



# ST. LAURENCE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

Phone 045 879119

**DECEMBER 2016**

Dear Parents,

Thursday December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Plays	Junior/Senior Infants
Friday December 16 <sup>th</sup>	Rag Day	St. Vincent de Paul
Thursday December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Holidays	Early close 12 noon*
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens	Normal school day

\*As usual to avoid congestion, Junior/Senior Infants will leave 15 minutes earlier than all other pupils. Older siblings are expected to wait until the 12 o'clock dismissal time.

**Rag Day** Our annual Rag Day in aid of the local St. Vincent de Paul takes place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Children do not have to wear their uniforms on the day and a suggested donation of €2 would be welcome. As usual participation is voluntary.

**Christmas Plays** This year our Junior Infants and Senior Infants will perform their Christmas Plays on *Thursday December 15th*. The timetable for the day is as follows:-

TIME	ROOM	TEACHER
9:45	Room 1	Ms Amond
10:15	Room 2	Ms Byrne
10:45	Room 3	Ms Cosgrave
11:15	Room 4	Ms Cormican
11.45	Room 5	Mrs Moreau
12.15	Room 6	Mrs Hennessy

After each play, parents of that class may bring their Junior/Senior Infants home. As it is a normal school day for all other classes we ask that you do not collect older brothers and sisters. School for these pupils will finish at 3.00 pm. As parking is very limited, parents may park at the Community Centre and walk to the school.

**Junior Infant Enrolment for the school year 2017/18** A reminder that application forms for Junior Infant classes for the school year 2017/18 are now available at the school. They must be returned to the school on or before Tuesday, January 31st 2017.

**School Flag** We now have our own flag flying outside the school. It is green and white with the school crest at its centre. We hope it will instill a sense of pride in our school community.

## Sports:

**Girls Basketball** After a very successful start to our league campaign, the girls basketball team continued their winning ways over Presentation Girls, Maynooth and Clane N.S. They then had a draw against Scoil Bhríde, Clane which sees them through to the semi-finals which will be played in January. Well done to all girls involved on such fantastic performances in all games. We wish the team continued success in the New Year.

**Boys Basketball** The boys basketball team have had a relatively quiet campaign, so to speak, as they have had two walk overs in the league. The boys secured a draw match against Caragh National School, in what was to be the last of their league games. This was a tough fought game and the boys played superbly! The boys have gone unbeaten in their league and we are awaiting confirmation for a spot in the semi-finals in January. Well done boys and to everyone involved.

**Debating** The school debating team had their second debate of the year on Thursday, 8th December. They proposed the motion that climate change can't be stopped against Halverstown National School. Both teams debated very persuasively and had well-prepared arguments. However, in the end, the motion was defeated and Halverstown were declared winners. Well done to all members of the team - Orla, Bernard, Ailbhe, Sophie, Conor and Gillian and we hope to see them debating again in the near future.

**Mini-Scientist** On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December two of our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils, Isabella and Sophie took part in the Intel Mini-Scientist Regional Finals. They were held at the Intel site in Leixlip, Co. Kildare. There were lots of other schools there too. The girls had three separate visits from the judges. They did great work explaining their work and demonstrating how everything worked. There was a fantastic science show during lunchtime which was all about physics. Nine projects were picked to go forward to the Grand Final on 3<sup>rd</sup> February in the Helix at DCU. Well done Sophie and Isabella. You did a fantastic job and we are all very proud of you.

**Christmas presents and cards.** A reminder that as Christmas is an expensive time for parents, staff do not expect presents. I would also like to remind you that pupils wishing to exchange cards and presents should do so outside of school hours. This avoids hurting the feelings of children who are not included.

**And, finally.....**

May I take this opportunity to wish all our parents and children a Very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely,

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Noel Lanigan  
Principal.



