



ST. PATRICK'S GIRLS NATIONAL SCHOOL
GARDINER'S HILL, CORK

www.stpatricksgirls.net

tel. (021) 4509246

email. office@stpatricksgirls.net

Table of Contents:

1. Letter from the Principal
2. Mission Statement
3. Our School Motto
4. School Day
5. Attendance
6. Uniform
7. Lunches
8. Homework
9. School Rules and Code of Behaviour
10. Parent/Teacher meetings

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please read this booklet with your child. The Board of Management, teachers and other staff members of our school acknowledge the very special role we share with you in the lives of your children as we encourage and support them in their growing years. We would like to express our appreciation of the excellent relationship which we have as partners in education.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

.....

Ms Yvonne Crosse

Acting Principal

Mission Statement

We in St. Patrick's Girls' National School, guided by the Department of Education and Skills and our Catholic ethos, work together to create a progressive learning community. Our school is a happy, active, safe environment where we include, encourage and respect each other. Together we provide an excellent academic education. Our learning makes us ambitious to develop our full potential as balanced and confident citizens.

Compiled by Children, Staff, Parents and the Board of Management of St. Patrick's Girls' National School.

Our School

St. Patrick's Girls' Primary School is a Catholic school which respects and welcomes children of other beliefs. We have a long and happy tradition in education. Our school recognizes the uniqueness of each pupil and encourages her full development intellectually, socially and morally. We strive for excellence in all areas of a child's development. This involves promoting courtesy and respect and self-discipline, honesty and trustworthiness, tolerance, loyalty and generosity in all the children. Enhancement of self-esteem is fostered through curricular and extra-curricular activities. The school acknowledges that parents are the primary educators as well as the primary disciplinarians of their children. We welcome positive and co-operative parent/guardian participation in the shared task of education.

Our School Motto

Dóchas 'is Grá

Our wish for each pupil is that her years in our school will be happy and joyful, filled with a sense of hope and love. As she leaves us for Secondary School, we hope that each girl will be endowed with a sense of self-worth along with a sense of spirituality to help her face the future with courage and self-confidence. Our aspiration is that she may never lose her sense of wonder and she will always have a feeling to the feelings of others.

School Day

The school day begins at 8.50 a.m. and finishes at 2.30 p.m. Parents/Guardians should ensure that children are punctual at all times. A note of explanation from Parent/Guardian should be sent to the Class Teacher if a pupil is late for school. Any pupil leaving the school during school hours must be signed out at the office by her Parent/Guardian. Children are asked to leave the school building promptly at 2.30 p.m. each day and are not allowed to re-enter the building. In the interest of safety, pupils are asked to enter and exit the building and grounds by the designated routes, paths and doorways.

Attendance

Your child learns best and is happiest when she attends school every day. If your child is absent:

- Let us know as soon as possible
- A note must be given to the class teacher on her return to school.
- Attendance is recorded on Alladin
- At present due to Covid safety guidelines a Return to School Form must be filled in after every absence

Uniform

Full uniform must be worn to school each day.

Brown pinafore 1st to 4th Class

Brown skirt 5th and 5th Class

Brown V-Neck Jumper

Cream Shirt

Brown and Yellow Striped Tie

Brown Trousers may be worn between Hallowe'en and Easter.

Black or brown low-heeled shoes.

The school tracksuit must be worn on activity days e.g. swimming, dancing, P.E.

School Tracksuit and School Polo Shirt.

Runners must be worn on P.E. days and black struts must be worn for Irish dancing.

Uniform and Tracksuit available at Buckley's Drapery, Shandon

Street. 021 4304426

The only items of jewellery allowed are a watch and one pair of stud earrings. Long hair must be tied back.

Please ensure that all items of uniform, including coats and anoraks are clearly marked.

Lunches

As a health promoting school, we offer our pupils a healthy lunch of rolls, sandwiches, fruit, milk and water. Chewing gum is strictly forbidden. Children are given plenty of time in the classroom to eat their lunches. They are not allowed to bring food or drinks out to the yard. We ask that all girls bring their lunch waste home each day.

Homework

Homework is an important part of pupil learning.

- It helps to practice and revise work done in school.
- It helps parents/guardians to support their child's learning.
- It helps teachers to assess understanding of the work given.

All homework should be completed with care. The homework journal is an important link between home and school. Parents/Guardians are requested to sign the child's homework journal each evening, having checked that the work has been completed. If homework is not done, a note of explanation should be written by the parent/guardian in the homework journal.

It is school policy that children do not have homework at weekends.

There is an After Schools Club operating in the school for pupils in 4th to 6th Class. Places are limited and a waiting list may apply. Applications for the After Schools Club will be handed out in September of every year.

Other After School Activities such as Art classes, Club an Ghaeilge and Sports are available to everyone and take place throughout the year.

School Rules

The aim of our School Rules is to ensure that children are educated in a pleasant, positive, work centred environment free from disruptions.

Behaviour

Children are happiest and learn best in a safe ordered and friendly school setting. This happens when children help, respect and co-operate with each other and with teachers and other members of staff. The school places greater emphasis on rewards rather than on sanctions in the belief that this policy will, in the long run, give the best results. There is a general weekly reward system in operation in the school, which celebrates pupils' efforts and achievements.

In addition, class reward systems include:

- Praise
- Special privileges/duties
- Stickers and stars
- Notes and letters home
- Trips, outings and walks
- Golden time
- In-class prizes

Parents are responsible for the behaviour of their children. Each teacher and individual pupils have responsibility for maintaining good discipline within the classroom, while sharing a common responsibility for good order within the school. The overall responsibility for discipline within the school rests with the Principal.

Code of Behaviour

- Pupils must display good manners and courtesy to each other, to teachers, other school staff and to all visitors to the school at all times.
- All types of rude behaviour, including the use of abusive language, is strictly forbidden.

- Children must respect their own property, school property and the property of others. Children are encouraged to keep the school/school ground free of litter.
- In the interests of safety, pupils must walk in single file on the right hand side on the stairs and on the corridors.

Classroom Rules

Children may not leave their classroom without permission from their teacher.

Pupils must remain seated in their classroom until classes start and when the teacher is out of the room.

In addition, each teacher, together with the pupils will draw up a code of classroom behaviour.

Mobile Phones

This school does not allow pupils to bring mobile phones or other internet enabled devices to school.

Yard

We have designed our yard to be a child friendly, activity backed play area. Physical exercise is vital for children and all pupils must go to the yard during breaks,

Bullying

Our school has a practical approach to the elimination of bullying. Bullying is a serious offence and will not be tolerated.

There is an anti-bullying policy in the school, which can be downloaded from the school website www.stpatricksgirls.net.

Parents/Guardians and children should report all incidents of bullying which will be noted and investigated. All incidents will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Parent/ Teacher Appointments

In non- Covid times the school welcomes Parents/Guardians at all times. To avoid class disruption, parents who wish to see the Class teacher or Principal should do so by prior appointment, except in cases of emergency.

At present, due to Covid restrictions we ask parents to communicate with the class teacher by arranging a phone call through the office or by writing a note in the homework journal.

Normally meetings are held with the new class and their parents and teacher in September. We will follow Covid- Safety guidelines in regard to this in September.

Parking in School Grounds

Following a directive from our insurance Company and to ensure the safety of the children, we would remind parents that parking in the school grounds is reserved for Staff only.