

St. Conleth's National School, Derrinturn.

Newsletter

Autumn Newsletter 2022



We're absolutely delighted to be back with our first newsletter since lockdown. It's been a very strange and challenging few years and all our messages seem to have been about special arrangements in response to COVID-19.

It's been a busy few years, in spite of all that has been happening in the world around us, and this newsletter will update you on lots of the exciting things that have been happening at school.

We had to adapt a lot during lockdown and we all became very familiar with remote teaching and learning and working at and from home. We became very reliant on technology. As a result, staff focussed on harnessing positive aspects of digital technology that we had found useful during school closures. Aladdin connect was introduced and this is a fantastic system. The Aladdin App gives parents, teachers and administrators access to relevant student information such as attendance, test results and report cards. You can enter reasons for your child's absence from school on the Aladdin Connect app. Aladdin Connect is accessed via a secure login. You can sign in securely from your computer, laptop or smartphone. If you have not activated your access code and need a new code, please telephone the office and we'll arrange for a new code to be texted to your mobile phone.

We went live on Twitter last year and we've been tweeting all our exciting activities. Parents are seeing the news before the children even leave the school and the children are delighted to see themselves on Twitter. Each class has an individual Twitter account and teachers regularly tweet.



Contact Details

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W91 KC79.

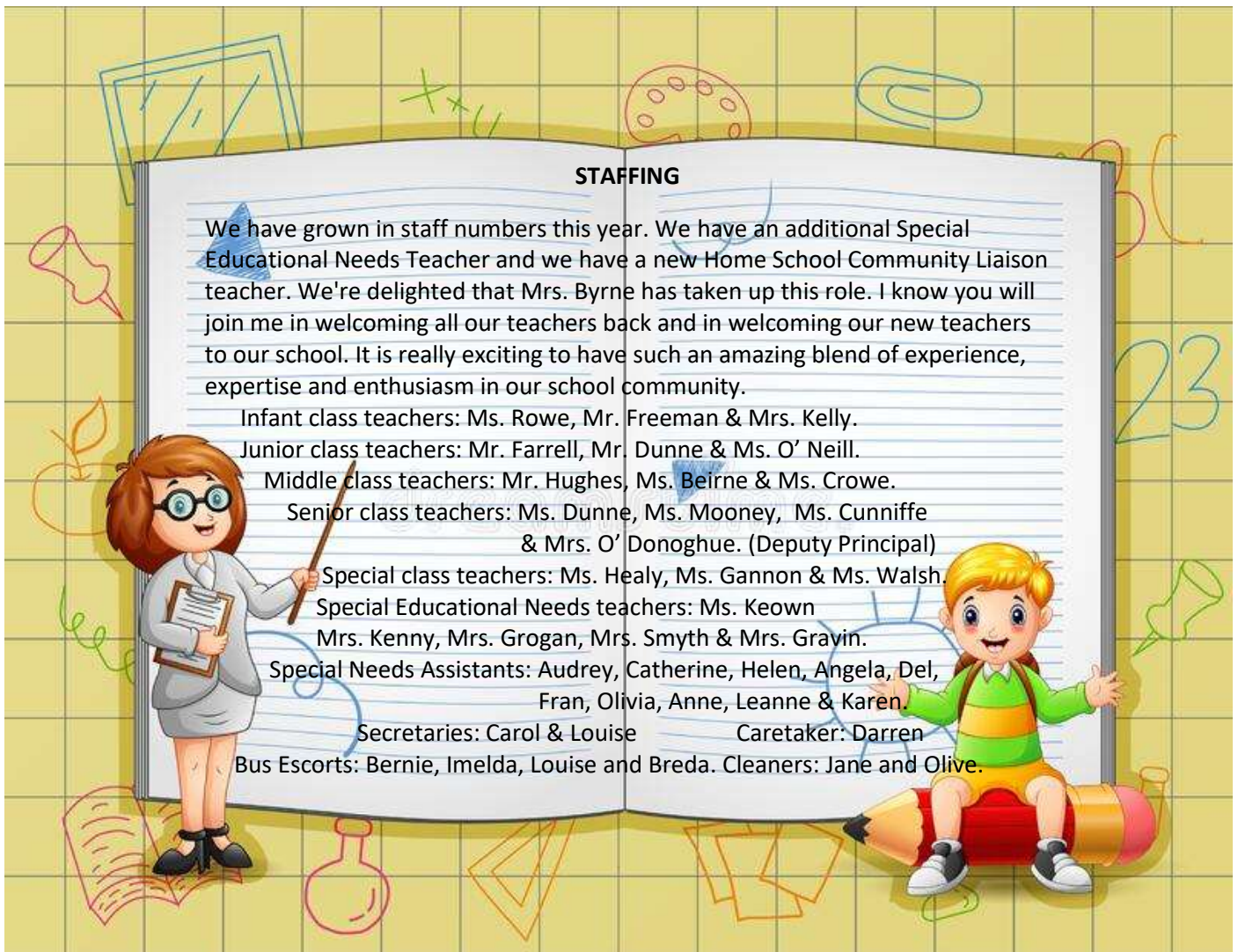
Website: www.stconlethsns.weebly.com

E-mail: secretary@stconlethsns.ie

Follow us on Twitter



PLEASE send any new or changed contact information to the office.



