



Newsletter 30th August 2023

I hope everyone had a lovely Summer and I wish you a warm welcome back to school. I especially welcome our new students Kearney, Rian, Aaron, Aiden, Alistair, Autumn, Samara, Eilis, Hannah, Jakub, Juniper, Luke, Matilda, Pippa, Samuel, Sadhbh, Jude.

We wish our 6th class past pupils the best of luck in their new adventure in secondary school.

We are all very excited to be back and are looking forward to a wonderful year.

1)Staff Overview

- **Classroom Teachers**

- Mrs Doyle : Junior & Senior Infants/Principal
- Ms McGettigan: 1st Class (located in the upstairs classroom – the same as 2nd class last year)
- Ms Farrar: 2nd Class (located in the downstairs classroom- the same as 1st class last year)
- Ms Horan O'Neill: 3rd & 4th
- Mrs Spencer: 5th & 6th /Deputy Principal
- Ms Sherlock (The Hub Class Teacher) (Assistant Principal II)

Ms McGettigan is covering for Ms McLoughlin who is on maternity leave for the full academic year. Ms McGettigan will be starting with us on the 5th September. Before she starts with us, Mrs Railton and Ms Farrar will be teaching 1st class.

- **Special Education Teachers**

- Mrs Railton (SET Teacher J1-2nd classes)
- Mrs Byrne & Mrs Ryan (Job Sharing) (SET Teacher 3rd-6th Classes)

- **SNA**

- The Hub: Sarah Collier, Lynda Woolmington
- Mainstream: Claudia Byrne

- **Classroom Assistant**

- Christina Gallagher

- **Secretary**

- Anne Marie Grant (Mon – Fri)

Mrs Binions will be providing EAL (English as an additional language) school support.

Mrs Short will be substitute teaching in various classrooms.

2)School Vision 2023/2024

Our school vision is "Grow, Connect & Belong" and this year our sub-vision is "Curiosity & Creativity"



Each child is cherished and nurtured so they can grow, connect and belong in St. Saviour's NS in an atmosphere of curiosity and creativity. This is just a snap shot of some of the activities planned for the year:

- Curiosity
 - Science Week (Nov): Our focus will be investigating how science has improved our lives and exploring opportunities of new inventions
 - Maths Week (Oct): With the new Primary Maths Curriculum, there is an emphasis on “living maths” and providing opportunities for maths to be visible in our every-day lives. During our Maths week as we do every year we will be creating opportunities for the children to put their maths into use for every-day activities.
 - Continued emphasis on access to different sports – GAA-football & hurling, Rugby, Tennis, Swimming (Starting Tues 19th Sept : 3rd-6th classes) and lots more opportunities during the year.
- Creativity
 - Art: Exploring new opportunities for art within our school. In the first week back, the 5th & 6th classes will be creating art pieces to mount on the frame at the side of the school.
 - Music: Hopefully we will be taking part in Peace Proms – we are waiting to hear confirmation. Continue with Chiara for our music classes and orchestra (more information will be communicated on these when they recommence)
 - Drama: Christmas School Performance /Opportunities to visit a local drama production
 - Well Being & Resilience – continue with our well-being focus, trips and shaping resilience throughout the school. Our Term 1 school well-being trips will be to Kilmacurragh / 5th & 6th classes will be completing some of the Wicklow Way.
 - Ongoing commitment to maintaining and growing our Literacy & Numeracy
 - Embarking on our “Yes to Languages” programme – 3rd-6th classes will be learning French in the first term (25th Sept-8th Dec)
 - School Self Evaluation: Year 2: Focusing on Gaeilge, History & SPHE.

3)Morning/Evening Routine

- Car Park
 - The car park can be busy both in the morning and evening.
 - Please keep younger children with you until the corner of the school building and they can safely walk towards the front door.
 - If older children are walking in by themselves, please ask them to walk by the wall and use the zebra crossing.
 - Please be careful driving in and out of the drive and be aware of traffic coming down the road on your right.
 - Last year we started a “walking bus” where a teacher walks with a group of children to the Memorial Park to a collection point. This avoids parents/minders having to come down to school. If you would like to be part of the walking bus – please email



the office (office@stsavioursns.com) so we can compile a list of who is on the walking bus for each day.

