

Dear Parents/Guardians, The following information is for your attention:

1. Harvest Service:

Our Harvest Service is on **Tuesday 24th October @ 7pm in Christchurch, Gorey**. All children are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as their donation to the service (e.g. any tinned/dried foods). These foods will be given to St. Aidan's Day Care Centre. All children are expected to attend and must wear full uniform for this service.

2. Christmas Shoebox Appeal:

If any parent wishes to support the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, which is a project run by Team Hope, your child can ask their teacher for a leaflet. If you need additional leaflets please contact the Secretary.

The closing date for return of the shoeboxes is **Friday November 10th**. Filled shoeboxes can be left into the school when school is open.

3. Trick or Treat for Temple St:

We are supporting Temple St. Hospital on **Friday 27th October**. Children may dress up in fancy dress on this day and are asked to bring in €2 each which will be donated to the hospital funds. Children will change back into their uniforms by little break so please send in their uniforms with them on the day.

4. Parent – Teacher Meetings:

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place during the week starting **November 20th**. Further information regarding booking your times will issue **after** the mid-term break.

5. Parent-Teacher Association 2017/2018:

We welcome the following members onto this year's P.T.A:

Norman Spencer, Alan Poole, Sandra Poole, Dionne Galvin, Beverley Jones, Michael McKillen, Lisa O'Donnell, Imelda Trankner, Sue Halnon, Gillian Bailey, Mr. Bater and Teacher's Rep: Ms. Kate McDermott.

We thank the PTA for their continued hard work and dedication to our school.

6. Independence Fortnight:

As part of our S.P.H.E. (Social, Personal & Health Education) programme we are encouraging our pupils to become more independent and responsible.

To develop this on a whole-school basis we will be taking part in "Independence Fortnight" from 13th to 24th November.

During this time we are encouraging our pupils to come into school, hang up coats and bags, unpack lunchboxes, hand up homework etc *unaided*. Mr. Bater will be at the front door every morning to greet the children. To promote independence Mr. Bater will be the point where parents leave their children at school i.e. at the front door.

After this event we would like you to continue to encourage and support your child's growing independence by promoting this initiative.

7. Homework:

As we are now settled in to the new school year and homework is a regular part of your children's day, we would like to encourage all parents to thoroughly check and sign their children's homework journals. This will continue to strengthen the relationship between school and home and ensure consistency throughout. The homework journal is an integral part of communication between home and school and is considered to be an important component in the children's education.

8. Headlice:

We have been advised of several cases of headlice in school. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis and treat if necessary. Pupils with medium to long hair must wear their hair tied up at all times while in school.

9. Midterm break:

Gorey Central School will close for Hallowe'en Midterm break on Friday 27th October at **2.30pm (NB: not a half day)**. School re-opens on Monday 6th November at 8.40am.

Thank you,

Mr. Bater.