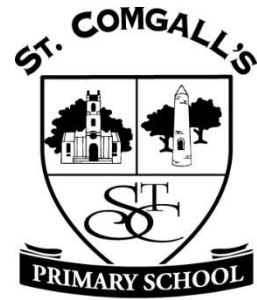


# Parent Information Sheet

## OCTOBER 2017



Please find below useful information and reminders for the month of  
**OCTOBER 2017.**

### **REMINDER**

**Old £1 coins will no longer be accepted after 13<sup>th</sup> October. As from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October only new £1 coin will be acceptable.**

### **Parent Teacher Consultations**

Parent teacher consultations for children in **YEAR 2 – 7** will take place in the week beginning **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. An invite will be sent to you from your class teacher. To facilitate these important meetings – all children in P3 -7 will finish school at 2pm every day that week.  
– **THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOLS CLUBS OR WAITING ROOM DURING THIS WEEK.**

*As year 1 parents have just completed teacher consultations, their next consultation with teachers will be early in Term 2.*

### **FLU VACCINATIONS**

As part of the National Flu Immunisation Programme the school nurse will be in school on: **TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2017** to administer the flu vaccinations to those pupils in Primary 1 to Primary 7 whose parents have elected for them to have it. It is administered by Nasal Spray.

**Your Flu Permission Slip must be returned to the school by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October.**

### **CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL**

We have launched our Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for the Charity **Road of Hope**. **Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4** children have been given information to help them create a shoebox gift. The children can decide to make a shoebox for boys and girls of different ages. The finished shoeboxes should be brought into school on or before **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. They will be collected by Road of Hope on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October in order to ensure that they reach the children in time for Christmas.

Visit the Road of Hope website for more information on **[www.roadofhope.org.uk](http://www.roadofhope.org.uk)**

**Your generosity and kindness is very much appreciated.**

### **YEAR 2 Harvest Assembly for Parents**

The year 2 children will present a harvest assembly for parents on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** at **1.30pm**. More information will be forwarded by invite from the children. We hope you can come and join the children on that day.

### **School Photos**

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October – our school photographer will be in school to take individual and family photos. **Please ensure your child wears correct winter uniform from this point on. Thank you**

### **UNIFORM**

As is school policy, from the **beginning of October until beginning of May** all children are required to wear their winter uniform (school shirt & tie) no summer polo shirts / dresses allowed. **Please ensure your child's uniform has their name on it.**

### **MATHS WEEK – Maths Challenge Day & Mangahigh.com**

14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October is Maths week – In school we will be working with the children to develop students' Thinking Skills, Logical Reasoning Skills, Team Skills and Communication Skills. Teachers will give team puzzles and challenges which help to boost the children's confidence and raise their expectations of what they can achieve. Along with special activities happening in school, we would ask that you spend a little extra time on fun maths with your child this week & Mangahigh.com/Purple Mash to compete online. Further information is with your child.

### **Update from School Canteen**

It is great to see so many children using the canteen at lunchtime. Parents are reminded to ensure they send children with the money to pay for their dinner on the day - as it takes a lot of time for admin staff to chase up monies owed. Thank you.

Special dates coming up in canteen: **Halloween Special: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

**Please Note: We will be required in October to deviate from our set menu for the month. Please be aware of the following changes:**

Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup>: Bagels will be on a Monday & Thursday this week only.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>: Sausages/Beans/Mash, Brownie & Fruit.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>: Fish Fingers/Peas/Mash, Ice Cream tubs.

### **DANGER - Zebra Crossing**

It has been brought to our attention that parents are driving with little/no care as they enter the back carpark of the school. Drivers have driven on through the Zebra Crossing (the zebra at the end of the School Hall) whilst parents and children are already on the crossing. Apart from violating the Highway Code, the drivers are putting our (YOUR) children at risk of severe injury.

PLEASE slowdown in our campus and present extreme caution when approaching Zebra crossings and pedestrian areas around our school.

### **Halloween Dress Up**

All children are invited to come to school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October dressed in their Halloween costume.

### **Reminder: School Closure**

**Halloween Holidays. School will close at 2 pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October & re-open on Mon 6<sup>th</sup> November.  
School closed 30<sup>th</sup> Oct - 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov incl.**

# Sacramental Information

Parents of children who are in sacramental classes.

