

ST. PIUS X BNS

HALLOWE'EN NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Despite only a half term under our belts, it feels like we've packed a lot into the past two months!! As you will see from our newsletter, the school has hit the ground running since we returned in September. I'd like to acknowledge the great work that was done over the Summer by our Board of Management under the Chairpersonship of Ronan McMahon. Our water tank system was completely upgraded and we built much needed SEN rooms into our sun wells. These works took place in addition to the general maintenance and upkeep that is needed at the end of a long school year. We had four temporary teachers reappointed in July; Mr. Geraghty, Ms. McWeeney, Ms. Robinson and Mr. Curtin. These colleagues have already made a hugely positive impact to school life last year and have continued to do so in their new class positions. We also bade farewell to Ms. Coyle who was appointed to St. Paul's NS in her native county of Meath. Aoife is an amazing teacher and served St Pius X BNS so well during her time here. Most of all, however, it is her friendship and kindness that will be most sorely missed. Finally, the staff warmly welcomed back Ms. Gallagher from her career break. Ms Gallagher has taken up residence in the Junior Infant block with Ms. Maxwell and Ms. Corcoran. Again, the Board is to be commended on facilitating the three-stream approach this year with our youngest pupils. It is clear that all Junior Infant classes are extremely settled in and enjoying the excitement and engagement of "big school"!

It would be remiss of me not also to single out our Senior White Football team in their victory over local rivals Ballyroan on 23rd October. The boys played their hearts out in front of a travelling supporter base of over 400! Many thanks to all who made it possible, including our Munster/Midlands hybrid management team of Mr. Murtagh and Mr. Curtin. Check out photos from the day on our website www.piusxbns.ie.

Finally, I wish you all a happy and most of all *safe* Hallowe' en break and I look forward to seeing you all on the 4th November!

Le meas,

Lorcan Coyle - **Principal**

People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel " - Maya Angelou

CHOIR

Choir practice for boys in third to sixth classes continues on Mondays after school. Such is its growing popularity that for the first time ever there wasn't enough seating in the Church gallery for all the choir members at the opening year Mass two weeks ago. Fr. Gerry paid tribute to the boys and their wonderful singing at the end of the Mass. The choir is now concentrating on its Lion King repertoire for our musical next April. After the Hallowe'en break the focus will shift to carols for our very popular Christmas Carol services.

PUPILS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Murtagh – Conleth Fitzpatrick O'Doherty
Ms. Crosbie: Geno Mugnier
Mr. Geraghty: Ronan Gannon
Mr. Dillon: Tomás Marron
Mr. Curtin: Jack Feighery
Ms. O'Connor: Conor Phillips
Ms. McWeeney: Cillian Friery
Ms. Dunne: Hugo Searson
Mr. Faherty: Daragh Murphy

PERFECT ATTENDANCE 2018/2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Ms. Devenney	Joshua Gahan	Ms. McWeeney	Conor O'Brien
	Lucas Gahan		Daniel Hewitt
	Devan Garrigan	Ms. O'Connor	Oisín McEntee
Ms. Stewart	Fionn Gosling		Daniel Butler
	Harry McCann		Senan Hennessy
	Sam Lynagh		Thomas Jennings
Ms. Robinson	Aaron Gosling		Cillian Woods
	Harrison Leonard		Oscar McGarry
Ms. Brogan	Daire Holloway		Cormac Tan
	Tadhg Jennings	Mr Dillon	Rhys Ferguson
	Danny Cusack		Patrick Kinsella
	Sean O'Brien	Mr Curtin	Alex Butler
Ms. Pléamonn	Eoin Rafter Whelan		Cillian Murphy
	Dillon Yates		Ronan Moore
	Peter Kenny	Ms. Crosbie	Callum Carrick
Ms. Redmond	Ethan Maguire		Tomás McEntee
	Max Cahill	Ms. Murtagh	Lochlann Murphy
	Matthew Cahill		Tom Bulfin
Ms. Dunne	Sam Cloughley	Ms. Dunne	Oisín Dolan
	David Somers		Charlie Hogan
	Aaron Sagoo		Richard Cahill
			Luke McNamee

Quizzlers

Our Friday quizzes for 3rd to 6th classes are back – don't forget to check the quiz page on our website for top scorers and for a copy of each quiz (published after the event, of course!!)

