

10th March 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Currently on our school website homepage <u>www.stfintansns.ie</u> we are displaying our 3 – 5 year school development plan for your consideration. The password to view it is available from the school and after the March consultation period, we will be delighted to progress with actions aligned to the plan as soon as possible.

Upon viewing the plan, you will see that one of the actions we are pleased to propose is a new garden area in the yard. We had planned to develop this before the pandemic and thanks again to all parents who previously volunteered to help with this project. Now that pandemic restrictions are easing, be assured that we will be calling on you very soon! In time, the garden will be a beautiful space for children to enjoy and in which they will learn about the many wonders of nature.

In the meantime however, we see with interest that SuperValu are running a "Save the Bees" initiative. We are certainly not asking parents to change their shopping habits. However, if you do shop in SuperValu already, please do ask for the "Save the Bees" school collection cards and then give these to your child to bring to school from tomorrow. We have been informed that each €30 spent entitles you to one card and if using a rewards card, you get 2 "Save the Bees" cards for a €30 spend. Each "Save the Bees" card has educational information about bees and pollination and our Green School Committee will organise a display of these on a large chart in the school. If we fill the display chart, we could win a share of €50,000 which we would use to enhance our outdoor educational resources.

This spring, we will also develop a pollinator friendly plant zone to the front of the school to help support our amazing and very important Irish bees! If any parent / guardian would like to donate some pollinator seeds / meadow flower seeds to help us with this project, we'd be delighted. Also, if you wish to support biodiversity by planting a pollinator seed patch with your child at home too, we'd be delighted for you to email us in some photos to info@stfintansns.ie

With bee-est wishes,

Mr. Caulfield, Principal