



Harold Boys' National School
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Principal: *Pauline Lennon*



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2022



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.

Welcome back to everyone! A special word of welcome to our new pupils in 2nd class. Welcome also to Tadgh Murnane who has joined 5th class.

We welcome our new staff members. Karen Redmond is our new SNA, replacing Joan Ryan who retired in June. Brian Goddard is our new SET teacher. He is based in St Kevin's NS in Sallynoggin and will be working in Harold Boys' NS on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We are delighted to welcome Antoin Bracken back from his career break and we wish Allison O' Regan all the best on hers.



Parents' Association AGM will take place via Zoom on Tuesday 20th September at 7.30pm. All parents will be invited to attend. We particularly welcome new parents and any Mums, Dads or guardians who may not have attended before. An invitation to attend and link for the meeting will be issued shortly. The PA have been busy organising a family fun day for Saturday 22nd October and will be sharing details of that on the night.



Summer Refurbishment of School: Over the Summer we made significant improvements to the interior of the school. We completely refurbished two classrooms to include new flooring, built in storage and paint. Room 2 has been repainted and has had new storage installed. The office and staff toilet have also had a makeover. We thank you most sincerely for your generosity for our Soccerthon held in June, all monies raised contributed to this project. We are planning further works, depending on available finance. A special word of thanks must go to our caretaker Marvin Bautista, without his skills, hard work and dedication to the school none of this would have been possible.



School starts at 9.10 a.m. Please do not send your son to school before the doors open at 8.50am as there is no supervision provided before this time. Also, a reminder to 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 (12th September), Lego Club (for 2nd & 3rd Class only, commencing 12th September), Tuesday - Guitar (8th September), Wednesday - After-School Sports Club (for 2nd, 3rd & 4th class only, start date 14th September), Gaelic (for 5th & 6th class only, start date TBC); Thursday - Chess (13th September). Please send payments directly to these teachers and not to the School Office.



Green Schools' News - This year we are working towards our Global Citizenship-Energy flag. Mr Smith will be leading our new Green School Committee, consisting of two boys per class.



We are proud to be entering our 17th year of the Discover Primary Science & Maths Awards. As part of our school project, we actively participate in Maths Week, Science Week, Engineers' Week and Tech Week etc. 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 17th award, we would be very grateful. Dates are listed below, but speakers are welcome any time! Please contact Ms. O'Carroll.

Space Week	3 rd -7 th October 2022
Code Week	10 th -14 th October 2022
Maths Week	17 th - 21 st October 2022
Science Week	14 th - 17 th November 2022
Engineering' Week	6 th -10 th March 2023
Tech Week	17 th -21 st April 2023

School Self Evaluation (S.S.E.) The area of focus this year is Writing, a strand of the *New 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.



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



Aladdin: We have extended our use of the Aladdin Schools platform. We will now be using this for communications, permissions, payments and absences. A very useful communication tool is the noticeboard, where you can easily message the school or your son's teacher directly. Please allow notifications on your Aladdin App to enable this convenient two-way communication with the school. Follow this link if you require any help with this. https://www.aladdin.ie/connect_app_faqs.html

All the September permissions for internet usage, local field trips etc. are currently available on Aladdin connect. It is important that you log on and view/accept permissions as soon as possible if you have not already done so.



Twitter: We are delighted to launch our new Twitter account @HaroldBNS . We will be posting regularly to keep you updated with activities in our classes. If you are not already familiar with Twitter it is easy to get started. Just download the App, follow the steps to set up an account and then follow us by searching for @HaroldBNS and clicking the 'follow' button.



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. Runners may be worn by all pupils each Friday. Uniform Crests are available in the office. The cost of the Crest is €6, available from school office.



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 2023. Parents/Guardians will be asked to purchase new books if those rented are lost or damaged.



Traffic: Our school is situated on a very narrow road! To avoid traffic congestion, we politely request that cars down St Patrick's Road from the main street when approaching the school, rather than coming up from Carysfort Road. We also request that you remain mindful of our neighbours at school drop off and pickup times, and do not block the pedestrian crossing or any entrances. We thank our lollipop lady, Joan Fox, for ensuring that the children from both our school and Loreto cross safely every day.



Sports News -

- Our GAA coaching will begin on Tuesday 20th September with Mark Brennan from Cuala.
- Basketball sessions with Ed Randolph began on Thursday 1st September for Second and Third class.
- Fifth class will begin their seven-week cycling course on Friday 9th September.
- Fourth class' swimming lessons will begin on Thursday 22nd, September in Castlepark Swimming Pool.

- **Soccerthon 2022:** A total of €4,476.30 was raised on Friday 10th June. Well done to all who took part!



Gaelgeoir na Seachtaine Meitheamh 2022

Rang 3	Caden Lu Breathnach, Mateo Bréannáin Segura, Ádam Mac Péice
Rang 4	Diolun Cruadhlaioich, Roibeard Ó hArrachtáin, Árón Mac Cába, Rónán Mac Muireartaigh
Rang 5	Éatan Ó Ríagáin, Pádraig O Briain, Rían Ó Murchú, Dónal Maolchathaigh
Rang 6	Seán Bakker, Liam Ó Broin, Séamus Doibín, Arón Cionnaithe

Religion We are working on the calendar for First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation with Fr Liam and the other schools in the parish and will communicate these dates to you shortly. This year we are working on our Mass responses in all classes.

Le gach dea ghúí,

Finally, on behalf of myself and the staff of Harold Boys' National School, I wish you every good wish for the school year ahead.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Pauline Lennon

Principal