

Literacy and Numeracy:

- Primary Language Curriculum - Lift off to Literacy: During 1st term we are implementing this project in Ms. Mahony's Second Class.
- The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment have produced two information leaflets for parents/guardians regarding the Primary Language Curriculum. All of this information is available on www.curriculumonline.ie, and on www.helpmykidlearn.ie.
- Last Friday Pupils in Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd Classes took part in Practical Maths Workshops. Pupils used a wide range of "hands on" materials which cover several mathematical concepts. The workshops make maths relevant and enjoyable.
- The School Improvement Plans for Literacy and Numeracy are being implemented.
- Writing Workshops – pupils in 4th class attended a workshop in Loughrea Library. The workshop was facilitated by Caroline Beshar who is a children's writer.

Information Technology:

- Four new clever touch screens were installed during the summer.
- A Bee Bot Set (Robotics) was loaned to the school during September. All classes were timetabled to enable pupils to interact with the robots.

Parent-Teacher Meetings: Parent-Teacher Meetings will be held on Wednesday, 13th November and on Wednesday, 20th November after school hours. Your child's teacher will be in contact with you to arrange a time and date. The results of the Drumcondra Test will be available on request at the Parent-Teacher Meeting.

Baboró: Pupils in 5th and 6th classes attended a number of Workshops at the Baboró Festival in Galway last week. They visited Galway City Museum and Galway Arts Centre. The girls learned all about rainbows, how to investigate microscopes and they attended an art exhibition.

Homework Club: There are some vacancies for pupils in 1st to 6th class in the Homework Club. Contact your child's teacher for details.

Attendance: Traditionally we have a very high rate of school attendance here in St. Ita's. Please ensure that your child attends school on a daily basis. If your child is absent you must notify your child's teacher.

Book Rental/Art & Craft/Photocopying: Please ensure that you have paid your contributions as outlined on the booklist to your child's teacher.

Pupil Personal Accident Scheme: This is available at price of €8 for 24 Hour Cover.

Healthy Eating Policy/Food Allergies: Our Healthy Eating Policy has been revised and updated and is on the school website. A number of pupils attending St. Ita's present with **serious food allergies**. The following foods **must not** be included in your child's lunch - **egg, mustard, shellfish, kiwi and all nut products**.

Halloween Art & Window Boxes: There is a wonderful selection of Halloween themed Art & Craft displays throughout the school. The school window boxes were re-planted by Ms. O'Donnell Burke and her pupils. Well done to all in both projects.

Cake Sale: Please continue to donate and support Friday's Cake Sale.

Halloween Break: We close on Friday 25th for our Halloween Break and re-open on Monday, 4th November. Wishing you all a happy and safe Halloween Break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Coyle, Principal.