



Open Evening

Our annual Open Evening will take place on 30th May from 6pm-8p.m. All family members are welcome. Our theme this year is "Wellbeing" and we hope to be showcasing some of our Wellbeing initiatives that are happening in the school. Tea and Coffee will be served by the PTA in the school hall. More information to follow.

School Closures:

- **April 12th: School Closes for Easter Holidays**
 - [Junior & Senior Infants leave at 11.45a.m](#)
 - [1st-6th Classes leave at 12.00p.m](#)
 - [School Reopens on 29th April](#)
- **6th May: Bank Holiday Monday**
- **3rd & 4th June: Bank Holiday**

Returning to School 2019/20

If your child will not be returning to school for the next academic year, please let Catriona know as soon as possible. We have lengthy waiting lists and places can be offered if we know in advance. Please remember that places are allocated on a *first come first served basis only*.



Our annual Active School Week will be kicking off after our Easter Holidays on 29th April. As usual there are lots of fun events happening throughout the week. All we ask is that the children wear suitable footwear and comfortable clothing, you can leave the rest to us. For this week the children will be given no written homework. Their only homework will be to participate in an active activity and to share it with their class teacher the following day. This is an important week here in SETNS and we encourage all members of the school community to get active with us.

Jakub's Memorial

On Thursday afternoon the children from Fiona's 5th Class together with their parents and school staff welcomed Radek, Jakub's father back to SETNS. Jakub's classmates together with Fiona, their teacher, held a memorial, celebrating Jakub's life with songs, poems, memories, stories and photos of his time here at SETNS. We were joined by members of the Board of Management. Thanks to Mairead, Adrienne and the PTA for coordinating the refreshments after the event. I would particularly like to thank Alice, Fiona and the Critical Incident Management Team for their professionalism and support throughout this process. To Radek, Marta and Borys we are humbled by your strength and courage in the face of your recent loss and we look forward to welcoming you all back to Swords ETNS at some stage in the future.

Stay Safe Programme

The Stay Safe Programme is taught in Senior Infants, First Class, Third Class and Fifth Class during the third term. We will be holding an information meeting for all Parents/Guardians of children in the classes named above, in school on **Wednesday 10th April, 7:00 – 8:00 pm**. This is an annual meeting for Parents/Guardians. The purpose of the meeting will be to outline the focus of the Stay Safe programme, the content and explore how we can work together to keep our children safe. The meeting will be facilitated by Julie Dowd from CAPP (Child Abuse Prevention Programme). We at SETNS are fully committed to enabling children to identify threat/danger and how to respond to it appropriately. Looking forward to meeting with you on 10th April.



Voluntary Contributions

This year's Voluntary Contributions collections will take place on **8th and 9th May 2018**. As directed by Educate Together Head Office we are accepting Voluntary Contributions through electronic transfer only. Voluntary contribution information such as Bank Details/BIC and IBAN will be communicated shortly. Contributions still remain anonymous through paying in-branch using the details provided if you wish. Alternatively you can pay online through e-transfer. We cannot stress enough how the school relies on Voluntary Contributions to provide much needed funds to support curricular and extra curricular activities.

This year we are looking for funds to improve our AppleWood Sensory Garden that is currently underway. We would also love to create a "quiet space" in our busy yard for children to sit and relax, talk or read, away from the hustle and bustle and noise on the yard. We have already requested quotes from a landscaping company and with some parental involvement, we hope to get this up and running soon.

Your Voluntary Contributions will also provide the yearly addition to Supplementary Readers and we would like to provide some much needed funds to our SEN Department, especially in the way of SEN Computer Hardware and Software for children. Without your generosity, these added extras would not be possible within our budget.



The school community were glued to their armchairs last Sunday evening as Chloe and Alys from Pearse's 6th Class performed in the Semi Finals of *Ireland's Got Talent*. The dance troop were automatically voted through to the live finals which will be televised live on Virgin Media 1 on Sunday 7th April. We know that the text lines will be buzzing with votes on Sunday evening and I know Chloe, Alys and the other members of the dance team will appreciate your votes.

Best of luck to all the team; the entire community of Swords ETNS is behind you and will be voting and supporting you on Sunday evening. Keep an eye on the school Facebook page for voting details.

Friendship Week

We will be celebrating Friendship Week 8-12 April. Throughout this week the children will be exploring the Amnesty International Friendship Week Theme of "Welcoming Communities" and will get the opportunity to purchase Friendship Bracelets. We will also be promoting the theme of Friendship and making friends in Junior Classes and Sustaining Friendships in the Senior Classes. In the spirit of "Welcoming Communities" we will be hosting a visit from our Cambodian friends from *SeeBeyondBoarders* who work with young men and women in providing education. We are looking forward to their visit as part of our Friendship Week theme "Welcoming Communities".

Enrollment/Admissions Policy

As directed by the Department of Education and Skills and our Patron, Educate Together, the Board of Management are currently reviewing our "First Come First Served" Enrollment Policy. The Board of Management have asked for your understanding in undertaking this process and are currently gathering information and advice on this process. The first come first served process will continue for the school year 2019/20 but may change over the coming years. The Board will communicate any changes made to you in due course. We are advising potential parents to continue to pre-enrol your child through our website while being mindful that the current admission/enrollment policy procedures must change before 2024, as directed by the Department of Education and Skills.



We would like to wish Rosemary Mara all the best as she begins her maternity leave on Monday 29th April. Junior Infants will be taught by Saoirse O'Reilly for the rest of the academic year. Saoirse has met the class on several occasions over the past number of months and has been receiving a comprehensive handover from Rosemary. We welcome Saoirse to the staff and wish Rosemary and her husband Conor all the best for their new addition to their family.

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