Reminder: School closed Wednesday 20th November due to in-service teacher training.

MANGAHIGH MATHS CHALLENGE

As part of Maths Week Ireland St Pius X B.N.S. took part in the Mangahigh Ninja Spider Maths Challenge. We finished a creditable 5th in Ireland and 12th in the British Isles. Some staggering figures for you to digest!! We accumulated 22,886 points, acquired 22,692 medals, and completed 9,164 activities!! All in all an amazing 1,093 hours were spent enjoying the benefits of Mangahigh Maths' activities. That corresponds to approximately 45 days!! Many thanks to you all for your patience and support. I know the boys thoroughly enjoyed the experience. A huge well done to all the boys for taking part.



Special thanks to Mr Smyth and the Mangahigh team for their hard work and consistent support.

GOLF



Due to the spell of inclement weather recently, our victorious exploits in Croke Park, and our impending mid-term break, golf will commence on Wednesday 6/11/19. Due to the large numbers from the three 6th classes, the sessions will take place over alternate Wednesdays. You will receive texts stating the group and class your son is involved in.

Fortunately we have the involvement of the Spawell golf centre and a golf professional will be at our disposal. The sessions will take place from 3-4pm sharp. Many thanks to the Golf Team for their participation and willingness to give up their free time. Looking forward to the emergence of a budding "Rors" on the scene.

Vincent and the Golf team.

TENNIS



Tennis coaching has kicked off again this year with Junior and Senior Infants, First and Third classes all being coached in the school. Tennis is a fantastic sport which specifically focuses on fundamental movement and various other vital skills that will transfer to other sports and provide a life skill for children and great enjoyment. Furthermore we will continue the Tennis development in the Senior end of the school with coaching for Spring. We encourage all boys to join any of the local clubs to further enhance their skills.



FOOTBALL

SENIOR WHITES

The footballing year began on the second week of September in Bushy Park, Terenure against an impressive St Mary's outfit. Despite our players fighting bravely and never giving up in what was an enthralling encounter, it was the Rathfarnham side who came away victorious on the day. Subsequently, after two immense battles against Drimnagh Castle NS and Ballyroan Boys NS, we found ourselves in a semi-final versus St Fiachra's, Beaumont. The boys saved their best performance of the campaign so far for this 'do-or-die' clash which was held in Russell Park, Castleknock. Aided by a stiff first-half breeze and roared on by a large travelling support, St Pius X BNS ran out convincing winners.

The season culminated in a win on the hallowed turf of Croke Park on Wednesday the 23rd of October. This was no more than the team deserved after a fantastic season. This bunch of young men produced some spectacular football along the way and the final was no different, with the boys running out 3.15 to 1.6 winners in the end against our local rivals Ballyroan BNS. Well done to the team and their coaches Mr. Murtagh and Mr. Curtin. We look forward to seeing some of you wearing the Dublin jersey in Croke Park in the future!!



SENIOR NAVY

The Senior Navy had a remarkable season this year. They came up against tough opposition, but they showed resolve and willpower in every single match. Our first match was an away game against St Michaels where the boys showed unbelievable composure to get our season off to a winning start. We then had what would prove to be our toughest game of the season against local rivals, St Mary's Rathfarnham. It was a superb game to watch and although St Marys edged the win in the end, Pius showed great determination and fought hard until the very end. Our third, and final match saw Pius display some excellent football skills to overcome Hollypark and it was great to end the season on a high! This team have been a pleasure to work with throughout the year and have shown remarkable commitment, dedication and team-spirit. As always, we would like to thank the parents for ensuring lifts to training and games, and providing invaluable support on the line. Many thanks to Ms. Redmond and Ms. Brogan for their endless support and encouragement throughout the season.



