



ST. LAURENCE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL  
SALLINS

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## Newsletter – November/December 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

### DIARY DATES:

<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Rag Day	St. Vincent de Paul
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Junior & Senior Infant Christmas Plays	Room 1 – 09:45 am Room 2 – 10:15 am Room 3 – 10:45 am Room 4 – 11.15 am Room 5 – 11:45 am Room 6 – 12:15 pm
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	School closes early for PLC staff inservice: <b>12:00</b> – Junior & Senior Infants <b>12:15</b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> classes	
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Early Close as follows: <b>12:00</b> – Junior & Senior Infants <b>12:15</b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> classes	Start of Christmas Holidays
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>		Return to school

**HALLOWE'EN WALK:** On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October we held our annual Hallowe'en walk. Pupils and staff dressed up for the day and we had many, many wonderful, weird and inventive costumes. Thank you to all in our school community for entering into the spirit of the occasion! The Hallowe'en Walk is our Parents Council main fundraising event of the year. This year it raised a fantastic amount of €10,831.67! Thank you for supporting this event so well.

**RAG DAY:** We will hold a Rag Day for our local St. Vincent de Paul Society. This will take place on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December**. Pupils may wear their own clothes on the day and we suggest a donation of €2.50 which can be made through our contactless payment. We ask that pupils do not bring in any cash on the day.

**TEACHER SUPPLY:** You may have heard in the news that teacher supply is a very real and serious issue for schools at the moment. We are no exception in this regard. We are currently trying to support all of our pupils as best we can and employ substitutes who are available in the event that a staff member is absent.

**INFANTS CHRISTMAS PLAYS:** We are delighted to inform you that our infants Christmas plays are back this year! We know that you will be charmed when you see your child on the stage. These plays really signify that Christmas is only around the corner.

**JUNIOR INFANT ENROLMENT:** Enrolment forms for our three Junior Infant classes for the 2023-2024 school year will be available on our school website at [www.sallinsns.ie](http://www.sallinsns.ie) or alternatively from our school office from **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. They must be returned to the school by **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. The school's Admission Policy is available on the school website.

**PARENTS COUNCIL CLOTHES COLLECTION:** The Parents Council will be organising a fundraising clothing collection on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December. The school will get 40c for each kilo of clothes, shoes, belts and soft toys collected and in addition to this Laura Lynn will get an additional donation of 10% of what we collect. All items can be dropped to Sallins Community Center in any type of bag during the following times:

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	<b>9am - 9.45am and 1.45pm &amp; 3.15pm</b>
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	<b>9am - 11am</b>

**ANTI-BULLYING WEEK:** Anti-Bullying Week was on 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. The Student Council met and discussed what Bullying and Anti-Bullying means to them as the student representatives. They defined bullying and what steps to take if you are being bullied or if you see someone who is being bullied. They discussed the importance of telling an adult if you witness something or if you are affected by bullying. From this focus group the Student Council made some important statements that they then shared with the rest of the school through daily intercom announcements. They also reminded everyone to be kind to each other and to keep an eye out for anyone that is being excluded or treated unfairly. Talks have begun with our senior classes to hear the pupils' voices and create an awareness of anti-bullying to prevent bullying in our school and to promote inclusion, equality, diversity and kindness.

**PUPIL ILLNESS:** Please keep your child at home if she/he is unwell. This will help to reduce possible transmission of various illnesses.

**TRAFFIC/ROAD SAFETY:** Please remind your child to cross any road safely using traffic lights or a traffic warden where possible. Recently there was a near incident where a child crossed the road without going to the traffic warden, causing a motorist to press the brakes very quickly in order to avoid hitting the child crossing the road. Please drive slowly and carefully in the vicinity of the school. Where possible, please arrange with your child a suitable place to meet to help lessen congestion at the school.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND PRESENTS:** 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.

Yours sincerely,

Íde Kelly  
Principal

