

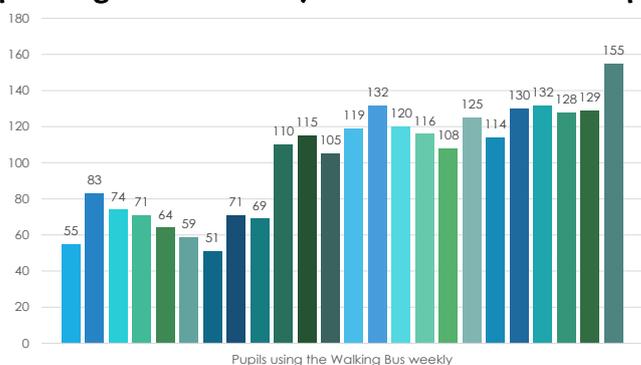
# St Laurence's NS Parents' Association NEWSLETTER

**EASTER 2025 edition**

Our Walking Bus initiative, which started in May 2024, has been a great success. Every Friday morning our dedicated volunteers guide the children from the church car-park to the school yard, through the playground and astro pitch. We reduce traffic congestion and contribute to our active school and green flag awards, as an environmentally conscious school community.

Fantastic work by Gavin Brangan and Blathnaid Redmond for supervising and keeping this project going strong.

We hope to continue to grow and expand: as you can see in the graph below, the numbers back us up, so please get in touch if you would like to be a part of it.



Thank you to  
Martin Joyce  
at Alltype Ltd  
for donating  
the volunteers'  
Hi-Vis Jackets

<https://www.alltype.ie/>



A huge Thank You to everyone who purchased our 1<sup>st</sup> St Laurence's School Calendar 2025, with beautiful images of the school, of our fantastic sensory garden and from our first Colour Parade, which will be coming back in June 2025.

This fundraising was a great success, and it helped us raise €1,185.

Thank you to Jackie Travers for all her hard work and patience designing the calendar and to Alltype Ltd, A7 Clane Business Park, for printing it.

You can contact Alltype for all your printing needs at [manager@alltype.ie](mailto:manager@alltype.ie)

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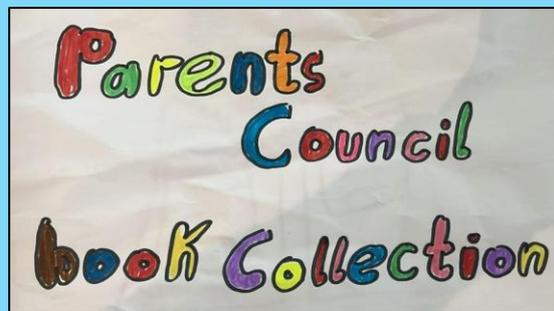
We were very grateful to all the families who donated pre-loved books for our first 'ONCE-LOVED BOOKS' table at the annual Book Fair.

The books were in excellent condition and both children and parents bagged many bargains.

This was a fantastic idea as part of our school sustainability pillar and gave all children the chance to buy wonderful books at nominal prices.

A special mention to Deirdre Flanagan, who led this programme from collecting the books, to sorting them, to advertising them, to selling them, with help from her children and TY students.

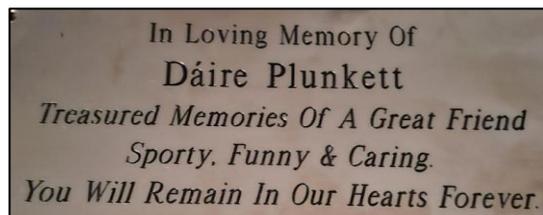
Through the sales from the Book Fair, held between 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February, we raised €150 per each class to refresh their class libraries and €450 from the 'ONCE-LOVED BOOKS' desk, that will be used towards a future project ...



**WATCH THIS SPACE !**



'Dáire's Friendship Bench' was unveiled on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January during a heartfelt ceremony, led by our principal, Ms Kelly.



Dáire Plunkett was a student of St Laurence's NS, who sadly passed away in May 2024.

The bench can be used by all students seeking calm, reflection, or connection with their peers, supporting the school's wellbeing policy.

Dáire's family has launched a campaign to increase the number of platelet donors on the Irish register.

A donation will not cost anything, but time, yet it can save lives.

For more information on the campaign, to check eligibility criteria and to donate please check the posters, the website and phone numbers provided.

