



Swords Educate Together National School Roll Number 20145 O

SETNS Newsletter
9th November 2018

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to students, staff and families. I hope you all had a safe and enjoyable Mid Term Break. As the days are getting colder can we ask that children wear adequately warm coats. Please encourage them to wear high visibility vests when walking/cycling to school in the morning. Safety is extremely important to us. Please ensure that all your child/children's coats are labelled and remind them to keep hats, scarves and gloves in a safe place while in school, e.g. their schoolbags or coat pockets. Finally, can I remind parents that access to the school grounds should not be before 1.05p.m and 2.05p.m. This is to allow full use of the campus for P.E and running on the side paths. Your cooperation is much appreciated. Thank you to all for participating in our annual dress up day on 25th October.



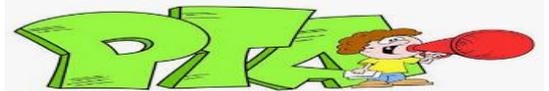
This week we are celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights, It signifies the beginning of the New Year Festival in the Hindu and Sikh faith. This year with the help of Áine and Karina, a Rangoli design has been created within the Edible Garden at the rear of the school. Rangoli patterns are placed outside the door of families houses at this time of year and signify a warm welcome to visitors. Classes have been visiting the garden this week and learning all about Diwali in class. Thanks to Áine, Karina and the staff for adding this lovely activity to our Learn Together programme.



Parent - Teacher Meetings

Our annual Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on Wednesday **28th** and Thursday **29th November 2018**. You will receive notification of your dates and times next week. If you do not receive them in writing, please contact your child's class teacher.

We look forward to welcoming you to the school and encourage you to arrive 10 mins before your appointed time. While we realise that childcare might be difficult to arrange for the afternoon, we would ask you not to bring children to the meetings where possible. It is an important opportunity to meet with class teachers and to gain valuable insights into your child's learning.



On 25th October the new PTA met to elect their roles for the upcoming year. The elected roles are as follows:

Chairperson: Máiread Farquharson
Vice Chairperson: Adrienne Gibson
Treasurer: Karen Byrne
Secretary: Tony Haddon
Board Representative: Cathy Blake
Board Representative: Greg MacHale
Other members include:
Jackie Sheridan
Camille Psaila Brennan
Jianbo Sun
Priya Krishnan
Vicky Campbell
Michelle Beirne
Susana Santamonica
Sanita Ausejs

Staff Representatives: Peter and Aisling D.
We wish the PTA all the best for the year ahead and look forward to hearing all the exciting plans for the coming year.



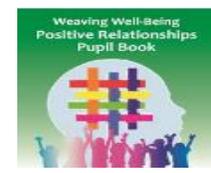
Kids Marathon



5th and 6th Classes have been busy preparing for the Kids Marathon that will take place next week. The children have completed almost 25 miles to date and will finish the final mile on 14th November in Santry Stadium. Thanks to Louise, Pearse, Maura and Fiona for actively promoting this initiative since September and congratulations to the children taking part.

Social Personal Health Education (SPHE)

2nd-6th Class children are starting the 'Weaving Well-Being' programme again this year. These lessons are designed to be implemented within the framework of the SPHE curriculum and our Learn Together Programme. will further cement the wonderful mindfulness lessons children have been engaging in with Annmargaret, over the past few years. Please remember to sign the wellbeing homework that has been provided. It is extremely worthwhile.



Swimming Champ

Congratulations to this young lady Isabella Kavanagh from Maura's 5th Class on her recent victory at the Leinster minor swimming Championships. Isabella won her race, 50m freestyle in a time of 38.61 seconds. Isabella has now qualified for the Irish minor swimming championships in February 2019. Well done Isabella, we are so proud of your achievement!!!!



A huge thank you to the outgoing Green Team for doing a fantastic *Autumn Clean* of our edible garden, and for their [wonderful work](http://www.swordseducatetogether.ie/green-team/) (link to <http://www.swordseducatetogether.ie/green-team/>) over the past two years! This year's Green Team have had their first *meet-and-greet* of the year. Their role will include maintaining the five flags we currently hold, as well as aiming high for our sixth flag: Global Citizenship - Litter and Waste. Thanks to Peter and Marie for coordinating the Green Team this year.

Voluntary Contributions

This year's voluntary contributions will take place on **Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th November 2017**. As per last year, we are accepting Voluntary Contributions through electronic transfer only. This also means that security in dealing and handling cash is off site. The school cannot maintain its high level of resources and equipment without the Voluntary Contributions. Money raised provides classroom, Curricular, SEN resources and facilitates our whole school events such as Anti-Bullying, Cyber Bullying and school excursions that otherwise could not be facilitated. This year some of the funds raised will support the further development of our Apple Wood Sensory Garden. Over the last year Eoghan has been consulting with a company called **Upcycle Project** with a view to further enhancing this special outdoor space

Staff Changeover

Swords Educate Together would like to wish Irene Lambert best wishes as she begins her maternity leave over the next few weeks. Irene's position will be taken up by Leah Kennedy who is a permanent member of our staff, currently on career break. Thank you to Leah for taking time out of her Career break to come back to us.

There is a significant shortage of substitute teachers available at the moment. When the T.Ds come knocking at the door, please remind them of this. This current situation has a huge impact on schools and without government intervention, children's education inevitably suffers. Without experienced teachers like Leah who are willing to come back to work from a Department sanctioned career break, we would not have many options left in relation to providing adequate education for our children.