STAFFING

We have grown in staff numbers this year. We have an additional Special Educational Needs Teacher and we have a new Home School Community Liaison teacher. We're delighted that Mrs. Byrne has taken up this role. I know you will join me in welcoming all our teachers back and in welcoming our new teachers to our school. It is really exciting to have such an amazing blend of experience, expertise and enthusiasm in our school community.

Infant class teachers: Ms. Rowe, Mr. Freeman & Mrs. Kelly.

Junior class teachers: Mr. Farrell, Mr. Dunne & Ms. O' Neill.

Middle class teachers: Mr. Hughes, Ms. Beirne & Ms. Crowe.

Senior class teachers: Ms. Dunne, Ms. Mooney, Ms. Cunniffe & Mrs. O' Donoghue. (Deputy Principal)

Special class teachers: Ms. Healy, Ms. Gannon & Ms. Walsh.

Special Educational Needs teachers: Ms. Keown

Mrs. Kenny, Mrs. Grogan, Mrs. Smyth & Mrs. Gravin.

Special Needs Assistants: Audrey, Catherine, Helen, Angela, Del, Fran, Olivia, Anne, Leanne & Karen.

Secretaries: Carol & Louise Caretaker: Darren

Bus Escorts: Bernie, Imelda, Louise and Breda. Cleaners: Jane and Olive.

DEIS

(Delivering Equality Of Opportunity In Schools)
An Action Plan for Educational Inclusion



**Education minister
announces extension of
DEIS schools programme**

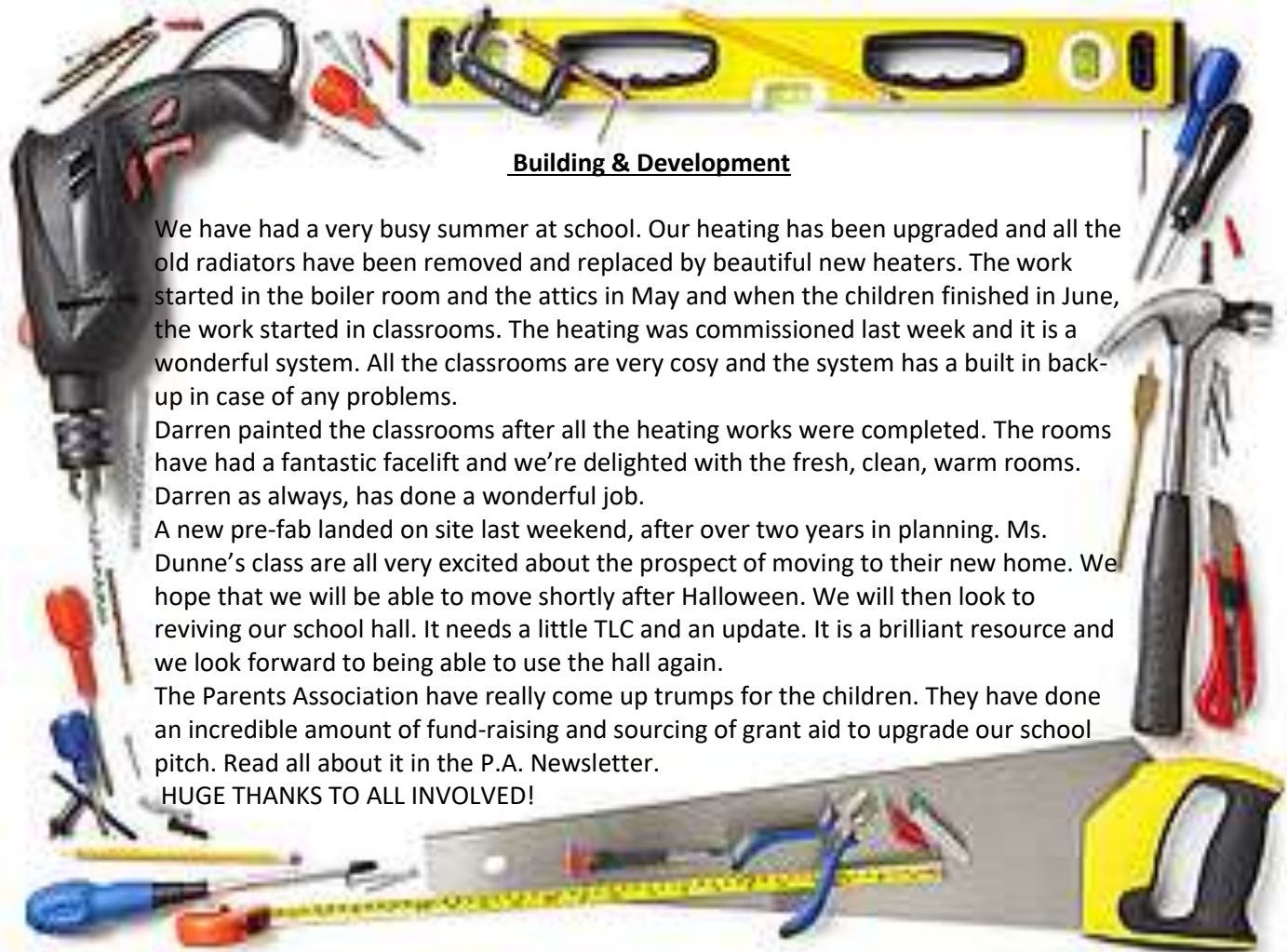
Our DEIS status has changed from DEIS Rural to DEIS Urban, Band 2. We continue to have access to the school meals programme. We have access to literacy and numeracy supports and additional training for teachers in these programmes. New supports include access to Home School Community Liaison Services and a range of supports under the School Completion Programme.

