



**30<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

***Dear Parents and Guardians,***

The end of September is already upon us – what a quick month! Well done to all our super boys and girls for getting back into the swing of things here in St. Fintan’s NS after the summer and an extra special well done to all of our new pupils. Please read on to keep up to date with the latest school-wide information and news.

***Best wishes,***

***Mr. Caulfield, Principal***

- **COVID-19 matters:**
  - At our most recent Board of Management meeting, all COVID-19 safety systems and procedures were reviewed. It has been decided that in order to continue to do our best to keep everybody in the school community safe at this time, there will be no immediate changes to our COVID-19 school safety systems. We are continuing with class “pods” and “bubbles”, tailored assembling arrangements in the mornings and staggered home times. All COVID-19 safety systems are subject to ongoing review, taking into account the latest Government guidance.
  - Please click on the following link, for the most up to date information for parents about the changes to contact tracing and testing for children aged between 3 months and 13 years <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/13610-information-for-parents-about-the-changes-to-contact-tracing-and-testing-for-children-aged-between-3-months-and-13-years-in-early-learning-and-care-elc-and-school-age-childcare-sac-education-primary-school-sports-and-social-settings/>
  - After school / extra-curricular activities remain cancelled at this time.
- **School Uniform:** The Board of Management reviewed the school’s Uniform Policy at its most recent meeting and asks that all parents remind themselves of this policy in its latest form (see [www.stfintansns.ie](http://www.stfintansns.ie)) Please ensure your child wears their school tracksuit and suitable runners on PE days. Long hair must at all times be tied back and pupils may only wear stud earrings, for safety reasons.
- **Whilst of course we understand parents wishing to look after their children and ensure they are happy in the mornings, we respectfully ask that parents at all class levels do not loiter or congregate in the yard in the mornings.** We have been asked to communicate this by the Department of Education and there really is no need as the yard is supervised in the mornings by staff, from 8.40am. If there is an urgent message you need to pass on, please do so by contacting reception. Reminder: No dogs are permitted in the school yard, nor should they be tied to school gates / railings requiring children to walk passed them when entering or exiting the school.
- **Applications for junior infant enrolment for the school year 2022-2023** can be made from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. Further information including our Application Form, Admission Policy and Admission Notice is available at [www.stfintansns.ie](http://www.stfintansns.ie)
- **Feet First Friday will return this Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> October. So this means, if safe to do so, we encourage all children to walk, cycle or scoot to school on Fridays.** We are organising various class-level fun initiatives to support the relaunch in school.