

# NEWSLETTER

| Rathfarnham Parish National School |

## Digital Devices

During the school closure many families borrowed laptops and chromebooks from the school. Some of these still need to be returned. If you borrowed a device please check if you have returned it and if you still have a device at home please send it back in with your child.

## Electrical Re-cycling

This Friday (16th April). we have arranged for an electrical re-cycling collection here in school. If you have any electrical, electronic or metal items that you wish to recycle they can be left inside the gate at the end of the laneway on Friday morning before 10a.m. Please note large printers can not be accepted. You can find out more about what can be recycled at [www.recycleit.ie](http://www.recycleit.ie)

## Return to school forms

Please note that if your child is returning to school after an absence you need to fill in a Return to School Form which is available on the Aladdin Connect app.



## Welcome back!

It's great to see everyone back in school again after the Easter break - there definitely have been some serious growth spurts this year!

We are looking forward to the summer term and being able to spend more time outdoors. Thank you to everyone for being so co-operative with hand sanitising and social distancing. This term is eleven weeks long and we hope to pack in lots of activities as well as our usual academic work. We are still being very careful and all activities will, of course, be subject to current government guidelines. Our aim is to keep the school building open this term - we have all had enough of online school this year!



## Autism Acceptance Day

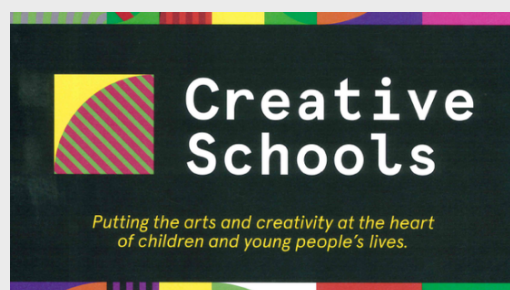
April is Autism Acceptance month. On Friday 30th April we look forward to welcoming Adam Harris to our Zoom assembly where he will tell us more about autism acceptance.



That day we will wear Rainbow clothes and we are suggesting that children might bring in €2 to help us build our sensory resources in the school.

## Creative Schools Week

Creative Schools Week is taking place across the country from 10th-14th May. During the week we will be celebrating the creativity, bravery and resilience of the children during the year through the theme 'Brave New Future'. We will be focusing on this theme to explore many different art forms throughout the week, celebrating the children's courage in the face of a tough year and looking forward to a bright future.



## Personal Accident Insurance

Each year the PTA pays for 24 hour personal accident insurance for all the children in school. This covers situations such as visits to A & E or dental work needed following any accident either in or out of school. Parents have found it useful in the past to help cover medical costs resulting from a childhood accident. More information is available from the PTA.

## Sports Days

At the moment we plan to hold both the Junior and Senior Sports Days in June. Due to Covid restrictions parents won't be able to attend as usual but we think the children will still have a great time!

## Summer Works

The Board of Management is delighted to announce that an application to the Department of Education and Skills for funding to upgrade the school's bathroom facilities has been granted. A consultant has been appointed and it is hoped that the plans will go to tender shortly, with the building work being carried out during the summer holidays.

## Playground Equipment

The slide on the climbing frame has been out of action for a while as it had become loose. This has now been repaired and is good to go again, to the delight of the younger children!



## Odd Sock Day!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our odd sock day in aid of the Down Syndrome Centre. We raised a whopping €856 which was a terrific result!

## Memorial for Mr. Gillis

Douglas Gillis, our school caretaker, passed away in January and is greatly missed. He served as caretaker for 50 years and was a true gentleman.

We plan to hold a memorial service for Douglas this term and to dedicate a garden bench which will be installed in the school garden. The date has yet to be decided as it is very weather dependent.



## School Closures

The calendar for the 2021-2022 school year is now available on the school website. School will reopen for the new school year on Wednesday 1st September 2021.