

St. Fintan's News & Stories



Monthly Newsletter Issue 2 St. Fintan's NS, Carrickrack Road, Sutton, Dublin 13. Ph: 01 8391067 Email: info@stfintansns.ie School Year 2018 - 2019

October News and Happy Spooky Halloween Everybody!

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Fintan's NS, I'm sure you will agree that it has been a very quick half-term and we've been very busy here in school! Our pupils have been learning lots and having fun along the way. Across the classes we've been planting daffodils, orienteering, singing, swimming and lots more. And our Parents Association have been busy too supporting our school community with the annual PA Quiz and the PAAGM. Read on to find out more about all the activities this past month in our busy school. Oh and happy spooky Halloween everybody! Boo!

Mr. Ciarán Caulfield, Priomhoide

Change of Date - Minister Bruton to visit for World's Largest Lesson

No longer the Minister for Education but in his capacity as new Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Richard Bruton TD will visit St. Fintan's NS on the morning of Thursday 8th November. The visit is to support our pupils' great work on the World's Largest Lesson - a UN initiative to get children exploring ways to make our world a better place. We will have an exhibition of our work in our hall on the day and parents will be welcome to call in and view the exhibition from 1pm until hometime on the day too. We hope to see you there!

New 3 - 4 Year Plan being devised by Board of Management

Now that the new and improved doors and windows have been installed at the school and the work on our special ed. / support classrooms will be completed in November, it's time to start working on our next 3-4 year school plan. The Board will issue a communication in November inviting opinions from all members of the school community on what is important for the school going forward. The Board will then reflect on all feedback received. Following this, our new 3 year plan will be finalised and launched in early 2019.

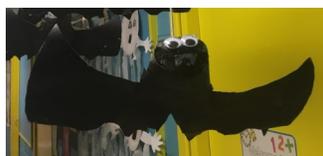
Below: Children from 1st & 3rd class after their recent beach clean-up on Sutton strand.



Above: Spooky pumpkins on our infant corridor

Quick Dates for your Diary:

- Midterm Break: School closed October 29th - November 2nd inclusive.
- Minister Richard Bruton's visit: Morning of 8th November
- Parent - Teacher Meetings: 21st & 22nd November 2018
- Christmas Carol Singing in Sutton Village: Daytime Wednesday 19th December (3rd-6th class)
- Christmas Carols Service in St. Fintan's Church: 1pm Thursday 20th December (1st-6th class).



Above: A bat from 4th class spooking the corridors!

St. Fintan's Parents Association News:

The PA's activities are well and truly underway for 2018/19. The Parents Association met up with the school principal a few weeks back and handed over a cheque to the school for €15,000. This will go towards helping to pay for the construction of the special ed. / support teaching rooms.

We had a very successful Table Quiz Night up in Findlaters of Howth on Friday the 12th of October. The event was very well attended with a full house and no shortage of clever people! Thanks to all our sponsors on the night and of course to quiz master Stephen Kennedy. Well done to the winning team too - made up of Ed Stones, Ian McEvelly and Eoghan Duffy. They were so intelligent that they only needed 3 on their team!

The Daffodils are being planted to the front of the school this year - thanks to Rosie Archer, Mr. Caulfield and a small but intrepid group of dads for prepping the site! This is part of our new initiative, supporting charity and supporting enhancement of the school grounds. In the future as part of the school's new 3-4 year plan, hopefully we'll be able to support the development of a school educational and sensory garden. All the proceeds from selling the daffodils in springtime will again go to charity.

The Parents Association AGM was held in the Marine Hotel on Monday 22nd of October. Minutes from the meeting are available by request from Sarah Duffy. We held a drinks reception beforehand. The PA set out their plans for the coming year and on behalf of the Board of Management, Mr Caulfield introduced himself and gave a short talk. We were informed that the Board are now starting to devise a new 3-4 year plan. The PA and indeed all parents will be invited to offer feedback and ideas to inform the plan. We are pleased to work in partnership with the Principal, staff and Board on what will we trust be an exciting and positive next chapter for the school.

Our upcoming events are the Halloween Witches this Friday, the Clothes Recycling Days 21st, 22nd and 23rd of November and the Parents Social Night is in McNeills of Howth on Friday 30th November. All are welcome to come along on the night. This is a ticketed event and tickets will be sold around the school yard closer to the time.

The Voluntary Subs letter will be going out soon and we would ask and encourage all to please make sure to contribute towards this. There is a recommended amount but any contribution is gratefully appreciated.



Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much! Helen Keller