(Shared with permission by the Plunkett family)

**DONATE FOR DAIRE** ❤️

**DÁIRE PLUNKETT WAS AN 11 YEAR OLD**  
KIND, FUNNY, SPORTS-MAD BOY.

HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH LEUKAEMIA IN SEPTEMBER 2023 AND SADLY PASSED AWAY IN MAY 2024.

DURING HIS TREATMENT HE HAD 4 ROUNDS OF CHEMOTHERAPY AND A BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT. HE ALSO RECEIVED OVER **30 PLATELET TRANSFUSIONS**.

DÁIRE'S FAMILY HAS NOW LAUNCHED THE **DONATE FOR DAIRE CAMPAIGN** WITH THE AIM OF INCREASING NUMBERS OF DONORS ON THE PLATELET REGISTER IN IRELAND.

TO LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP FOR AN ASSESSMENT PLEASE CONTACT

**IRISH BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE**

**DUBLIN - 01 4322833**  
**CORK - 021 4807429**

[HTTPS://WWW.GIVEBLOOD.IE/PLATELETS](https://www.giveblood.ie/platelets)

**GIVE PLATELETS**

**DONATE PLATELETS, SAVE LIVES!**

**SALLINS GAA ARE PROMOTING A PLATELET DONATION DRIVE**  
IN HONOUR OF ONE OF OUR YOUNG PLAYERS,  
**DÁIRE PLUNKETT,**  
WHO SADLY PASSED AWAY IN 2024

- A DONATION WILL NOT COST YOU ANYTHING BUT TIME
- THERE ARE ONLY 2200 DONORS IN THE COUNTRY, MORE ARE NEEDED
- PLATELETS ARE NEEDED EVERY DAY FOR PATIENTS WITH CANCER, LEUKAEMIA, PREMATURE BABIES, MAJOR SURGERY, BURNS VICTIMS AND NEWBORNS
- PLATELETS HAVE A SHORT SHELF LIFE OF 7 DAYS SO A CONSTANT SUPPLY IS NEEDED
- ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AVAILABLE ON IBTS WEBSITE

**DONATE FOR DAIRE** ❤️ **DONATEFORDAIRE** ❤️ **ON INSTAGRAM**

**CONTACT IBTS TO CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY**

**DUBLIN - 01 4322833**  
**CORK - 021 4807429**

[HTTPS://WWW.GIVEBLOOD.IE/PLATELETS](https://www.giveblood.ie/platelets)

## Parents Council's SPENDING since January 2025

Gymnastics Lessons	€3,600
New Gymnastics Mats	€3,590
Cycling Lessons for 5 <sup>th</sup> classes	€1,275
Dáire Plunkett's friendship bench and plaque	€564
Consultant to review our sensory equipment	€50

**TOTAL** €9,079

Your contributions, volunteering and fundraising

**GO A LONG WAY**



The Parent's Council has applied to the Tesco Community Fund to receive up to €2,000 as a donation.

We still have a few weeks to go, so please help our school achieve this target, go to TescoExtra in Monread, and pop a few tokens into the plastic tube for St. Laurences's NS.

For further details please check <https://tescoireland.ie/sustainability/places/community-fund/>



## Ceolchoirm 14ú Márta 2025

The students enjoyed a great Rag Day, sporting green, ahead of the St Patrick's Bank Holiday weekend.

Thanks to everyone's generous contributions we brought in **€1,400** to be used for future projects



Don't miss the next issue where we will talk about new grants, sensory refurbishment, School Party/Disco, ice-creams, Holy Communion, garden upgrade, the outdoor communal space and more ...

Do you want to be part of the fun?  
Why not join the community as a parent volunteer.

- Any time, expertise, ideas, skills, interests or lending hand you can give, is welcome and will enrich us all.
- If you own a business or work for a company, which can help the school, please let us know.
- If you have an item for the Newsletter, reach out.

E-mail us at [parents.council@sallinsns.ie](mailto:parents.council@sallinsns.ie)

Join the WhatsApp community using this QR Code or the link below:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/F9xJZOgYxQb4h38fnycuxX>



### #1 OUR STUDENTS BENEFIT

Help your child perform better academically by being an active participant and role model in the community that helps raise your child!

### #2 OUR SCHOOL BENEFITS

Help create a positive, caring, and engaging community by supporting the teachers and administration!

### #3 CREATE CONNECTIONS

Develop powerful relationships with teachers and staff while making life-long friends with other parents!

### #4 YOU BENEFIT

Volunteering your time, talents, and energy while socializing with other parents is fun, healthy, and rewarding!