

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

As we head towards the Hallowe'en break we would like to keep you updated on what has been happening in our school in the first half of term.

Hallowe'en Dress Up Day

This Friday 22nd October we are looking forward to welcoming the children in their Halloween Costumes. Please ensure that the costume allows them to use the toilet with ease and to play safely. No simulated weapons, knives, axes or guns are to be brought to school.

Ventilation in School

Public Health advice in preventing the introduction and spread of Covid-19 recommends that there should be good ventilation practices in place in school. As the weather begins to get cooler, we would remind parents to consider another layer of clothing, as ensuring good ventilation will mean that classrooms may be cooler than normal.

Easels

We recently received a kind and generous donation from a great grandparent of a child in our school. This generous gesture has meant that easels have popped up overnight in lots of our classrooms! The children are really enjoying standing at the easels and creating their own masterpieces throughout the day. Creative expression really does promote wellbeing, and so they couldn't have arrived at a better time!



New TickiT play resources

We are continuing to expand the Aistear programme in our school, and it now runs from Junior Infants to First Class. The Junior and Senior infant classes were delighted to receive some new resources recently. These beautiful wooden toys encourage open-ended, innovative and imaginative 'small world' play. Lots of wonderful learning is happening through purposeful play, and once again there is a great opportunity to support children's wellbeing through structured play activities!





SFI Plaque of STEM

Our school has achieved an SFI Discover Science and Maths Award having met all the criteria on the basis of the children's engagement with STEM in the following areas;

1. Science,
2. Technology,
3. Engineering,
4. Maths
5. STEM Showcase

Our log was assessed as being of a very high standard and special mention was given to the use of outdoor spaces and in particular the developing wildflower meadow. Thanks are extended to Ms Shanahan who collated all the data for the application over the course of the last school year.

Parent Teacher Meetings

We hope to be in a position to conduct face to face parent teacher meetings in Spring.

Admissions

Please note that the closing date for receipt of completed Junior Infant Admission Forms for a place in St Attracta's JNS 2022/2023 is Friday November 19th 2021. **All** applications **must** be accompanied by a copy of the child's birth cert.

Health & Well Being Matters

Please see attached information leaflet from the Food Safety Authority in relation to jelly sweets containing cannabis.

We are also attaching a number of leaflets detailing locally available services to support children and families, which you or someone you know may find useful.

Heritage in Schools

Our 2nd classes were treated to a visit by Goska Wilkowska from Heritage Ireland. They were taken on a guided trip throughout the school grounds where they were shown how to look for evidence of local wildlife (eg foxes, badgers & squirrels) as well as identifying the plant life in the school grounds.



Finally

We thank would like to thank our school community for the huge amount of co-operation and goodwill in helping us since we opened in late August. We wish everyone a safe, restful and fun Hallowe'en.

