

RATHFARNHAM



EDUCATE TOGETHER
NATIONAL SCHOOL

Weekly Update 1st October 2021

This Week in RETNS

We welcomed Ashling, our student teacher who has begun her placement in 4th class. Two others will begin their observation days in 3rd and 5th classes tomorrow and will commence their placements in November.

4th – 6th classes have been enjoying their rugby sessions for the last three weeks. Our coach is very impressed by the children's ball skills development and their ability to work as a team and sort out issues themselves.

Invitation to see our new doors

Our school life has changed in many ways since the advent of COVID and one of the biggest changes has been having to close our doors to parents/guardians. We are not yet ready to welcome you inside the building but we would like to offer you the opportunity to see our new doors to the downstairs classrooms.

Visits will take place next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 2 pm and 2.20 before the children leave their classrooms. To ensure social distancing, we ask parents who are interested to come in three groups:

Tuesday: Families Adams - Dowling

Wednesday: Families Doyle - McGrath

Thursday: Families McKeown – Zhang

If we have a large group of parents / guardians – and we hope we will! – Please stay in groups of 5/6. We ask you to assemble at the side gate, walk around the school, through the wildlife garden and out the back of the Community Centre. On your walk, you might notice that the wildlife garden could do with some work. If you have some time to give to the garden, we would love to hear from you.

Permissions on Aladdin Connect

Thank you to all those who have updated their permissions. We have had a good response but we have a few families yet to respond.

RETNS Admissions open on: 1st October

Admissions for 2022 – 2023 open today. All information is on the school website. Please do not submit an application for your child if you have already applied under the old policy.

School Website – Help Required

Our school website is one way of keeping not just the school community but those interested in joining the school community informed of what goes on in RETNS. This website was originally developed by parents/ guardians but over time, those parents / guardians moved on and we now need your help. Anybody who has experience in the area of ICT and some time to offer, please contact info@retns.ie

Changes to Contact Tracing and Testing

The HSE has provided information for parents about the changes to contact tracing and testing for children aged between 3 months and 13 years in primary school – see attached. [Information for Parents about changes to contact tracing and testing](#)

If your child has any new onset symptoms of COVID-19 and feels unwell or seems off-form, do not send them to school and contact your GP for advice

Your CoderDojo Needs You

The RETNS CoderDojo team would like to put a call out for volunteers.

No experience is necessary. You just need to be interested in helping kids to learn about coding. Typically our projects each run for a few weeks and are inspired by the interests of the kids and adults. Last year we recreated several games (e.g. [Angry Birds](#), Simon Says, [Breakout](#)), developed visual pattern generators, created mobile apps, coded our own e-cards and built our own Roblox Obbys. If this sounds good and you would like to join the volunteer team, please drop your details in here: <https://forms.gle/AgNUxFjtt5paqNED8>

*Thanks,
Tom, Peter
CoderDojo @ RETNS*

Nurturing Schools Programme

RETNS has created a new learning space this year- the Nurture Room, as part of the Nurturing Schools Programme. The Nurturing Schools Programme is a whole-school approach that helps schools to embed a nurturing culture to improve the teaching and learning, engagement in school life, and wellbeing of all children and staff.

The Nurture Room is a place for small groups of children to come together in a structured environment, where the focus will be on social and emotional development. The children will be given the opportunity to re-visit early ‘nurturing’ experiences through activities that will promote skills such as listening, cooperation, collaboration, communication, building confidence, and recognising and dealing with emotions. Children will visit the room for a short session once a week as part of their school day.

As part of the programme we will be looking at the needs of the children in the school and how best we can support their development. We will be using the Boxall Profile to identify children who would benefit from the programme. The Boxall Profile is a tool that allows staff working with children to assess and identify their levels of social skills, emotional skills or behavioural strengths and needs, and to support them as necessary with the most appropriate interventions.

Parents/ guardians will always be asked for consent for their child to join the Nurturing School Programme. Anna O'Herlihy and Sarah-Lacey Stoddart have already completed nurture training and another four members of staff are currently participating in the training. We're delighted to be part of this programme provided by Educate Together and recognise the benefits it will provide to some of our children.

Message from Firhouse ETSS

In line with the new Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 there is no pre-enrolment form or waiting list for 1st Year enrolment at Firhouse Educate Together Secondary School. We offer places one year in advance under the following criteria: 1) Siblings 2) Catchment 3) Outside Catchment. There are no feeder schools included within the criteria. We would highly recommend that you read up on the new Admission to Schools Act as it impacts enrolment for all secondary schools across Ireland.

*All enrolment applications are accepted one year in advance of your child starting Secondary School, when your child is in 6th class. This year enrolment will be open from **1st - 22nd October 2021** and we expect that the dates will remain the same going forward. There will be an online form to complete on our website. Once enrolment closes, from mid-November, places will be offered in order of the above criteria. If your child does not receive an initial offer of a place, they will be placed on a waiting list.*

An Information Evening normally take places in the autumn each year, and the details will be posted on our website. There is a possibility this year the information evening will be on zoom. This event will give both yourself and your child an opportunity to meet our Principal and Deputy Principal and to find out more about the Educate Together ethos and our learning environment.

