



# Newsletter

April 2016

## Parents Information Meetings

We have arranged our next parent meeting sessions for week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> April.

Many parents have asked in the past if we could start them during the school day and go on through the evening. Also, having all the parents' sessions on the same day creates a lot of congestion in the school and parents become anxious if they may be late for their meeting with another teacher. To help with this we have staggered the meetings over several days to see if this makes things easier for parents. If parents cannot make these days because of work commitments etc then please just contact the teacher to make alternative arrangements.

## Meeting date and Times:

<b>Class 12</b>	<b>Mr Conwell</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 11</b>	<b>Mr O'Donnell</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 10</b>	<b>Mrs McLean</b>	<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 9</b>	<b>Mr Sherrington</b>	<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 8</b>	<b>Mr Scott</b>	<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 7</b>	<b>Miss Degnan</b>	<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 6</b>	<b>Mr Barber</b>	<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 5</b>	<b>Mrs Sims</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 4</b>	<b>Mrs Holtby</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>
<b>Class 3</b>	<b>Miss Hobson</b>	<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>1.45 - 6.30</b>

Miss Ward and Miss Newby held their parent meetings last half term, if any parents want follow up meetings please just call in to school and speak with your teacher.

I hope you find these meetings more helpful and convenient. As always, we will always be flexible to work around parents as we feel it is important you get the chance to talk about your child's progress.

## Communicating With Parents

We are trying very hard to make sure we have good communication links. Obviously, the way we communicate has to depend on the situation. We are a school that always listens to concerns from parents promptly. If you have a concern you know you can simply arrange a meeting to discuss your concerns with the class teacher or a senior member of staff.

What we try to do is to make sure we have:

- An up to date website with all relevant information
- Praise for allowing parents to see how their children are doing in class
- MarvellousMe so you get updates to see when your children do well
- Regular newsletters
- Regular parent meetings
- A school Twitter account with regular updates
- Text messaging

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With a lot of these electronic services there is a large cost to school and it is pointless us spending money on services which parents don't think are useful. At the parents meeting I will try to gather parent's views of these services to see which ones they prefer.

One of the disadvantages of the texting service is that we can usually only text one parent, as the cost increases steeply if both parents receive a message.

**One of the simplest ways to communicate quickly with both parents and other members of the family is through TWITTER. Twitter is completely free and is extremely simple to use and easy to set up. Parents can access it from computers, tablets and mobiles. See guide from Twitter below:**

To create an account on the web:

1. Go to <http://twitter.com> and find the sign up box, or go directly to <https://twitter.com/signup>.
2. Enter your **full name, phone number, and a password**.
3. Click **Sign up for Twitter**.
4. In order to verify your phone number, they will send you an SMS text message with a code. Enter the verification code in the box provided.
5. Once you've clicked **Sign up for Twitter**, you can select a **username**
6. **Double-check** your name, phone number, password, and username.
7. Click **Create my account**.

**It is very easy to create the account!!! It is even easier to create one on your phone or tablet.**

**Note:** if you'd like to sign up with Twitter using an email address, you can do so via the "Use email instead" link at the bottom of the sign up page.

**All you need to do then is to search for the school Twitter account, which is @StPatricksRcTho  
When you follow us, you will simply receive tweets from the school**

**If you want help, just call in to school and one of the adults will set it up for you!**

I would have to say that one of the strengths of the school is the way the adults work together. As parents you are very supportive and very reasonable when you have a concern. You place a lot of trust in the teachers and when you think something hasn't gone well you approach teachers calmly and fairly and you are prepared to listen and to be listened to. This is not the same in all schools. Thank you for this.

### Easter Service

Next Thursday we will be having our Easter Service. Could I ask that your child brings a few fresh flowers to help decorate our cross?

God Bless  
M Ryan  
Head Teacher