



**Swords Educate Together
National School
Roll Number 20145 O**



SETNS Newsletter 23rd June 2023

As this is the final Newsletter of this academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire school community for their support and commitment to the school over the past year. It has been another busy, jam-packed year with the roll out of the Primary Language Curriculum and the new Curriculum Framework. We welcomed new arrivals, staff and new additions to their families. We also said farewell to staff who have moved on to bigger and better things and also staff who experienced huge loss within their personal lives.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Management, I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year. Whether you sent a card, an email or made a phonecall, bought a raffle ticket or volunteered your time, it helped more than you know.

To our fantastic staff, I would like to wish them a restful summer. They are an amazing cohort of individuals who do everything they do with the children as the focus. I would like to sincerely thank Alice, Aoife and the in-school management team for their dedication, support and commitment to our school. Finally to our very patient secretary Catriona and our wonderful enrolment secretary Barbara who run the office like clockwork and keep us all in check, thank you!

I wish you parents/guardians and children a wonderful summer break. Remember that switching off is necessary. Take time to enjoy the sunshine and recharge those batteries! We look forward to opening the doors of our wonderful school again on 31st August 2023.

Early Finish 30th June 2023

Junior/Senior Infants 11.45a.m

1st-6th Classes: 12p.m

PAW PATROL

Thanks to Séamus, Lauren's (6th Class) Dad, Inga and the team from Dublin Customs unit who visited the school last week. They were joined by the star of the show, DETECTOR DOG Robbie who showcased his incredible skill at detecting harmful substances and keeping our country and us all safe. Robbie interacted with pupils from 3rd-6th Classes while his handlers educated the children about the incredible job that Robbie does everyday. We hope to invite Robbie and the team back next year to meet our Junior classes.



The new primary curriculum:

As you may be aware, the primary curriculum is changing and will continue to change over the coming years. The new curriculum recognises the key role parents and guardians play in their child's education and promotes a partnership approach which will encourage increased communication between schools and parents/guardians.

We have been asked to ensure parents/guardians are made aware of the changes to the curriculum that have taken place to date and what will be happening over the years to come. In this regard the Department, in collaboration with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA), the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) and the Professional Development for Teachers (PDST), has developed a leaflet which is designed to introduce these changes and encourage parents/guardians to engage in future consultations, seeking feedback on the draft curriculum areas and subjects of the new curriculum.

All versions of the leaflet can be found at gov.ie - [New Primary Curriculum Framework](http://gov.ie) (www.gov.ie)

Being Kind and Helpful



Being Kind and Helpful is one of our Golden Rules and we love seeing children display their kindness and thoughtfulness outside in the real world. Well done and congratulations to Jennifer from Aisling's 2nd Class for sharing her story with us

Jennifer recently celebrated her First Communion. She wanted to give something back and to make a donation to Temple Street children's hospital, who looked after her so well when she was very ill as a baby. Jennifer thought it was important to give back in life and share what they have, with others less fortunate. She also had a lovely moment where she handed the cheque over and had her picture taken for the foundation's fb page.

Well done Jennifer, we are super proud of you!

Graduation DAY

Our 6th Classes are busy preparing for their Graduation Day which will take place next Tuesday 27th June at 11a.m. This is one of our favourite days of the year where we get to acknowledge and celebrate a significant milestone in the pupils lives as they transition from primary school to second level. This day does not happen without the support of our wonderful PTA as well as the parents/guardians of the children. We would also like to thank the 5th Class pupils and their families for providing the food for the event. A special thanks to Norah, Fiona, Helen, Bernadette and Eliz for preparing the children for the day and for all their hard work behind the scenes, and indeed throughout the year. I would also like to thank Ann-Margaret Nolan our Mindfulness and Wellbeing practitioner for working so closely with the children throughout the year.

We cannot wait to share the day with the children and their families and wish them nothing but success and happiness on their new journey. As we always say, the SETNS doors are always open for you whenever you need or whenever you feel like a visit.



Sanctuary Runners

Last Wednesday we welcomed Noel, Patience and Ciara from Sanctuary Runners who were met with a fantastic reception from the children and staff. Sanctuary Runners is a solidarity-through-sport initiative which uses running, jogging and walking to bring together asylum seekers, refugees, migrants and all Irish residents. Noel's work as Liaison Officer reaching out to people in direct provision. As a dedicated Sanctuary Runner and talented athlete, Noel articulates the physical and mental health and social benefits of being part of a group to those who are seeking international protection and works to ensure the entire community is represented at Sanctuary Runners. For more information on the incredible work Noel and the team do in Sanctuary runners; <https://sanctuaryrunners.ie/who-we-are/>, <https://sanctuaryrunners.ie/our-team/>



Thank you to Benny Joyce from Discovery Science who visited our Senior Classes last week with his Science Workshop on Marine Biology. I would also like to thank Benny for his kind words where he described our school as "warm and welcoming, where he felt the vibe of the place, the engagement from the pupils and the fabulous displays in the building". We look forward to welcoming Benny back again next year.



SCHOOL TOUR

It is almost the end of the School Tour Season and it is lovely hearing the children come back from their tours and relay their stories and excitement of the day. This year we saw a significant increase in costings of school tours and we would like to thank you, the parents/guardians for your support. We had every type of tour this year from the farm, to a castle to a mystery tour to an adventure park. Thanks to the SEN teaching staff and parents/guardians for helping on these days.

SCHOOL PICNIC

On Thursday 29th we will hold our first ever whole school picnic. We are inviting children to bring in a blanket of their choice and join the staff on the yard (weather permitting) for a whole school picnic. There is no need to provide any extra food as this will be part of their regular lunch time. Perhaps send in extra water and ensure the children have hats and/or sunscreen on also. Thanks to Claire Tansey for this wonderful idea...why did we not think of it before?

Class Allocation 2023/2024

An email will be sent to all parents/guardians on Thursday 29th June with information regarding your child/children's class teachers for next year. The children will then get the opportunity to meet their teachers on Friday 30th June. However, there will be some classes that will not receive the name of their teacher as recruitment for these positions has not been completed. This information will be sent at some point over the summer holidays. Thanks as always for your understanding.



Congratulations to Louise's 3rd class for completing their Incredible Edibles programme 2023. The class completed a project on food origin, identifying Irish, planting, cooking and healthy eating. Well done to all!!

