



Scoil an Linbh Íosa

Newsletter : September 2019

Dia dhaoibh go léir.

Tá suil agam gur bhain gach duine sult is spraoi as na laethanta saoire agus go bhfuil sibh réidh don obair, caidreamh agus siamsa atá le teacht.

Fáilte ar ais

A very warm welcome back for the new school year. We extend an especially warm welcome to our Junior Infants – a lovely group of children. We would like to thank the parents, grandparents and minders of our new Infants for their cooperation in helping the children settle into Scoil an Linbh Íosa. The children were in their classes, the doors were closed and the corridors cleared by 9.30am – quite an achievement and much appreciated. So the Junior Infants are off to a great start. We hope their time with us in Scoil an Linbh Íosa will be happy, filled with fun and contentment, and lots of learning of course.

We also welcome a number of new students in various classes throughout the school. We hope that you too enjoy your time in Prosperous.

We wish Ms Sophie McNamara every happiness as she heads off to teach back home. Best wishes also go to Ms Greta Ryan. We wish Ita Wyse, our longest serving SNA, a joyful and contented retirement. We thank Ita, Greta and Sophie for all they have done for the school.

Some leave, but others join us. We welcome Paddy Connolly, Joanne Barrett and Billy Stone to the staff. Ms Barrett is teaching 3rd class, Mr Stone has 4th and Mr Connolly has 6th. We wish them every success for the coming term and look forward to working with them.

We hope the move to Rathangan has gone well for Fr Bill Kemmy and would like to welcome Fr Bernard to the parish. We look forward to working with Fr Bernard in the coming year, especially in relation to the sacramental preparation. I know Fr Bernard is very keen to work with everyone in the community. We extend a warm Prosperous welcome to him and wish him every success in his ministry.

We would like to congratulate Ms Ruth Comerford on the birth of her beautiful baby boy. No doubt he will bring lots of joy to the Comerford family.

And we wish Jack Dunne a speedy recovery after his recent accident and look forward to seeing him on the football pitch again very soon.

Our theme for the year is *'No one is too small to make a difference'*. We can all do something, no matter how small that might seem, to brighten someone's life, to make our school a better place. Together we will do lots of small things, and even some big things, to make this a great year in Scoil an Linbh Íosa.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir.

Slán agus Beannacht.

Geraldine Hetherton
Principal

<p>School Garden</p> <p>A lot of work has been done on the School Garden over the summer. The framework is in place and we have plans to erect a polytunnel, install a water feature and pond, create a meditative pace and do lots of planting. So if you have some spare time, or indeed some spare cash, just let us know! We could certainly do with the help!</p>	<p>Green Schools</p> <p>Hi, as the Green Schools Committee it is our job to make sure you recycle in our school. Each month we'll give you a <i>tip of the month</i>. This month's tip is: Instead of plastic bottles buy a reusable one! A good website is <i>OneGreenBottle</i>. Also use reusable lunch boxes instead of plastic bags. In every class there are 2 bins – one for clean paper and cardboard; the other is for pencil parings, fruit and tissues. DO NOT put popcorn wrappers in the compost bin – bring them home! You can recycle everywhere, not just in school. Thanks. Green Schools! Remember: <i>No one, and no action, is too small to make a difference. Do even one small thing a day</i> – PLEASE.</p>	<p>Smart Watches</p> <p>We discourage children from wearing smart watches to school. If your child does bring a smart watch into class it must be handed to the teacher in the morning and it will be returned at home time, just like mobile phones. There really is no need to have a smart watch in school.</p>
<p>Library</p> <p>The library got a bit of a facelift during the summer. It is now a more colourful, child-friendly space. We did a little culling of the books to make space for more recent authors. Some books will be left at the front door during the week – feel free to take a couple for your 'home library'.</p>		<p>Labelling</p> <p>We cannot emphasize enough how important it is for all the children's belongings to be labelled – but especially their jackets and jumpers, their copies and books. Labelling saves both you and us a lot of hassle.</p>
<p>Contribution</p> <p>Thank you for your contributions towards materials and resources in the school. We are happy to facilitate payment in instalments, as we understand families have a lot of financial outlays at this time. Please talk to us if you have any concerns around this matter.</p>	<p>Arriving Safely</p> <p>We all want the children to arrive safely at school. We encourage them to walk as much as possible. So if you drive please park carefully, preferably in nearby car parks such as the church yard. Please do not double park outside the school, no matter how short the time. Please keep the bus bay clear.</p>	<p>Peace Proms</p> <p>We are also thrilled to have gained a place at the Peace Proms, a cross-border initiative which promotes peace through music. Our school choir will join choirs from various parts of Ireland, singing their hearts out in Dublin later in the year. Further information to follow.</p>
<p>January 6th 2020</p> <p>The school will reopen after the Christmas holiday on Tuesday January 7th (and not January 6th) as the staff are involved in Language Curriculum training on the previous day.</p>	<p>School Insurance</p> <p>Please note that the children must have 24 Hour School Insurance (€9) if they wish to take part in <i>After School Activities</i>. Forms are available from the Admin Office. Closing date is September 20th.</p>	<p>Creative Schools</p> <p>We were delighted to be selected as a Creative School once again for the new academic year. The €2,000 bursary will enable us to enhance our creative practices, especially in the area of drama.</p>
<p>Birthday Invitations</p> <p>In adherence with our <i>Healthy Eating Policy</i> please do not send party food to school. We would also ask you not to issue party invitations on the school grounds. This is to avoid a child feeling 'left out'.</p>	<p>Thank You</p> <p>We would like to thank the community for all the support they offer us throughout the year and look forward to continued good relations with the people of Prosperous. The Saturday Night Card Players in the Old Parish Hall have been particularly generous.</p>	<p>Healthy Eating</p> <p>Please promote healthy eating habits among your children by providing them with a healthy lunch and snack. It would also be great if sugary juices were avoided. Water is a better drink option. Thanks for your cooperation.</p>
<p>Book Savings Club</p> <p>The PTA organise the Book Savings Club in the school once a month – on the Friday after the Children's Allowance, at 9.05am.</p>	<p>Bike Safety</p> <p>It is great to see so many children cycling to school, but please encourage the children to wear a helmet when cycling.</p>	<p>Keep up to date</p> <p>You can keep up to date with the various activities in the school through our website: www.prosperousns.ie or facebook: 'Scoil an Linbh Íosa'</p>