Goatstown ETSS Open Night

The online application form for entry to First Year 2022 will open this Friday, October 1st at 9.00am via the school website. Goatstown ETSS Open Night takes place on October 7th at 6.30pm. – see: [Goatstown Educate Together Open Night](#)

Newpark Comprehensive School Admissions

Newpark Comprehensive School Annual Admission Notice in respect of admissions to the 2022/2023 school year is now published on the school website.

The School will commence accepting applications for admission to first year 2022/2023 on 1st October 2021. The School shall cease accepting applications for admission to first year 2022/2023 on 29th October 2021.

All application information can be found on newparkschool.ie/admissions.

De La Salle Churchtown



OPEN DAY

RECTA SAPERE
DE LA SALLE
CHURCHTOWN

TUES 5th OCT 2021
(3pm - 7pm)

COVID-19
PROTOCOLS
IN PLACE

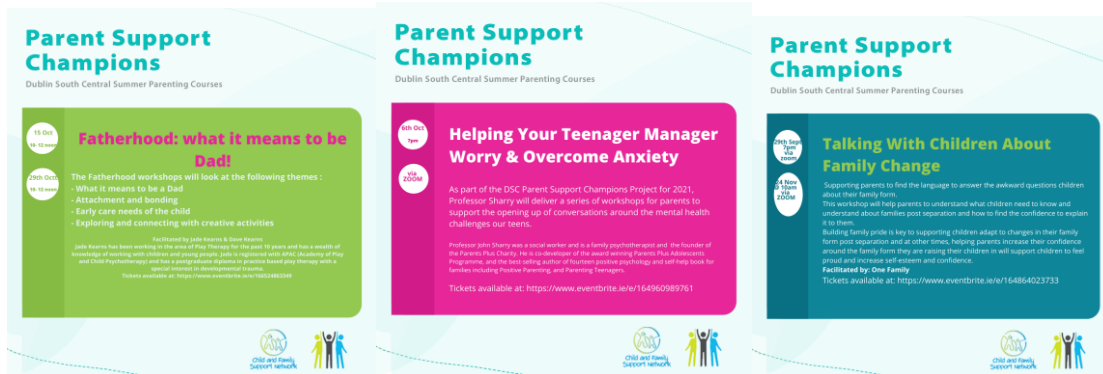
ALL WELCOME
Especially Parents And Students From 1st To 6th Class

For information on Enrolment visit
www.delasallecollege.com
Phone 01-2981067

De La Salle are running an open day on Tuesday, 5 October from 3pm – 7 pm. This is aimed at parents of children from 1st – 6th class. While the school is currently for boys only, this may change in the years ahead. Your child will have a flyer in their school bag – see information attached

Wellbeing Resources for Children – available at <https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html>

FREE workshops on zoom for parents –



Parent Support Champions
Dublin South Central Summer Parenting Courses

Fatherhood: what it means to be Dad!
18 Oct 18:30-20:00
20th Oct 18:30-20:00
The Fatherhood workshops will look at the following themes:
- What it means to be a Dad
- Attachment and bonding
- Early care needs of the child
- Exploring and connecting with creative activities
Facilitated by John Kearns & Dawn Keenan
John Kearns has been working in the area of Play Therapy for the past 20 years and has a wealth of knowledge of working with children and adolescents. John is registered with the Association of Play and Child Psychotherapists and has a professional diploma in play based play therapy with a special interest in developmental trauma.
Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1061334882333>

Parent Support Champions
Dublin South Central Summer Parenting Courses

Helping Your Teenager Manage Worry & Overcome Anxiety
18th Oct 7pm
19th Oct 7pm
As part of the DSC Parent Support Champions Project for 2021, Professor Sharry will deliver a series of workshops for parents to support the opening up of conversations around the mental health challenges our teens.
Professor John Sharry was clinical worker and is a family psychotherapist and the founder of the Parents Plus Charity. He is co-developer of the award winning Parents Plus Relationship Programme, and the best selling author of numerous books on parenting and self-help books for parents including Parenting, Parenting Teenagers.
Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/164960989761>

Parent Support Champions
Dublin South Central Summer Parenting Courses

Talking With Children About Family Change
20th Oct 7pm
21st Oct 7pm
Supporting parents to find the language to answer the awkward questions children ask about their family form.
This workshop will help parents to understand what children need to know and understand about families post separation and how to find the confidence to explain it to them.
Building family pride is key to supporting children adapt to changes in their family form post separation and at other times. Helping parents increase their confidence around the family form they are raising their children in will support children to feel proud and increase self-esteem and confidence.
Facilitated by One Family
Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/164864023733>

Le dea-ghúí

Maeva