

RATHFARNHAM



EDUCATE TOGETHER  
NATIONAL SCHOOL

# Weekly Update

## 14th May 2021

### **This week in RETNS**

#### **Dennis retires**

I know that everybody will be very sorry to learn that our caretaker, Dennis, will retire on 30 June this year. Dennis is such a highly-valued member of our school community and has such a great relationship with children, staff and parents / guardians that it is difficult to imagine RETNS without him. While we will miss him very much, we wish him all the best for his well-earned retirement and look forward to marking the occasion at the end of June.



#### **Recruitment of Caretaker**

Please see advertisement below and share with anyone you think might be interested.

#### **New Parents Meeting Junior Infants 2021/2022**

A meeting for parents and guardians of new Junior Infants took place this morning. Thank you to Rose, Elle and Maeve Sweeney from 4th class for their tour of the school which can be seen on the school website. [New Parents Meeting](#)

#### **STEAM Art Collaboration Virtual Schools Exhibition**

5th and 6th classes are taking part in the STEAM Art Collaboration Virtual Schools Exhibition hosted by Science Foundation Ireland. The children will be meeting artists, including David Beattie, a parent in RETNS who have made pieces of work based on science. The children will join in an art workshop and have an opportunity to ask questions to the artists.

#### **Drumcondra Spelling Test**

The Drumcondra Spelling Test took place this week for classes from 1st – 6th. Reading and maths tests will follow in the next fortnight so it is important for children to attend school every day unless they are in any way unwell.

#### **6th Class Graduation**

6th Class Graduation will take place this year on Monday, 28 June. Unfortunately, due to Government guidelines, parents and guardians will be unable to attend but we plan to livestream the event – more details to follow.

## Green News

We had a fantastic ceremony for the raising of our 7th Green Flag on 30th April. Thanks go to Anne, Anna, Katie and the Green Team. It was a very special moment for us to have Dennis raise our Green Flag and a big thank you to parent, Darren Hedden, for his trumpet playing.

## Virtual Talent Show – Final Date for Submission is tomorrow!

The Student Council has been busy coming up with ideas about how to organise some fun whole-school activities within the current restrictions, and are very excited to have announced the details about this year's Virtual Talent Show! Below you will find some guidelines and general information for those wishing to take part.

- All children are invited to submit a short video of themselves performing. As always, participation is entirely optional! Talents may include singing, dancing, playing musical instruments, comedy, sports tricks, gymnastics etc.
- Videos should be a maximum length of 1 and a half minutes.
- Siblings may submit a joint video if they wish, but there should not be any more than one submission from each child. (e.g. If a child sends a video of a performance with a sibling, they should not also send another one of themselves)
- If children want to team up with a classmate they are welcome to do so, but we ask that they adhere to public health guidelines, and record their video outside in a public space.
- When all videos have been received, the Student Council will work on creating a montage of all of the talents shared! The final video will be screened in all classes at a special event in June.
- Videos should be sent to [studentcouncil@retns.ie](mailto:studentcouncil@retns.ie) no later than Friday, May 14th
- Videos should be sent from a parent's email account, which will be taken as consent for the video to be shown internally. Videos will not be used for any other purpose, and all editing by the Student Council will be supervised in school.

## Write a Book Winners

### Congratulations to 3rd Class:

Highly Commended:	Zac	Grace	Bonnie
Merit Award:	Marvin		

### Congratulations to 4th Class:

Highly Commended:	Luke	Eilis	Elle
Merit Award:	Lauren		

## Code of Behaviour – Consultation

Since February 2021, members of the Board of Management, a parent nominee and some of the teaching staff have been reviewing the RETNS Code of Behaviour Policy. After multiple meetings a revised document was then discussed with the whole staff. The draft document attached below is the outcome of these meetings and discussions. We would like to thank everyone involved to date for their efforts in getting the document to this stage.

We would now like to consult the wider school community on the content of the draft Behaviour policy. Essentially, this new version is formalising into the policy document the approach that has been used in practice.

Please find attached [RETNS Behaviour Policy DRAFT May 2021 For Consultation](#)- if you have any questions, comments or feedback on our proposed new Behaviour Policy we would appreciate it if you could send them via e-mail to [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie) (with “Behaviour Policy” as the subject line) prior to end of day on Friday, 21st May 2021.

## **Parents - How to Enable TikTok Privacy and Safety Settings**

Did you know that TikTok default privacy settings vary depending on the age of the user?

It is important to take the time to become familiar with the privacy and safety settings on apps and platforms that your child or teenager is using.

This 'How To' guide looks at TikTok Privacy and Safety settings and how to enable them, how to block and report inappropriate content or behaviour, and recommendations for parents. -

<https://www.webwise.ie/parents/how-to-enable-tiktok-privacy-and-safety-settings/>

Please see below some links to events and resources which may be of interest:

- Join psychotherapist Stella O'Malley as she explores ways in which we can help young adults manage anxieties in Covid times and beyond.

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/how-the-lockdown-has-impacted-teenagers-young-adults-tickets-152372858321?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

- A workshop designed to build awareness around people with disabilities participating in community sport and physical activity.

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/sport-inclusion-and-disability-awareness-online-workshop-tickets-151787048147>

- A series of eight 30 minute videos from HSE Health and Wellbeing: Pilates for Beginners.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLltgannkj2UEY2tPMWjwHlpjSG4Yd0c5x>

Le dea-ghuí

Maeve

## SCHOOL CARETAKER REQUIRED

**Rathfarnham Educate Together National School** seeks applications for the role of caretaker.

**Main responsibilities:**

Maintenance of school buildings and grounds including

- ✚ General tidiness of school & garden,
- ✚ Upkeep of paint work,
- ✚ Disposal of waste and similar task
- ✚ Opening and locking up of school.

We are seeking a caretaker who is competent, reliable, and hardworking and who shows initiative.

Relevant experience an advantage

**Application requirements:** Letter of application  
Referees (name, role, contact number)  
Curriculum Vitae

**Closing date for applications:** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Starting date:** Mid-July 2021

**Permanent position:** 25 hours per week

Applications should be sent by post or hand-delivered to  
Rathfarnham ETNS,  
Loreto Avenue,  
Rathfarnham,  
Dublin 14

Further information available from 01-4938677 or [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie)