



# St. Francis of Assisi

# OCTOBER

## bulletin

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the first bulletin of the school year. Very warm welcome to all of our new families to the school. You are most welcome. We aim to share a school bulletin every 6-8 weeks to share some information about what we have been doing in school. Additional updates and information will be shared on Aladdin. It has been a busy few weeks, the children have settled well, and work is progressing in all classes. We have also resumed afterschool activities, trips in various classes and assemblies. We look forward to a great year ahead with the children and we look forward to working closely with you all.

Johanne Dunne

Important Reminders: Emails and attendance

- Reminder to parents that staff emails are not monitored daily. If you have a message for your teacher, you can use any of the following methods: place a note in their school bag, speak to the teacher at drop off/collection or ring the school and ask for a call back from the teacher.
- Regular attendance at school is crucial for your child's ability to thrive at school and their overall development. So far, attendance this year has been very good across most classes. Missing school regularly means that there will be gaps in your child's learning. We do not encourage holidays to be taken during school time and do not provide additional work for this reason.
- If your child is absent from school, please update the Aladdin app. If your child has been absent for 20 days or more, the school are required to report this to Túsla Education Support Services (TESS).



## UPCOMING CLOSURES:

- 24th October - School Closed - Presidential Election
- 25th October - Mid-term break
- 27th November- School closure- whole staff training day for Child Protection
- 2nd March- School closure- whole staff training on new Primary Curriculum Framework
- 25th May- School closure- whole staff training on new Primary Curriculum Framework



# SCHOOL *News*

## PARENT MEETINGS

This year we are holding parent meetings for infant classes and fifth and sixth classes. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your class teacher and get some information about what to expect for the year ahead. These meetings are for parents only and children are not allowed to attend.

Junior and Senior Infant parents: Tues 7th October 7-7.30pm

5th and 6th class parents: Tuesday 7th Oct 7.30-8pm.

**PLEASE NOTE PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS FOR SENIOR INFANTS TO 6<sup>TH</sup> CLASS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER.**

## AFTERSCHOOLS

Afterschools are back with a bang and proving as popular as ever! We currently have 15 clubs on offer of the course of the week. If your child did not get a place in the club of their choice, watch out for further updates regarding the next block of classes.

## PTA UPDATE

The PTA held their AGM recently and are delighted to have 18 members on the committee. They are looking forward to the year ahead already have plans in place for our annual Christmas cards and our Winter Fair. The PTA would like to thank all parents for their continued support of the school lotto.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will take place on 21st and 22nd October. All children should wear their full uniform on both of these days. Further details regarding ordering to follow

## HALLOWEEN

We will close for Halloween on Oct 23rd. We will have our dress up day on Oct 23rd and children are welcome to dress in their Halloween costumes. We will have some spot prizes on the day.

Due to many requests, we will also see the return of the Pumpkin Carving competition. Children are welcome to bring along their spooky creations on Oct 23rd and we will have a prize for the most creative carvings!





# SCHOOL *News*



## ADHD FRIENDLY SCHOOL

ADHD Friendly School. We are always learning more about how children learn and best practice in relation to how we adapt our teaching and the learning environment. Over the past two years, the staff have taken part in a significant amount of training in the areas of autism and the sensory system. This year we are focusing on becoming an ADHD friendly school. Statistics show that many children go undiagnosed and often mask their difficulties in school. This can lead to additional challenges for these children. We have made a commitment to become more informed about ADHD and how we can adapt our teaching and the school environment in ways that will support all children but especially those who may be neurodiverse.





## BLESSING OF THE PETS

We recently celebrated our school patron saint, St Francis of Assisi. This year we took part in many activities throughout the week and held a special whole school assembly on Thursday. The week involved: lessons on St Francis of Assisi, Whole school 'Pet Portrait' competition, a story writing competition, a visit from Fr Angelo from the Capuchin Order, whole school assembly with beautiful singing from our choir, Walk your pet to school morning and a wonderful visit from the DSPCA to teach us all about looking after our pets, especially around the Halloween Season. Finally, the PTA hosted a coffee afternoon for parents, in aid of St Francis Hospice.

Thank you to all the staff who planned and coordinated this week.

A big thank you to the PTA for supporting the event with prizes and refreshments, and to Kinsealy Pet Shop for kindly sponsoring prizes for the Pet Portrait competition.



# BLESSING OF THE PETS



# ATHLETICS



The school Athletics team opened their season with the Clongriffin Athletics Club Cross Country event. Well done to the 48 children from 3rd to 6th class represented the school on the day.

The 3rd class boys; Cole, Dylan, Ethan, Isaiah, Jamie and Teddie, displayed a strong team finish and took home medals on the day.

A special congratulations to Teddie and Isaiah who finished 2nd and 6th in the 3rd class boys race.

This was a great event organised by Clongriffin Athletics club. Thank you to all the volunteers who made the day a great success!

## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

This event was followed by Dublin City Council Cross Country in St. Anne's park on 25th of September. This was a hugely successful event with 94 children representing our school, our biggest number of athletes to date! It's great to see such an interest in Athletics.

Well done to all who participated on the day. It was a tough course with plenty of hills!

Congratulations to our trophy and medal winners on the day: Teddie, Isaiah, Evie and Atharv from 3rd class, Evan and Ava from 4th Class, Luke from 5th class and Oisin from 6th class.



# NURTURE ROOMS

We have successfully opened a Nurture Room in school to assist children with their wellbeing and plan to create a nurturing school environment for all, with multiple spaces. We often look for donations of resources. Please contact [helen.fields@sfaps.net](mailto:helen.fields@sfaps.net) for a list of items we are currently requesting.





# CHILD PROTECTION

New Child Protection Guidelines have been published by the Dept of Education, which will come into effect during the next academic year. All teachers in the school are mandated persons which means, that if a child makes a disclosure regarding their safety and welfare we must inform Túsła (social services). This is a mandatory and legal requirement. More information about Child Protection and courses that parents can do is available on [Children FirstTúsła - Child and Family Agency](#).

## BÍ CINEÁLTA



As you are aware, all schools have adapted new Anti-bullying procedures this year. This new policy, Bi Cineálta (be kind), draws together all the work that we do in Wellbeing, practices and procedures in school that aim to teach about and prevent bullying and outlines how we address bullying when it arises. This policy replaces the older Anti Bullying procedures that we had in place. The policy is now available on the school website. I would encourage all parents to familiarise themselves with the policy as there are differences to our older Anti-bullying policy. We have been encouraged to remind parents about the Digital age of consent;

***Note - the digital age of consent is the minimum age a user must be before a social media or internet company can collect, process and store their data. In Ireland the digital age of consent is 16.Children between 13 and 16 must have parental permission to sign up to social media services. Most social media platforms have a minimum age requirement and for the majority of these, it is 13 years old. Therefore, children under the age of 13 should not have a social media account***

# St. Francis of Assisi Primary School , Belmayne Fundraiser Lotto

*Your support makes a real difference*

Jackpot increases every week plus a weekly winner prize

## Play

### Pick 4 numbers

The same numbers will be played for you each week

## Pay

1 line for €2.50, 2 lines for €4

or 3 Lines for €5

Maximum 3 lines per person

## Win

Match 4 numbers to win the Jackpot

## Join now.

Scan the QR code or go to our website



<https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stfrancispsbelmayne>

Powered by Our Fundraiser – fundraising made easy

For more information email

[info@ourfundraiser.ie](mailto:info@ourfundraiser.ie)

Our school lotto has gone from strength to strength over the past year. To date, it has raised over €10,000, which has been reinvested to purchases essential teaching resources for the children. Please follow the link for more information about our lotto and how to join.

[St. Francis of Assisi Primary School, Belmayne - Home - Our Fundraiser](https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stfrancispsbelmayne)

# Lotto Halloween Giveaway

**HALLOWEEN  
GIVEAWAY  
COMPETITION**

WEEKLY  
FUNDRAISER DRAW



BONUS NATIONAL  
COMPETITION

OCTOBER **23** 2025



**€2,000** SHOP TILL  
CASH PRIZE YOU DROP!



**€500** AMAZON  
GIFT CARD IRELAND



**CONCERT** THE  
TICKETS X 2 WEEKEND

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

*It could be you.*



# ***St. Francis of Assisi***

*Primary School, Belmayne, Dublin 13*

## **HALL RENTAL**

The school hall and classrooms is available for rental outside of school hours. In previous years the hall has been used by many local groups- football training, adult yoga, children's dance classes etc. Please share this information with any groups or organisations who may be interested.

### **St Francis of Assisi Primary School Room/Hall Rental 2025/2026**

<b>Facilities for hire</b>	<b>Use period</b>	<b>Rates</b>
School Hall	Monday-Friday 14.30-22.00	€50 per hour
School Hall	Saturday/Sunday 08.00-22.00	€55 per hour €250 day rate
Classroom	Monday-Friday 14.30-18.30  18.30-22.00	€30 per hour  €40 per hour

For enquiries about renting the hall or classroom, please contact Johanne Dunne on [principal@sfaps.net](mailto:principal@sfaps.net).

These rates will be reviewed as necessary

