



# St. Patrick's G.N.S. HOLLYPARK

[www.hollyparkgns.ie](http://www.hollyparkgns.ie)

Autumn Newsletter 2011

Wednesday 28th September

## Parents' Association

The Parents' Association has contributed enormously to the school over many years and this year is no exception. The Association is constantly thinking of novel ways of raising funds to provide extra resources for the children. On your behalf and on behalf of the school community, thank you. The Parents' Association A.G.M. is on Wednesday 5th October.

We strongly encourage you to avail of pupil personal accident insurance-Allianz 24 hour cover as offered by the school.

Thank you for such prompt payment of the school extras for the new school year 11 / 12 We very much appreciate it. If by chance you have forgotten to pay for your daughter's 'extras' please send it in as soon as possible.

## Green School News

Our theme for the new flag this year is Travel. Watch out for events. The Coiste Glas will keep up their great work on recycling, energy and water conservation.

## Party Invitations

We request that party invites not be distributed within the school please, as it can put unnecessary pressure on children and parents.

## Message from the Principal

The start of a new school year is a new beginning for everyone. Thank you for your co-operation on your daughter/s return to school on September 1st. We would like to extend a special welcome to all the girls in the Junior Infant classes and to the other girls who have joined other classes throughout the school. We hope they will be happy in Hollypark. We wish our 6th Class (2010/2011) the very best as they enter second level for the first time.

All the girls have made an excellent start to the new year and are well settled in to their routine. Our girls present themselves and their work beautifully. I want to

congratulate all our girls—they look wonderful in their school uniform. Best wishes to you all for the new school year 2011/2012  
*Ni neart go cur le cheile.*

Joan Casey  
Principal.

**Independence Day for Infants!** From Monday 24th October we would encourage parents from First Class to Junior Infants to drop their children at the classroom door to foster a sense of independence.

## Hollypark Texting Service

Please register if you have not already done so with the Hollypark texting service hosted by Tacútext. This is a very easy to use system and will keep you up to date with school events. Please see instructions on the Hollypark website ([www.hollyparkgns.ie](http://www.hollyparkgns.ie)) and hard copies are available in the main lobby area. I really urge you to register-remember we were able to text you re. snow last year!



## Thank You

Thanks to the P.A. for organising the Junior Infants Parents' social evening. It was a lovely evening of mingling and chat with the parents and teachers.

We also hope you and the girls like their first school photographs



## After School Activities

After school activities are up and running.

- The infant classes are enjoying *Kindermusik*, Speech + Drama and Irish Dancing classes.
- Classes first to sixth have a great choice - Hockey, basketball, guitar lessons, mini-sports, Italian and French, Spanish and Irish dancing, G.A.A coaching, Codex Kids, athletics, as well as swimming organised kindly by the Parents' Association.



# Getting to School

New Traffic arrangements at the Lycee Francais (L.F.I) and Hollypark Girls School:

- Use of pedestrian gates: There are two pedestrian gates which now are protected by barriers. Pedestrians— please do not cross the road. Instead use the entrance/exit gate at the end of the footpath you are using. Cross to either school at the pedestrian crossing in the school yard (between the two school buildings ).When leaving the school you may use either gate.
- Motorists: School yard is for ‘drop off’ only. Please ensure that children exit cars on the left hand side at the roundabout. Please do not leave your car unattended.
- Car parks at the rear of the school are for staff only.
- Motorists: Please note the new stop sign on Foxrock Avenue and heed all road markings/signs
- Parking: No parking opposite a continuous white line .No parking on single or double yellow lines. No parking blocking drive-ways.
- Please note the recommended one –way system (on B.N.S. Website)
- Please co-operate with school wardens. Set a good example to our children by respecting our neighbours, traffic signs, roadway markings as you set down and collect your children.
- Finally a big thank you to Lucy Reilly, traffic committee co-ordinator extraordinaire for her initiative, determination and commitment. Thank you to D.L.R.C.C. For all their support and hard work.



Our Gaelic teams have started playing in the Cumann Na mBunscol league. We have two teams playing this year. The matches are on a Wednesday afternoon. All supporters are very welcome. The venue for each match will be on the notice board in the foyer. Good luck to all the girls involved.



Our school opens to receive pupils at 8.40 each morning. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time.. Class assembly time is from 8.40a.m.-9.00a.m. And formal lessons begin at 9.00a.m. No pupils should arrive later than 8.55a.m.Classes will end each day at 1.20p.m.(Infants) /2.20p.m.

Parents who wish to have their children escorted home should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school gate and the person to escort them should be at the school gate not later than 2.20p.m. as the school cannot accept responsibility for looking after children after that time.

Much has been said and written about The Croke Park Agreement since it was accepted. In addition to all the extra-curricular work outlined, the teachers at Hollypark have been working an extra hour per week planning school work, engaging in professional development, having staff meetings and meeting parents. As a result our children have benefited from more time in school as all meetings etc. are now held after school hours. The B.O.M .will continue to identify, in conjunction with the teachers, the school priorities in the coming year as part of The Croke Park Agreement.

Thank you for taking the time to read our school newsletter,  
from all the staff and pupils at Hollypark GNS.