



St. Fiacc's N.S.  
Fírinne le Misneach

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*For Child Safeguarding: The DLP is Mr Brennan and the DDLP is Mr Bolton*

**November 2023**

**Dates for your Diary**

**Nov 13th - 17th:** Science Week

**December 5th:** Swimming starts for Miss Ivory's class (5th);

**ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN - OUR 20 DAY CHALLENGE**

There are 20 school days from November 6th to December 1st. We are promoting good attendance for these 20 days, encouraging pupils to come to school every day for the 20 days. Unless a child is sick, we expect to see them in school. This drive is part of our DEIS plan to promote attendance. This campaign began with an Art competition. If you would like additional advice/support in getting your child to school please contact our attendance coordinator [missgiblin@stfiaccs.com](mailto:missgiblin@stfiaccs.com) or our HSCL [misspayne@stfiaccs.com](mailto:misspayne@stfiaccs.com) 0899487646. Our rate of attendance last November was 89.4%. This year we have seen year on year improvement in attendance with our average rate at 92.5, a jump of 4% on last year. Keep up the excellent attendance everybody.

**Attendance**

Attendance Rate September: 92.8% (a 2.6% improvement).

Attendance Rate October: 92% (a 2.9% improvement).

**Parents elected to the new Board of Management**

Congratulations to parents Miss Lilianna Cachia and Mr Joseph Fitzpatrick who have been elected to the new Board of Management which commences its 4 year term from December 1st 2023.

**Family Contribution Reminder**

To allow us to continue to ensure that your children enjoy the best of facilities we request a small voluntary contribution from each family. So we are asking every family to contribute €5 on the first Wednesday of every month beginning November 8th. This payment can also be made through Aladdin Connect.

**Shoebox Appeal**

Once again, St. Fiaccs NS took part in the Team Hope Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. Each child received a leaflet which includes a list of the acceptable items. Shoe boxes plus €4 were returned to the school before mid term break. This has been a very successful project in our school over the last number of years. We thank you for taking part and encourage any outstanding boxes to be returned by November 12th..

**School Calendar**

We are presently compiling our photos and ads for our School Calendar. It will cost 10 euro and will be payable through our Aladdin Connect app or alternatively through the office. Parents are advised to pay in advance through Aladdin Connect as we ran out of copies last year.

**Folens Christmas Annual**

We will be issuing order forms for Folens Christmas annuals shortly. Simply complete the order form your child will bring home and return to the class teacher, if interested.

**Hallowe'en**





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Thank you to all parents who contributed to our Hallowe'en fundraiser. We managed to raise just over €1,850 for Breast Cancer Ireland thanks to your generous donations.

### **Religious Education**

At assembly we have been celebrating October, the month of the Rosary. November is a time when we remember our deceased relatives and friends.

### **GREEN SCHOOLS UPDATE**

Mr. O'Flaherty's Sixth Class have enrolled in a five week course in biodiverse gardening offered by Wexford Education Centre in collaboration with Johnstown Castle, Wexford. 'We want to learn more about nature-friendly gardening and promoting biodiversity in our community' says Mr. O'Flaherty. The Green Schools representatives from 3rd-6th classes are also taking part.

This week students learned about Irish native wildflowers, How to make, store and sew 'Seed Bombs' and have begun work on a new biodiverse garden on our school grounds.

The class have completed phase 1 of their project: completing a survey of the school grounds and have identified a suitable site for the new garden. 'The next phase of the project is to design and build some raised beds and a composting zone.' *Jack Shiels, 6th Class*

Sixth Class will keep us up to date with developments as their project progresses.



### **Incidental Inspection**

On Monday October 23rd St Fiacc's was inspected on its provision of English as an additional language (EAL). The Department Inspector was complimentary on how we organise the teaching of English to pupils for whom English is not their first language.

### **Hot Meals**

Please note that there is a new Hot meals menu that can be accessed/updated through the Fresh Today app