javier Santos & Charlie Casey who have joined 6th class.

We welcome two new teachers to the staff of Harold Boys' N.S., Jordan Kelly who will teach 2nd class and Sophie McDonnell who will teach 3rd class. We wish you both much happiness in our school.



Internet Safety Tip for Parents: Help your son to better understand the different online platforms he uses to help him judge the quality and reliability of online resources. Barnardos provide regular online internet safety talks for parents and guardians. Please log onto their website to book.

Voluntary Code. In line with other Primary Schools in the area, we are promoting the Smart Device Voluntary Code for Primary School Children. Please find attached the explanation letter we sent to all parents in June. Letter from the PA with the sign up link will follow.



Parents' Association AGM/Social Evening will take place on Monday 11th September at 8:00p.m. Wine and nibbles will be served. During the meeting our new PA committee will be elected, and you will have an opportunity to view all the improvements made to the school over the summer, including our new Tranquility Room. We would love to see as many of you there as possible.



School Starting time. Our school hours are 8.50-2.30. Gates open at 8.45am. and **all boys are expected to be in their line by 8.50am.** Also, please be punctual when collecting your son at 2.30pm.

After School Activities: Our after-school activities will begin on the following dates in September. Monday - Drama (11th September), Lego Club (for 2nd, 3rd & 4th Class only, commencing 18th September), Tuesday - Guitar (Start date communicated directly to parents by Dun Laoghaire School of Music), Gaelic (for 5th & 6th class only, start date TBC); Thursday - Chess (7th September), Club Gaeilge (all classes 2nd-6th, commencing 21st September).

Ms Schutte will be sending home information regarding our Wednesday After School Sports for 2nd, 3rd and 4th class later this week.

Please send payments directly to after school teachers and not to the School Office.



Green Schools' News - This year we will be working towards achieving our Global Citizenship - Energy Flag. Mr Smith will hold his first meeting with the boys next week.



We are proud to be entering our 18th year of the Discover Primary Science & Maths/Curious Minds Awards. As part of our school project, we actively participate in Maths Week, Science Week, Engineers' Week and Tech Week. We have been very lucky over the years to have guest speakers from the parent body visit the school to share their expertise with the boys. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining us throughout the year to help us achieve our 18th award, we would be very grateful. Dates are listed below, but speakers are welcome any time! Please contact Ms. O'Carroll.

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| Maths Week | 14 th - 22 nd October 2023 |
| Science Week | 12 th - 19 th November 2023 |
| Engineers' Week | Spring 2024 |
| Tech Week | Spring/Summer 2024 |



School Self Evaluation (S.S.E.) The area of focus this year is Writing, a strand of the *Primary Language Curriculum - English*. We hope you will work on this at home with your son. More details will follow.



Lunches - As several pupils have food allergies, we ask you not to include the following in your son's lunch: Nutella, Snickers, peanut butter, or any other items containing nuts. Please remind your son not to share his lunch with anyone.

Healthy Lunch reminder: No crisps, bars, sweets, gum or fizzy drinks. The HSE advises first break to be a 'fruit break'. Friday can be a treat day e.g. a bar. This applies to school tours also.

Following our survey last term, we have decided to trial a lunch service from The Lunchbag.ie commencing 21st September. Information packs will be sent home with the boys on Monday 18th September.



Office Hours: 9:00am - 1:30pm Monday to Friday. Please note that the office is unattended after 1:30pm.



Uniform: Please ensure your son wears the correct uniform (including black shoes) on non P.E. days and that all items of the uniform have his name clearly marked on them. Uniform Crests are available in the office. The cost of the Crest is €6.



Book Rental - Please note: your son has been allocated an identification number which is on all the books he will rent this year. These books will be returned to the school in June 2024. Parents/Guardians will be asked to purchase new books if those rented are lost or damaged.

Car Park - Sincere thanks to the parents who helped with the Car Park for the Lobster Festival. A total of €1,300 was raised over the two days.



Sports News -

- Our GAA coaching will begin on Tuesday 19th September with Mark Brennan from Cuala.
- Soccer for 3rd -6th class will take place on Wednesdays
- Basketball sessions with Ed Randolph will begin on Thursday 7th September for Second and Third class.
- Fifth class will begin their seven-week cycling course on Friday 8th September.
- Fourth class' swimming lessons will begin on Thursday 21st, September in Castlepark Swimming Pool.
- Cricket All classes had a taster Cricket session yesterday. Jim Stewart will return later in the year to provide a four week block of cricket coaching for 2nd -6th class.

Soccerthon 2023: A total of €2,594.50 was raised on Friday 2nd June. Well done to all who took part!



Gaelgeoir na Seachtaine

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| Rang 3 | Seán Ó Caomhánach, Tomás Matangi, Séamus Conlon |
| Rang 4 | Seán Ó Dubhola, Mateo Bréanáinn Segura, Mícheál Ó Bharóid |
| Rang 5 | Eiric Ó Ríagáin, Tadhg Fathaigh, Floinn Ó Murchú |
| Rang 6 | Éibhear Ó Ceallacháin, Dáithí Ó Madáin, Pádraig Ó Briain |

Dates for your Diary

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| 11 th September | Parents' Association AGM 8.00 p.m. |
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Le gach dea ghúí,

Pauline Lennon

Principal