This year Brenda Byrne takes up the role as our HSCL coordinator. Brenda has worked in our school for almost 23 years now.

Brenda will work in partnership with parents, teachers and local community organisations to support positive educational outcomes for pupils. The focus of the role is to improve attendance, participation and retention of children in school. Every school day counts.

As part of her role as HSCL Coordinator, Brenda will meet parents during home visits, at courses and social events for parents in the school and at other school and community events. We hope you will get involved and come along on your child's school journey.

Please feel free to contact Brenda for advice, information and support, in confidence, regarding your child's educational needs. You can reach her by email at brenda.byrne@stconleths.org or by calling or texting/WhatsApp 089 4164168.



Building & Development

We have had a very busy summer at school. Our heating has been upgraded and all the old radiators have been removed and replaced by beautiful new heaters. The work started in the boiler room and the attics in May and when the children finished in June, the work started in classrooms. The heating was commissioned last week and it is a wonderful system. All the classrooms are very cosy and the system has a built in back-up in case of any problems.

Darren painted the classrooms after all the heating works were completed. The rooms have had a fantastic facelift and we're delighted with the fresh, clean, warm rooms.

Darren as always, has done a wonderful job.

A new pre-fab landed on site last weekend, after over two years in planning. Ms. Dunne's class are all very excited about the prospect of moving to their new home. We hope that we will be able to move shortly after Halloween. We will then look to reviving our school hall. It needs a little TLC and an update. It is a brilliant resource and we look forward to being able to use the hall again.

The Parents Association have really come up trumps for the children. They have done an incredible amount of fund-raising and sourcing of grant aid to upgrade our school pitch. Read all about it in the P.A. Newsletter.

HUGE THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED!



ROAD SAFETY & THE PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENT PLAN

We're delighted with the amazing work that has been completed outside the school. The additional footpaths and markings are a welcome improvement for our safety. We have been very worried in the past about the safety of the children leaving and arriving. Now there are level footpaths on either side of the road. The crossing is raised and traffic lights will soon be installed to control the crossing. There is a new bus parking space alongside an accessibility parking space. Markings are colourful and clear, enhancing not only road safety for all, but the appearance of the school.

School Calendar 2022 – 2023

School will be **closed** as follows:

September: Thursday, 1st – School re-opens after the Summer Holidays.

October: Monday, 31st - Hallowe'en Break.

November: Tuesday, 1st – Hallowe'en Break.
Wednesday, 2nd – Hallowe'en Break.
Thursday, 3rd – Hallowe'en Break.
Friday, 4th – Hallowe'en Break.
Monday, 7th - School re-opens after Halloween Break

December: Wednesday, 21st – Closing for Christmas Holidays.

January: Thursday, 5th – School re-opens after Christmas Holidays.

February: Monday 6th – Bank Holiday

Thursday, 16th – Mid-term Break.
Friday, 17th – Mid-term Break.

March: Friday, 17th – St. Patrick's Weekend.
Friday, 31st – Closing for Easter Holidays.

April: Monday, 17th – School re-opens after Easter Holidays.

May: Monday, 1st – Bank Holiday.

June: Friday, 2nd – Bank Holiday Weekend.

Monday, 5th – Bank Holiday Weekend.

Tuesday, 27th – Closing for Summer Holidays.



SOME OF OUR UPCOMING ACTIVITIES.

September & October
Cumann na mBunscol

September 30th
Amber Flag Raising

Week of November 14th
Parent Teacher Meetings

December 7th
Peace Proms Rehearsal

February 4th/5th
Peace Proms Concert

March 15th @11am
Confirmation

May 26th @ 11am
First Holy Communion



If you change your telephone number, e-mail or address, it is important to let the school office know. THANK YOU.