



***St. Stephen's De La Salle BNS***

***25 Patrick Street, Waterford.***

***051-871716***

***[www.ststephensbns.com](http://www.ststephensbns.com)***

## **Dear Parents/Guardians**

A happy and healthy New Year to all parents and families for 2020. Our teachers and staff thank you for your help and support. Our parent/teacher meetings were a great success. There was almost 100% attendance, which shows the interest you as parents have in your boys. I would like to thank you the parents, for encouraging and helping with good discipline and good manners, which your boys bring to school each day. Our pupils' behaviour is very good. I must thank our teachers also.

**Yard supervision begins at 8.40 every day. Could I remind all parents to remain at the barrier and the boys to walk down to the playground.**

St. Stephen's is a busy place with many activities taking place. Recorder classes, drumming classes and Zumba dance classes are going very well. Swimming for all boys in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> starts on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan. Swimming for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> will start on March 26<sup>th</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes will begin in May. Many boys in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> are taking part in basketball training and matches.

**Hurling in the school yard will be starting in February for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classes, weather permitting. The 4<sup>th</sup> class indoor hurling blitz is on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. Thanks to our teachers for giving so much time to these activities. Chess is running on Tuesdays, thanks to Billy.**

Please remember homework Monday to Thursday, being on time, having all materials and books each day. For health and safety reasons, scarves and hats with strings should not be brought to school.

Almost all boys are on time for school each day thanks to parents. Those that are late should go to reception to enter the school.

**Please remember that no cars should come onto school grounds as it would be a serious health and safety issue for pupils and staff alike.**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes are preparing for communion and confirmation. Communion date is Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation takes place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

**Please remember for safety reasons that all visitors to our school must report to reception.**

Sincere thanks to all parents and families for your support with our Christmas raffle.

A huge thanks to our wonderful Parents Association for their tremendous support to our school. They are delighted with the response and all these funds will be used to support many school activities.

School will close on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February for midterm.

School will close on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March for St. Patrick's Day.

Easter holidays begin at 12 o'clock on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Our school is working with the New Language Curriculum and there will be a whole staff inservice halfday in the coming months. We will notify you in good time with the date.

There are spaces for our free preschool and Junior Infants classes. There will be an open day on Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> for Junior Infants. If you know of any child interested in coming to our school please contact [ststephensbns@gmail.com](mailto:ststephensbns@gmail.com) for an application form or call Deirdre @ 051 - 871716.

Stay Safe lessons have started again this year.

Work has started clearing the building site. Final plans and costs are ready to be sent to the Department of Education. Tenders for builders will be the next step. We are in the process of ordering new tables and chairs for 3<sup>rd</sup> classes to 6<sup>th</sup> classes. We will be selling the old desks at a low price if you are interested contact reception.

Thank you

Mr Morris.