

# St. Conaire's Bulletin

April 11th, 2019

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Important dates to note this term

Parent Association Annual Walk .....	Friday, April 12 at 6 pm
May Bank Holiday Weekend .....	Closed Monday, May 6
First Holy Communion.....	Saturday May 11 at 11 am
Referendum Voting Day .....	Closed Friday, May 24
Confirmation Ceremony.....	Thursday, May 29 at 3 pm
June Bank Holiday Weekend .....	Closed May 30 to June 4 inclusive
Summer Holiday Closure .....	Friday, June 28 2019 at 12 noon

**No-uniform day:** This Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> will be a no-uniform day in St. Conaire's. Pupils are excused from wearing the school uniform and we will not be making any collection of money on the day.

**Parents' Association Annual Family Walk:** The Parents' Association Family Walk takes place this Friday evening at 6 p.m. from the school yard. We are looking forward to a large turnout. The sponsorship cards have been distributed and are due back this week. **Please note that all sponsorship cards must be returned to the school whether filled or not.** Your support is gratefully appreciated as we work to enhance this facility for all pupils.

Please note the following safety and organisational arrangements for Friday:

The walk will start from the school yard at 6 pm.

Entry to the school is by the back gate (from the Wolfe Tones side) only

All participants are asked to follow the stewards' directions in the interest of safety

Please be aware that part of the walk uses a public road and we ask everyone to be mindful of safety

The walk is open to pupils, parents and family members/relatives from our school community - pupils from others schools are not insured to take part and should not be present

We hope everyone will have an enjoyable evening and we thank you for your support most sincerely

**Attendance at school - IMPORTANT!** Under Educational Welfare Legislation the school is obliged to take a record of pupils' attendance at school. We are obliged to have an explanation for every pupil absence. We ask you to note the following please:

- If your child is absent, please ring the school on 364694 and leave a message with Theresa or on the answering machine giving the reason for the absence. There is also a space in the school diary for a note to your child's teacher.
- Pupils who miss 20 days are reported to the Educational Welfare Service who will follow up on absences
- Parents are urged to take their children on holiday outside term time - to this end, the school closures for the year are distributed in June each year. After Easter this year, there are a number of days free in early June.

**First Holy Communion 2019:** Preparations are well under way for First Holy Communion which takes place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> in SS John & Paul Church.

**Awesome Activities Easter Camp in St. Conaire's:** Mr. Glynn's camp will take place this year from April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup> inclusive. All queries should be directed to Mr. Glynn at the following e-mail address: awesomeactivitycamp@gmail.com

**Literacy Survey:** We would like to thank most sincerely all the families who responded to our recent survey on literacy in St. Conaire's. The large response we received will enable us to plan effectively for improving engagement with reading in the school. We are in the process of devising a school improvement plan which will build on the literacy work done to date. Thank you for taking the time to respond to the surveys. Also, we wish to thank the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class parents who filled in the questionnaires this week for the literacy field study being run by the Department of Education. The field study will take place in the school on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow after Easter.

**Trócaire Boxes:** If you have any Trócaire boxes at home please bring them to the school and we will pass them on to Fr. Arnie for counting. Alternatively, you may wish to drop them to the church at Mass times.

**Easter GAA Camp at Wolfe Tones na Sionna:** The 2019 Easter Camp will take place from Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. The four codes of the GAA will form the basis of the camp. Book is available through eventbrite.ie - search for "Wolfe Tones na Sionna GAA".

**Farewell to Mark O'Donnell, Wolfe Tones Games Development Officer:** We would like to wish Mark O'Donnell all the very best as he takes leave of us. Mark has worked closely with the pupils and teachers here in St. Conaire's to foster a love and appreciation of physical activity as it relates to Gaelic games. We thank him for his work here in the school and we wish him well for the future. At the same time, we welcome his replacement Hailey Nolan who will be working with the classes soon.

**Bunratty Explorer Easter Camp:** Shannon Heritage are running a four day Easter Camp at Bunratty from April 15<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>. Bookings may be made on 061 711222 or at bunrattycastle.ie

**Agreed report from Board of Management:** The following items were discussed at the Board of Management meeting on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 2019:

- The Board approved further work on the end of the school playing field to maximize the playing area available to the school
- A new lawnmower was approved for purchase this term and for use on the field only
- The Board approved the school's Digital Learning Plan which will be rolled out shortly
- The Board approved an examination of the school's IT network with a view to enhancing same
- The school crest will be laid into the school floor before the end of June this year
- A video of the school will be made before the summer using a drone and will feature our pupils as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations
- A special event will be announced after Easter for Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> as part of the Jubilee Celebrations
- An application for planning permission has been submitted to Clare County Council in relation to the replacement of windows and doors at the school over the 2019 summer holiday

Yours sincerely,  
Peter Walsh,  
Principal

Maria O'Driscoll  
Deputy Principal