- Morning:
 - Children can come into their classrooms from 9a.m./ The bell goes at 9.10a.m.
 - If your child is late it will be noted on the roll. If your child is late on a continuous basis a meeting will be arranged to discuss.
 - A member of staff will be at the front door to welcome everyone to school and ask you to sanitise your hands.
 - On our first day in school, parents are permitted to bring their child to their classroom and settle them in. After the first day, in the interest of fostering independence, it is important the children are allowed to be independent and come into school themselves. Junior Infant parents can still come into the classroom, if required, but we would plan that junior infant children are coming into school independently by week 2 of school. If there is ever any issue/problem that a parent would like to highlight, they can share with the welcoming teacher on the front door or arrange to speak with the class teacher.
- Evening
 - Junior Infants will go home at 12.30 until Wednesday 13th September. During this time Mrs Doyle will bring the children outside the front door and parents can meet us at the top of the steps.
 - Junior (from 14th) and Senior Infant children will depart school at 1.50p.m. They will be brought out the back door and line up at the gate in the small yard.
 - 1st-6th Classes will all leave at 2.50p.m. As everyone is coming out at the same time, we will have different places where children will assemble ready for collection.
 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th classes will come out the back door and line up along the school building wall in the small yard.
 - 5th & 6th classes will come out the front door and meet parents at the wall at the end of the school.
 - Children on the bus will assemble at the front of the school and a staff member will bring them safely down to the bus.
 - If your child leaves early it will be noted on the roll. If your child is leaving early on a continuous basis a meeting will be arranged to discuss.

4)Homework Club

- Senior Infant Homework Club (1.50-2.50)– Commence Monday 4th September. If you have an interest in being part of the club, please complete the form which will be sent home on our first day back in school. (This club runs Mon-Fri / 3 euro per day – you can choose which days you would like your child to be in the club)
- Junior Infant Homework Club (1.50-2.50) – Commence Thursday 14th September (This is the first day the infants will be starting for the full day) If you have an interest in being part of the club please complete the form which will be sent home, the week of the 11th September.



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(This club runs Mon-Fri / 3 euro per day – you can choose which days you would like your child to be in the club)

- **1st-6th Class Homework Clubs.** This club runs on a Tues & Thurs (2.50-4p.m.)/ You can decide which day/days suit your child to be in the club. This will commence on Tuesday 5th September. If you have an interest in being part of the club, please complete the form which will be sent home on our first day back in school.

5) Attendance

It is important to support your child's attendance and within reason ensure your child is attending school. (Obviously if they are sick it is important that you adhere to the medical guidelines and ensure your child is well before returning to school.) By missing one day it can result in your child missing vital instruction around a topic or project and can affect your child's confidence when they return to school.

It is important that if your child is going to be missing you call the school or See Saw/message your teacher. If we have an unexplained absence the school will be in contact with you for explanation for your child's absence.

If your child is missing for more than 3 days in a month we will be arranging a meeting to discuss. You will also receive half term updates on how many days your child has missed so you can keep track.

6) Healthy Eating:

- When returning to school it is important to adhere to our healthy eating policy. The policy is available on our web site. We advise milk/water to drink, snack (fruit, crackers) for small break and sandwich, roll, wrap for big break. On Friday we have a treat day which means one small treat for your child. If your child's birthday falls in a week and you would like to send in a birthday treat we ask you to hold this until Friday treat day. We will also have sausage days during the year which are held on a Friday and your child can purchase a sausage/hot dog for their lunch.
- This year we will have an emphasis on parents helping each other with healthy eating ideas by sharing ideas on our web site / newsletters/ parent groups.
- We are also investigating an option for a weekly hot meal in the Winter months – more information will be communicated on this.

7) Parent Actions:

- **See Saw :** Each teacher will be setting up their class SeeSaw accounts – you will be required to take action to activate it for your child.
- **Pupil Accident Insurance :** You will receive a Way2Pay text regarding payment for the pupil accident insurance. This provides 24hour accident insurance for your child.
- **Information forms.** Each child requires the completion of school information forms. These will be sent out in the next few days for return as soon as possible.
- **School Stationary:** If there are any outstanding costs relating to school stationary or book rental please settle these costs as soon as possible on Way2Pay.



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- **School Calendar** : http://stsavioursns.com/?page_id=257
- **Parent Support:**
 - We would love to invite parents into school to help with reading, art, etc.
 - We will send out an online form for parents to fill in and submit if you have any time to spare for reading with children/ art/ any other skills – we would love to have your help.

8)Activities Sept/Oct (Some dates could change)

- New School Year Church Service: Tuesday 5th September @ 9.30a.m. St Saviours Church
- GAA- Weekly: Wed 13th Sept. Junior & Senior Infants, 1st & 2nd / Thurs 14th Sept 3rd- 6th classes
- Rugby – Weekly ; Mon 11th Sept
- Swimming (3rd-6th classes) –6 weeks starting Tuesday 19th September (lesson is at 10 a.m. so the bus will be leaving at 9.15)
- Term 1 Well Being Trips (Kilmacurragh) / 5th & 6th classes – going to complete some of the Wicklow Way
- Music Class : Will commence Friday 8th Sept. More information will be sent out regarding Ukulele/ Orchestra
- Maths Week – 16th -20th Oct
- PA AGM : Wednesday 18th October @ 7.30p.m.
- Pajama & Crazy Hair Day – Friday 27th October
- 5th & 6th classes Trip to Christ Church : 9th November
- Science Week : Week 13th November
- Dates for Diary: Christmas Performance: 14th December/ Christmas Party: 21st December.
- Planning Christmas Class Trips (More Information to Follow)