JUNIOR GREENS

The Junior Green team got their season off to a great start beating St. Brigid's Foxrock in a thrilling away game. The boys put on an excellent display of football in the first half and kicked some outstanding scores which meant we went into half time with a comfortable lead. As expected, Foxrock came out fighting in the second half and the boys really dug deep and managed to hold them off until the final whistle. Things were looking good!! Next up for the Junior Greens was another away game against Scoil San Treasa. Pius got off to a slow start against a skilful San Treasa side and we went into half time trailing by 1-5 to 1 point. However, playing downhill in the second half the boys came out and took control of the game. We dominated all areas of the game and made an outstanding comeback and got some crucial scores to narrow the margin to a single point. We were very unlucky having lots of our shots stopped on the goal line and hitting the crossbar and unfortunately, time was not on our side. The final whistle blew and San Treasa breathed a sigh of relief as they were lucky to come away with the win! Our next game was against St. Laurence's, Kilmacud which was a very exciting game. The boys showed fierce determination and skill and all their hard work at training was evident as they battled hard for every ball and defended well against a very skilled Kilmacud team. However, it wasn't meant to be on the day but we held our heads high as we focused on our final game of the season. This was against local rivals St. Joseph's and we came out well on top of this contest. A great end to a great season! A huge thank you to all the parents for their continuous support and to the boys for hard work throughout the season. A massive thank you to Ms. McWeeney, Mr Kealy and Ms. O'Connor for their dedication and commitment to football in the school. The future of football in the school is very bright and we're looking forward to seeing these boys in the Pius jerseys again next year.



JUNIOR WHITES

The Junior Whites had a great season winning 4 out of their 5 games in what turned out to be a very competitive league. The team showed great determination and commitment throughout the campaign most notably when they came back from a three-goal deficit against St. Michael's in Bushy Park to win the match. They have been a pleasure to work with and needless to say our senior teams will be packed full of exciting prospects next year. Thanks a million to Mr. Geraghty and Ms. Crosbie for their support and commitment to the team.



JUNIOR NAVY

Our Junior Navy's had a super season topping the Go Games league. Playing 5 matches, our panel of 24 boys from 4th class fought hard to earn wins over Ballyroan Boys, Maelruains and St. Marys Rathfarnham. A draw in our final match V St Joseph's was enough to secure top spot. Well done to the boys and to coaches Ms Gallagher, Mr Faherty and Mr. Smyth.

HURLING

We look forward to another exciting year of hurling in St. Pius X BNS. Coaching is already underway during school for our Senior Infants, 1st and 3rd classes with our GPO Tommy O'Mahony from the famous Faughs GAA Club. Hurling coaching for our 4th, 5th and 6th classes will begin after school in Spring. Cumann na mBunscol competitions begin in March.

Junior infants GAA has commenced with our GPOs, Tommy and Kevin from Templeogue Synge Street. The boys are playing both hurling and football each week and we can already see stars in the making!

As you may already know, **Templeogue Synge Street** caters for **football** players only and **Faughs** exclusively for **hurling**. So while separate clubs, they coordinate all their training and matches so boys can enjoy both codes. Many thanks to both parish clubs for all their hard work and dedication to the promotion of GAA in our school.

If there are any boys who wish to **join Faughs** and play hurling; please contact Tommy on 0868114643.



THE LION KING JUNIOR

Preparations are now in full flow for our greatly anticipated production of 'The Lion King Junior', which takes place this April 1st - April 3rd in Templeogue College. Ms Carroll, Ms Redmond, and Ms Stewart are currently working tirelessly teaching all the boys from 3rd to 6th the songs and the harmonies from the show. After the Hallowe'en break, we will use these songs to audition any boys from 3rd to 6th, that are interested in a lead role in the musical. All boys in the senior end of the school will have a singing or non singing part in the musical if they so wish, so please encourage your children to avail of this brilliant opportunity to be part of a large whole school production. It promises to be an experience they will never forget!

Rob Kealy

Musical Director



See you all on Monday 4th November!

**Happy
Halloween**