

## Engaging Parents at St Patrick's

At present we at the school

- run play sessions for children and parents who will be joining the school in Nursery or Reception on three Thursdays in the summer term
- have staff visiting children and their families at home prior to their attending Nursery and Reception
- run coffee mornings for parents in the Nursery and Reception on topics such as "Helping your Child with Phonics" and "Helping your Child with Maths"
- have a Welcome Mass to which all new children and their families are invited
- run termly parents evenings
- have extended conversations with parents of children with additional needs
- run termly curriculum meetings about the topics that the children will be studying and supporting their learning
- have class masses, assemblies, plays, concerts and prize giving to which all parents are invited
- run a weekly prayer group for parents
- publish a weekly newsletter and a termly magazine with information about school life and the curriculum
- work with parents and parishioners to prepare the children for the sacraments
- led the ministries at masses in the parish for families and parishioners twice a year on the Epiphany and at the First Communion Celebration Mass
- consult parents through annual surveys on subjects such as children's progress, access/ entrances to the school, and attitudes to bi lingualism
- invite parents in for special sessions with our artist in residence
- invite parents in during themed weeks for example Maths Week and Science Week for special assemblies and Open Lessons
- welcome parents as volunteer helpers on trips and where appropriate as supporters of learning in classes where they do not have a child
- invite parents to contribute to the international food festival each summer
- support parents to make informed choices about their children's secondary schooling
- support parents to make online applications for secondary schools
- run esafety sessions for parents
- run parenting classes through the Parent Gym organisation
- encourage parents to see their child's class teacher about any concerns and if not satisfied to raise the matter with a senior member of staff
- communicate with parents mainly by letter
- use texting for either emergency announcements or calls to action





In the future I am open to all sorts of ideas.

I know that there are all sorts of talents that parents have which could be used to benefit the school.

We want to develop the playground project and harness the energy of parents and families to deliver the very best for the children.

I would like to have more parents delivering assemblies. We have a major art project planned with a family and friends theme.

We need to make more use of electronic and social media in communications. Texting is at present only one way. We now have the email addresses of approximately 60% of parents and will be supporting parents to open email addresses if they do not already have one.

We are investigating whether the PTA can have a Facebook page. ....and we are looking at employing Twitter as an additional "new news" medium....

Sean Cranitch Headteacher