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We are delighted to offer a range of activities to the children of Prosperous. Some are free and some entail a fee. Due to **Health and Safety** issues all children taking part in After School Activities must have **24 Hour School Insurance**. Forms are available from the Admin Office. The closing date for receipt of the Insurance forms is **Friday September 20th**. If you have any difficulty with this please contact the school.

Term 1

Day	Activity	Location	Time	Class
Monday	*Art	Room 18	3pm – 4:20pm	1 st – 3 rd
	*Art & Cooking	Room 15	3pm – 4:20pm	4 th – 6 th
	U11 Football	GAA Pitch	3.15pm – 4.15pm	5 th & 6 th Boys
	*Zumba Kids	Central Activities Area	3pm – 3.45pm	Infants – 2nd
Tuesday	*Keyboard	SEN Room	2pm – 3pm	Jnr & Snr Infants
	*Keyboard	SEN Room	3pm – 4pm	1 st to 6 th
Wednesday	Choir	Room 3	3pm – 3:45pm	3 rd – 5 th
	Book Club	Room 19	3pm – 3.30pm	3 rd – 6 th
	*Playball	Hall	2pm – 3pm	Jnr & Snr Infants
	*Playball	Hall	3pm – 4pm	1 st & 2 nd
	*Coding	Room 17	3pm-4pm	4 th – 6 th
Thursday	Basketball	Hall	3pm – 4pm	5 th & 6 th Boys & Girls
	*Chess Club	Room 19	3pm – 4pm	3 rd – 4 th

**Charges do apply to these activities*

Swimming 2019 / 2020

Group	Class	Dates
1 Thursday	Ms Fletcher 2 nd Ms Lowe 3 rd	5th, 12th 19th 26th Sept, 3rd & 10th Oct.
2 Thursday	Ms Harney 3 rd /4 th Ms McDermott 2 nd	17th & 24 th Oct 7th ,14th, 21st, 28th Nov
3 Thursday	Ms Shanley 1 st / 2 nd Ms Barrett 3 rd	9th , 16th 23rd 30th Jan, 6 th & 13th Feb
4 Thursday	Mr O Sullivan 1 st Mr Stone 4 th	27th Feb 5th,12th,19th 26th March 2nd April
5 Thursday	Ms Keogh 1 st Ms Dunne 4 th	24th April 1 st , 8th 15th 22nd & 29th May

The PTA

The PTA meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 8.15pm in the staff room. New parents are always welcome, you do not need to attend every meeting. We would love to see some new faces bringing some fresh ideas as to how we can develop our school. We have lost some stalwarts this summer and very few new parents have come forward to replace them. So we are appealing to you to come and help us out. The PTA does amazing work to support the school and enhance the educational opportunities of all the children.

AGM of the PTA

The PTA will hold our AGM in the school on Wednesday September 25th. You are invited to join us for a cuppa at 7.45pm, followed by the meeting at 8pm.

The existing Board of Management of the school will step down at the end of November. The election of the parent nominees (a mother and a father) to the new Board, will be held during this meeting. We would like to thank Catherine Kennedy and Marc Hand for their generous service to the school through the Board in recent years. We very much appreciate you giving of your time for the benefit of the children of Prosperous.

So if you are interested in getting to know more about the workings of the school and supporting the education of your child in a very real way, please put yourself forward at the AGM.

We look forward to seeing you on the 25th.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019-2020

School Closures	
Monday October 28 th to Friday November 1 st <i>*School closes at 3pm on Friday October 25th</i> <i>*School re-opens on Monday November 4th</i>	Halloween Mid Term Break
Monday December 23 rd to Friday January 3 rd <i>*School closes at 12 noon on Friday December 20th</i> <i>**School re-opens on Tuesday January 7th</i>	Christmas Holidays **Please note change to start of the new term
Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st of February <i>* School re-opens on Monday February 24th</i>	Spring Mid Term
Monday March 16 th and Tuesday March 17 th	St Patrick's Day Bank Holiday
Monday April 6 th to Friday April 17 th <i>*School closes at 12 noon on Friday April 3rd</i> <i>*School re-opens on Monday April 20th</i>	Easter Holidays
Monday May 4 th and Tuesday May 5 th	May Bank Holiday
Saturday May 16 th	First Holy Communion
Monday June 1 st and Tuesday June 2 nd	June Bank Holiday
Tuesday June 30 th <i>*School closes at 12 noon</i>	Last Day of Term

Further closures may become necessary.