



St. Macartan's College

August E- Newsletter

www.stmacartanscollege.ie

8th August 2018

Focal ón bPriomhoide

As the news school year approaches, I hope that you all had an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful summer we have just had.

Since our June newsletter the school has seen a number of changes on the teaching staff. In June Mr. John Conaty announced that he is to retire from teaching as of August 31st this year. On behalf of the school I thank him for the enormous contribution he has made to St. Macartan's College and I wish him good health and every blessing for the future.

Ms. Fionnuala Griffin will leave St. Macartan's to take up a teaching position closer to her home at St. Vincent's Secondary School Dundalk. Once again on behalf of the school I wish Ms. Griffin well in her new school.

In June Mr. Patrick Duffy was seconded by the Department of Education to help facilitate the introduction of the new Junior Certificate programme in Gaeilge. I have no doubt that Mr. Duffy will make an invaluable contribution in this new role.

This year our school will welcome a large number of First Year students. I wish them all well in their new school. We also welcome a number of new teachers, Ms. Máire Nic Cionnaith from Smithboro to teach Gaeilge, An tUas. Seán Farry from Armagh to teach Gaeilge, Mr. John McCarron from Truagh to teach Maths, Science and ICT, Mr. Donal Carragher from Clontibret to teach Science and P.E., Ms. Sarah Curran from Leitrim to teach English, Ms. Fiona Hurson from Smithboro to teach Art and Mr. Niall Lee from Galway to teach History and English. I wish all new staff members every success at St. Macartan's.

I hope that the coming school year will be a rewarding one for your son and I look forward to meeting you during the course of the year.

Le gach dea ghuí - Raymond McHugh Principal

Return to School Dates

Monday 27th August:

First Year students return for Induction Day 10.00 am - 1.00 pm (no need to wear uniform)

Tuesday 28th August:

First Year students only

Wednesday 29th August:

All students return to school (except TY & LCA)

Monday 3rd September:

TY & LCA students return to school

Uniform - The school uniform, is available to purchase from the Fabric Centre & Wilson's Shop in Monaghan town.

Junior Student's Uniform - Official school navy jumper and junior school tie, white shirt, grey trouser and black shoes.

T.Y. Student's Uniform - Official school senior jumper (black) new senior school tie, white shirt, grey trouser and black shoes.

Fifth and Sixth Year Student's Uniform - **If purchasing a new uniform it must be the new senior (black) jumper and senior tie.**

Parents are also reminded that **students in all year groups may only wear an official school jacket to school which is available to purchase through the school website.** Students' uniforms will be inspected on their first day back at school. Please ensure that your son's school uniform is in an appropriate condition for his return to school.

Students are reminded not to return to school with their hair shaved, bleached or dyed in any way.

Please update the St. Macartan's College App on your mobile device as all messages from school will be posted via this facility.



The **School Journal** system is an important means of regular communication between teachers and parents. It is used by pupils to list homework and other notes, and is used by teachers to enter comments on pupils' work and behaviour. The Journal will be distributed to pupils by class tutors at the beginning of term. Reading and checking the Journal will enable you to take an active interest in your son's progress at school, and it is vital that you sign it **each weekend**. We hope that parents will use the Journal as a means of communication with the school and ask that **all** notes to the school are entered in it. A copy of the Code of Behaviour is included in the Journal. I ask you to read the Code carefully before recording your acceptance in your son's Journal.

The new Junior School Journal will include information on the new Junior Cycle, study planning, diet, nutrition and wellbeing

The school will open to receive pupils at 8.05 a.m. each morning.

No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time and

I ask you not to leave your son at the school before 8.05 a.m. Classes commence at 8.50 a.m. No pupil should arrive later than 8.40 a.m.

Students are expected to proceed directly to the school each morning and not to cross the road to the shop.

Classes end each day at 3.53 p.m. The school cannot accept responsibility for pupils in the school after 4.05 p.m. unless they are involved in Homework Club, after school study or extra-curricular activities.

Where students do not travel by bus, parents should arrange to collect them by that time.

Safety - When collecting students from school - please do not park on double yellow lines



Students may not leave school grounds during the school day without permission.



Evening Study Facility

Arrangements with regards to **after school study** will be available to students on their return to school in September. Places in study will initially be awarded to 6th Year students followed by 3rd Year students and then on a first come basis to non-examination students.

The school calendar will be published and updated online on the school website www.stmacartanscollege.ie and on the school app. Please check the calendar section of the school website for updates on school events.



School Canteen -

Our catering company, Getfresh catering has appointed a new executive manager to our school canteen. A new menu has been designed and approved by a dietitian as well as a new layout for the facility itself.

A new payment facility will also be available whereby payments may be made via a student's mobile phone. Parents will be in a position to add credit for the school canteen via the school website.