

School Holidays 2021-22

Oct Mid-term Break	Closing Fri 22 nd of Oct Re-opening Mon 1 st of Nov
Christmas Holidays	Closing Wed 22 nd of Dec Reopening Thurs 6 th of Jan 2022
Feb Mid-term Break	Closed Thurs 24 th and Fri 25 th of Feb
St Patrick's Day	Closed Thurs 17 th and Fri 18 th of Mar
Easter Holidays	Closing Fri 8 th of Apr Reopening Mon 25 th of Apr
May Bank Holiday	Closed Mon 2 nd and Tues 3 rd of May
June Bank Holiday	Closed Mon 6 th , Tues 7 th and Wed 8 th of June
Summer Holidays	Closing on Thurs 30 th of June

St. Philip the Apostle Junior School



Autumn Newsletter 2021

Dear Children and Parents,
We hope that you have enjoyed being back to school over the last few weeks. Many thanks for all your cooperation in making our school a safe place and for observing public health recommendations.



Hallowe'en Activities

We look forward to staging our **Annual Hallowe'en Dance-athon** for all our classes next week. This is a very important fundraiser for our school and we appreciate your support. Children will be given more information and **sponsorship cards** later this week. We provisionally plan to hold our Hallowe'en Dance-athon outdoors this year again, and we encourage children to dress up in their **Hallowe'en Costumes** on the day too. We are planning this for **Friday 22nd of October** during school, but will confirm early next week with weather forecast in mind. In addition, while we cannot host our annual Hallowe'en Assembly the School Hall, our teachers and children are working to share their songs and poems schoolwide virtually.



Meeting for Parents of Junior Infants- Wed 13th of Oct.

A meeting for Junior Infant parents will take place this Wednesday 13th of October at 9:45 a.m. via Zoom. Information regarding the Junior Infant programme in general, the Grow in Love Religious

programme, school activities and activities for parents will be discussed. We look forward to seeing you there.



Information Session in relation to Parents' Association Tuesday 12th of October at 7 p.m. via Zoom

As discussed in June, we are delighted to be progressing to a shared Parent Association with our sister Senior School this school year. As a first step, we have invited *Ms. Martina Boylan* of the *National Parents Council* to speak with us in relation to Parent Associations. This will be our first Parents' Talk of the new school year and we cordially invite you to attend this Tuesday 12th of October at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Parents of children in the Junior School and Senior School are invited. It is a great opportunity to find out more about how a Parent Association works, how you can be involved, and how we plan to move forward as a shared Parent Association. A link has been sent to you to invite you to register for the talk via Aladdin Connect and via text message. Registration will be available until 3:30pm on the day, the zoom invitation will then go to all those who have given permission.



School Activities

There are a wide range of activities and projects underway in the school. We will update you on these via our Newsletters, Aladdin Connect, school website www.stphilipsjns.ie and our school Twitter account [@StPhilipsJNS](https://twitter.com/StPhilipsJNS) so please connect with us ☺



Ballet for Junior Infants!

Our Junior Infant Classes are doing brilliantly settling into school. Every Wednesday, our Junior Infant Classes are now taking part in Ballet Lessons with our visit teacher Ms. Clare Connolly of Clare Connolly Dance and Ballet School (www.clareconnollydance.com) which will run until December! Watch this space!



Ukulele Returns!

We are thrilled to have Mrs. Sheilagh Fox, our visiting ukulele teacher back with us as part of our Musical Mondays. Sheilagh has been teaching our Second Classes Ukulele this half-term and next

week will be the children's sixth lesson. As part of our celebration of music at the school, each child in second class has received a *Ukulele Passport* in class to acknowledge his/her engagement with music. A special draw will take place for a €30 Walton's Voucher with the Ukulele Passports at the end of term. Ukulele lessons will take place for our 1st Classes in November and December.



School Lunches

Many thanks to you and your child for completing the new School Lunch Menu forms and we look forward to implementing the changes as soon as possible, including children's individualised morning snacks.

We ask that all children bring any lunch packaging including any uneaten part of the child's lunch home from school in a lunchbox in their schoolbags. This allows parents to know what your child has eaten, and it also supports the school's long-standing recycling policy. It is important that every child has a lunchbox to fit their hot lunch container. We thank you for your ongoing cooperation on this.



Safe Crossing for Children on Mountview & Shelerin Road

We ask all parents and the school community to observe the KEEP CLEAR sections of road at both the Mountview Road and Shelerin Road Pedestrian Crossings. It is very dangerous if cars are parked in this area as it inhibits motorists to fully see our Lollipop Ladies coordinating the road crossings for children, and equally it makes it extremely difficult for our Lollipop Ladies to see oncoming traffic. We appreciate your cooperation on this important matter.



Dogs Not Permitted on Campus

A reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school campus. This is clearly indicated on signage on the school gates. It is vital that all parents adhere by this rule to ensure the health and safety of all the children.



Frása na Seachtaine (Phrase of the Week)

Our Irish phrases for this week are:

Oíche Shamhna Shona Duit! (Happy Hallowe'en!)

Bob nó bia! (Trick or treat!)

With every good wish: *Jane O'Connell & Eimear Igoe*

