



**Scoil Náisiúnta An Dea Aoire**  
**The Good Shepherd National School**  
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Dear Parents/Guardians

12<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

As we are heading towards the Summer Break we look forward (with hope!) to more sunny days!

### **STAFF NEWS**

We are delighted to welcome Keith Byrne who has recently joined our team as Assistant Caretaker. We thank Southside Partnership, DLR for their support of the TÚS Scheme which has made this placement possible.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Congratulations to the children who received First Holy Communion on May 17<sup>th</sup> during Sunday Mass in the Good Shepherd Church. They were a credit to themselves, their families, their school and their parish. Their artwork in the Church and in the Parish Centre was greatly admired. Thanks to all who helped with the preparations for this special day particularly their Class Teachers Aoife Rafferty & Siobhán Doyle. Well done to the choir who sang so beautifully while being conducted by Aoife Rafferty. Their singing was praised by many parishioners and parents and we received many compliments on their new robes also. Thanks again to those who helped with the refreshments for the communicants and their families in the Parish Centre after the ceremony.

### **FILL THE VAN**

Our fill the van initiative was a great success this year - over twenty four bags were sent into the school. Some of the items will be sent to the NCBI shops for the blind, and the rest will be recycled -so nothing is wasted. The school will get €4 for every filled bag, and also a green certificate which will help us to retain our green flag for recycling. A big thank you to everybody who donated items.

### **ACTIVE WEEK 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

Active Week has been a most enjoyable and successful week for both pupils and staff. Thanks to parents, Ingrid & Marion, who helped with the "games of long ago" on Wednesday last. Well done to the Active Team for their contributions to the event including the 'Active Homework' initiative and to Maggie for all her hard work. A very special thanks to Ms. McCormack for the flawless organisation - she even produced the perfect weather!!

### **SUMMER CONCERT THURSDAY, JUNE 18<sup>th</sup>**

We gave you a 'Save the Date' message for the above in our newsletter of March 23<sup>rd</sup> last and now the occasion is almost upon us!

This concert is to mark the end of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. Your children have been practicing so hard for this and every pupil in the school will be taking part.

Junior Classes will perform in the morning and Senior Classes after lunch. The times are as follows:

Junior Infants 9am	Senior Infants 9.15am	1 <sup>st</sup> 9.30am	Ms. Jackson's class 9.45am
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class 10am	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> 1pm		Ms. Doyle's & Ms. NíMhórdha's Classes 1.20pm
5 <sup>th</sup> Class 1.40pm	6 <sup>th</sup> Class 2pm		

There will be light refreshments available in the small hall/cookery kitchen throughout the day- self service!  
*Just to let you know (if your children haven't already told you) - this concert replaces our annual Talent Show.*

## TIDY SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY

We enter this competition every year and always do well but this year we were awarded 'A Certificate of Honours in Pioneering for a Clean Local Environment'. This competition is sponsored by Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and we were presented with our plaque by Councillor Marie Baker in the council offices in Dún Laoghaire recently. The judges call to schools without any advance notice which makes this award all the more worthwhile. Well done to all pupils and staff who help to keep our school looking so well but special mention to the Green School Committee, Ms. Jackson, caretakers Noel and Keith and cleaners Sharon and Mary. We also acknowledge the lovely work that a number of parents, particularly Elaine, have previously done on the gardens and patio.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>, SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr. Dermot has invited the Catholic children in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Church on Tuesday next, June 16<sup>th</sup>. If the weather is too bad to walk to the Church this will take place in the school. If you do not wish your child to take part please let their class teacher know in advance.

## END OF YEAR SCHOOL REPORTS

Their end-of-year School Report will be given to your child next week. The results of this year's Standardised Tests in English & Maths for 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> classes will be included. Class and learning support teachers will be available to meet parents to discuss these results between June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup>. Please make an appointment through your child's diary or by telephone.

## SUMMER CAMPS AT GOOD SHEPHERD N.S.

[ Ms. Rafferty and Ms. Toolis are planning to run a Summer Camp from Wednesday July 1<sup>st</sup> - Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup> for pupils from Jun. Infs to 3<sup>rd</sup> class. Cost is €60 per child - you can get an application form from the school.

There are currently not enough applicants to run this camp. If you are interested, you need to inform the school by Monday next, otherwise the camp will unfortunately have to be cancelled.

[ Karl Russell who takes after school short tennis classes here every Tuesday is also running a Summer Camp in the school from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Telephone Karl (087 9972027) for details.

## PARKING AT HAZELBROOK SQUARE, WHITEHALL ROAD

I have received a letter from the Managing Agents for Hazelbrook Square, the housing development across the road from our school. Following is an extract from their letter:

*"... We have an ongoing issue with a large number of parents associated with Good Shepherd N.S. parking in the entrance gate to Hazelbrook Square and along the double yellow lines on the Whitehall Road, in the mornings and afternoons when dropping off and collecting their children. This is a serious issue in particular between the hours of 11am and 2.30pm as residents' visibility is being blocked when exiting the development.*

*Construction of 28 apartments and 67 houses is due to commence on the adjoining site in July which will inevitably result in an increased level of construction traffic in the area. The construction will take approx. 20 months to complete and should these cars continue to park on the roadway and during this time, the Management Company are concerned that an accident may occur.*

*The Board of Directors of Churchtown Square Management Limited would request that all parents are made aware that parking within the development is restricted to residents only"*...

## REMINDER - PRIMARY ONLINE DATABASE (POD)

If you haven't already sent back the blue sheet, please do so on Monday. Many thanks to the great majority of you who returned it so promptly.

Thank you for your continued co-operation,

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Sheila FitzGerald - Principal

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JUNE

THURS, 18th

Summer Concert to mark the end of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations.

TUES, 30th

School closes for Summer Holidays

12.15pm