



St. Naul's N.S.

Keelogs, Inver, Co. Donegal

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INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

January 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Now that we are all settled back after Christmas, I would like to update you on upcoming events and news here at St. Naul's, which include some additional school closures you may like to note.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 4th February:	Credit Union Quiz
Sunday 10th February:	Service of Light, Ardaghay Chapel 7.00pm.
Sunday 17th February:	Confirmation Day
Monday 18th-Friday 22nd February:	Mid Term Break
Friday 15th March:	<u>School Closed</u> for In Service Staff Training
Monday 18th March:	<u>School Closed</u> (bank holiday for St. Patrick's Day)
Monday 15th-26th April:	Easter Holidays
Saturday 18th May:	First Holy Communion Day
Friday 31st May:	<u>School Closed</u> for Planning Day for new curriculum

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY:

It seems like such a long time ago! But firstly, thank you to everyone who attended our Nativity Plays before Christmas. I would like to thank all the staff and pupils of the school for all their hard work and must say a particular thank you to Mrs Gavigan and Mrs McDaid for all their work with the children.

Thank you also to our Parents Association, who organised the Christmas Raffle for some lovely prizes, and for their help in bringing Santa to the school on the last day before Christmas with a gift for everyone.

SCHOOL CLOSURES:

As you will see from the list of dates above, we will be closing the school for two days, on 15th March and 31st May. These closures are to facilitate staff training.

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

Unfortunately, the school website suffered a server crash before Christmas and a lot of the information on it was lost. We are slowly rebuilding the website and adding documents back to it. If there is anything in particular that you require information on, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

ENROLMENT:

We would ask that any parent wishing to enrol their child at St. Naul's N.S. in September 2019 contact the school on 074 97 36416 for an enrolment form. Should any children have special educational needs, applications for resources must be sent in before 9th March.

SCHOOL ABSENCES:

All pupils' absences must be explained in writing. The school diaries (1st-6th Classes) have appropriate slips for this purpose. The reason for absence must be clearly stated as this enables the school to make the correct reports to TUSLA when a pupil has been absent for 20 days or more.

HEALTHY EATING:

We would ask parents and guardians to support our Healthy Eating policy and ensure that their child has a nutritious lunch each day. Children may bring one small treat to school on **Fridays only**. Please see our school website for our Healthy Eating policy.

ACTIVE SCHOOLS PROJECT:

We are currently in the process of making a renewal application for our Active School Status. The Active School Flag (ASF) is awarded to schools that strive to achieve a physically educated and physically active school community. The process aims to get more schools, more active, more often.

Schools wishing to achieve the ASF begin the process by self-evaluating their current provision across 3 areas: Physical Education, Physical Activity and Partnerships. Schools must also organise an Active School Week programme and commit to having it as part of their annual school calendar. Schools that can say ‘yes’ to all of the ASF success criteria will be awarded with the active flag. The flag remains valid for a period of 3 years after which time schools will be invited to re-apply.

SPORTS:

Over the coming weeks the children will be taking part in various sports activities and events. They will all take part in gaelic football training with Donie McCole for a period of six weeks; and two golf training sessions with Leslie Robinson from Murvagh Golf Club. The school teams will be competing in an indoor gaelic football competition, as well as athletics competitions and an FAI 5-a-side soccer competition.

GREEN SCHOOL PROJECT:

We are currently working on our project for the 5th Green Flag for the school – this time on Biodiversity. We will be working on this project for this and the next school year and hope to be awarded our next flag in May 2020. In the meantime, we are also continuing the work on our previous four green school projects.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

I would like to ask for parents’ co-operation to ensure that all children wear the correct school uniform at all stages of the school year. As the year is progressing I notice that some of the children are not wearing the correct school uniform. It is in the interests of all the pupils that everyone is wearing the same uniform and I would ask for the co-operation of parents on this matter. If for any reason you are unable to obtain the correct tracksuit, please contact me directly. Please do not send your child to school in a tracksuit with a logo/stripes/crest on it, or in jeans or leggings, as other children will ask to wear similar items. If there is a particular reason why your child cannot wear the correct uniform, please contact the school.

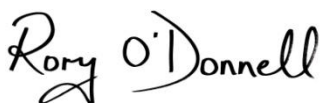
CONTACT NUMBERS:

Please remember to inform the school if you have changed your mobile number/emergency contact numbers. These are our first point of contact with you should your child become ill and it is therefore extremely important that we are able to reach you.

HEAD LICE:

I would ask all parents to regularly check their child/children’s hair for head lice as this problem can occur at all stages of a school year. It is in the interests of the whole school community that we tackle the problem of head lice together to ensure that this does not become a problem at school.

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Rory O'Donnell

January 2019