

## SCHOOL LIBRARY NEWS

### *Note from Principal*

The library is a very valuable service in the School. The School doesn't have the resources to provide this in addition to everything else and relies on volunteer parents to run and maintain it. Without this support from the parent body, the library service would be unable to operate and your children would have limited access to this vital element of education.

Remember that as the existing body of volunteers leave the School as their children progress to second level, we need constant replenishment by new volunteers and especially, new ideas.

I would appeal to all parents to read the suggestions as to how they can help and urge you to do what you can.

Le dea ghúí

Proinsias Ó hÓgáin  
(Príomhoide)

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### **VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED TO HELP RUN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The School Library is run by parent volunteers. Parents can help in a number of ways:

**1) RUNNING THE LIBRARY WHEN IT IS OPEN ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 9AM TO 12PM.**

A rota for this is on the noticeboard beside Yvonne's office and if you can spare even one morning throughout the whole year, that is a great help so, if you can, please sign up. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times any one volunteer is needed throughout the year. It is very straightforward to run the library for a morning. It is preferable to have two parents running it each time but we need more volunteers for this to happen on a regular basis. If you've never done it before, don't be put off (just write 'New' beside your name on the rota).

**2) DONATING BOOKS.**

Funding for books for the library is supplied by the School, by the Parent's Association and by the fundraising activity of the library volunteers since state funding of school libraries ceased in Budget 2008.

Donations of new or as-new books are always needed. What the library especially needs is recently published books in very good-new condition. Last year, for example, we couldn't have had enough Diary of a Wimpy Kid books they were so popular. Any books (both fiction and non-fiction) that your children have enjoyed but are finished with, and are in excellent condition, are very welcome.

### **3) LIBRARY TIDYING & BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS/IDEAS**

If you are not free on Tuesdays and Thursdays but would like to help, there are other ways you can help. For example, we encourage the children to put the books they are returning back on the shelves but the shelves do need tidying and the books may need new labels, minor repairs etc. Sometimes this can be done on Tuesdays and Thursdays but especially if there is only one parent on duty that day, it can be hard to do much of this. If you are free for an hour or two one of the other days to help that way, please let me know.

Also if you have any book-related (and/or other media) ideas, or have found a great book you would like to recommend for the library, please do get in touch

**The current library volunteers also emphasise that it is a very enjoyable way of contributing to the children in the school and a chance to see your child interact with fellow classmates. Any help you can give is very much appreciated – the library cannot operate without the help of parents.**

Please phone Dee Blake on 085 1576182 / 2784632 if you have any questions or ideas about how you could help. Thanks.

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### **BOOK NEWS**

*Stillorgan Public Library* are launching a new book-club on Monday afternoons for children aged 8-12. Their phone number is 01 2889655 if you would like to find out more.

*Some good resources for children's books online:*

<http://www.inismagazine.ie/> (the Children's books magazine published by Children's Books Ireland <http://www.childrensbooksireland.ie/> )

Kim Harte's blog: <http://www.richtercollective.com/kimharte/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/childrens-books-site>

### **ROALD DAHL FUNNY PRIZE**

The shortlist of the 2011 Roald Dahl Funny Prize was recently announced.

#### **Funniest Book for Children aged 7 to 14:**

Animal Tales by Terry Jones, illustrated by Michael Foreman (Pavilion Children's Books)

The Brilliant World of Tom Gates by Liz Pichon (Scholastic)

The Get Rich Quick Club by Rose Impey (Orchard)

Letters from an Alien Schoolboy by Ros Asquith (Piccadilly Press)

Penny Dreadful is a Magnet for Disaster by Joanna Nadin, illustrated by Jess Mikhail (Usborne)

The Wrong Pong by Steven Butler, illustrated by Chris Fisher (Puffin)