Please note the dates of the sacramental meetings, services and sacraments relating to your child. This information has been agreed at Parish level, we hope you find it useful to have the dates this early in the year.

<b>P3</b>	Thur 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Penance Parent Meeting – 6.30pm (Parents Only)	St Joseph's Parish Centre
	Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE - P.3A & P.3B - 6.30pm Mass	St Comgall's Church
	Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan '18	Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE - P.3C - 12 noon Mass	St Comgall's Church
	<b>THUR 8<sup>TH</sup> MAR</b>	<b>SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE – 1.30PM</b>	St Comgall's Church
<b>P4</b>	Thur 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	First Communion Meeting -6.30pm (Parents only)	St Joseph's Parish Centre
	Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION - P.4A & P.4B - 6.30pm Mass	St Comgall's Church
	Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION - P.4C - 12 noon Mass	St Comgall's Church
	<b>SAT 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY '18</b>	<b>SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION – 11AM</b>	St Comgall's Church
<b>P7</b>	Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Confirmation parent meeting - 6.30pm (Parents only)	St Joseph's Parish Centre
	Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Service of Commitment - P.7A & 7C - at 6.30pm Mass (Children and families.)	St Comgall's Church
	Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan '18	Service of Commitment - P.7B - at 12 noon Mass (Children and families.)	St Comgall's Church
<p><b>The Service of Light and SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION dates will be forwarded to parents as soon as the Parish is made aware of them from the Bishop's office.</b></p>			

# OCTOBER –WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH!

Walking is a great method of transportation for children whose schools are located within a reasonable distance and is a healthy, green and fun way for pupils to make their way to school.

A survey conducted by Travelwise NI, revealed that 22% of pupils indicated that they would walk and 15% indicated they would cycle if encouraged to do so by their school or their parents.

Walking to school offers many benefits including;

1. Helps to form positive, life-long travel habits for young children
2. Contributes to a child's recommended daily amount of exercise
3. Will improve the surrounding environment by reducing pollution and traffic congestion (and will help us with traffic congestion in our school car parks!)
4. Can build upon a child's confidence and help teach them the rules of the road
5. Helps to strengthen relationships with friends and parents

It would be great if lots of children could walk / scoot / cycle / run to school during the month of October and wear a high visibility jacket to help with their safety.



## Community Capacity Building Programme 2017/18

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council have organised a series of courses/training sessions for local community/voluntary organisations. These courses are held in the evening at a very low cost, in both Antrim and Newtownabbey, to encourage local volunteers from across the Borough to attend and meet other like-minded volunteers. This year a range of sessions have been organised including the ever-popular **Emergency (First) Aid, Child Protection and Food Safety in Catering**. In addition, we are offering further courses including **Risk Assessment** and an **OCN Level II Award in Community Development**. Something completely new for this year is the **Evening with the Lottery Funders**. This is a **free** event offering an excellent opportunity for your organisation to hear more about the funding programmes offered by the Big Lottery including Award for All and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Registration for this event will be separate so please look out for more information in the coming months.

As demand for these courses is high, we limit participation to two volunteers per organisation. For further details and information booklet please visit [www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk](http://www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk)

Dear Parents,



Our first term charity collection will be for Age NI this year. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, we will invite everyone to "Slip into Slippers" and make a £2 donation to Age NI. For young and old alike slippers seem to represent comfort and warmth. Children can bring their slippers from home in a bag and change into them whilst indoors or they can wear their sports trainers with their uniform. Either way, the support will go a long way to helping older people in our society.

## Antrim Foodbank Information

Antrim Foodbank – based at 10d High Street, wrote to the school recently, outlining that their food stocks were getting quite low e.g. longlife milk, pasta sauce, jam, tinned tomatoes, fruit juice, etc. We are bringing this to your attention for information. If you feel you would like to donate, we would ask you to donate directly to the foodbank in High Street. T: 02894469020 Email: [info@antrim.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@antrim.foodbank.org.uk)



Slip into slippers, donate £2 and share a photo of your funky slippers using #slippersforAgeNI

**When:**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October '17.**

**Thank you!**

**Your kind donation will help Age NI to provide services that support older people in Northern Ireland.**

