

**Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),**

**This year our school will have two sports days, one for the pupils in P1 – P3 and one for the pupils in P4 – P7.**

**The sports day for the younger children will take place on Tuesday 6th June in the school back field – weather permitting.**

**The sports day for the older pupils will take place on Friday 9th June in the grounds of Shane O’Neill’s GAC – weather permitting.**

**If the weather is too bad to go ahead on either day, we will contact parents as early as possible.**

**Parents are invited to attend the morning events of these days. We aim to begin both days at 9.45am and will finish for lunch at around 12pm. The afternoons will be given over to fun events and will be for pupils and staff only.**

**Children must always stay with their class and teacher – they risk missing an event if they have made their way to their parents. Please send them back to their class immediately should this happen.**

**The older pupils (P4 – P7) are to bring a packed lunch with them on Friday 9th June so we can remain at the GAC grounds during lunchtime. Any child on free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch on that day.**

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**There will be a coffee van at both days from 10am and parents can purchase coffee and traybakes throughout the morning. The children are not permitted to go to the coffee van – it is strictly for adults.**

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**There will be an ice cream van arriving at both events at 10.30am and staff will take their classes to the van in turn to get an ice cream or ice lolly – the school will cover the cost of this. Please do not purchase additional ice creams for your child(ren) as this could lead to confusion.**

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**During the children’s breaktime, P1 – P3, parents can take a seat in our outdoor classroom until the events resume. There will also be a toilet available for parents at the back of the school – beside the P6 classroom.**

**Children must remain in school for the rest of the day, so we are asking that you do not take your child(ren) with you when you leave at lunchtime. The older pupils will be brought back to school for dismissal at 3pm.**

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**In line with our child protection procedures, we cannot permit any photographs or recording to take place during these events. Photographs will be taken by an assigned member of staff and will be posted on the website.**

**The children will receive stickers on the day for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. There will also be a whole school presentation ceremony in school where the winners will receive certificates. We have decided not to award medals as they have become extremely expensive and can cause upset for the non-winners.**



**The element of competition is important and many children who struggle with academics get their chance to shine on this day. Our emphasis will be on enjoyment and inclusivity but we do want to recognise children who do well in these areas. To avoid any contention, we are asking that you accept staff decisions as final.**

**It is difficult for staff to have to disappoint a child who came close to being placed and that situation is only made worse if the decision is queried. It is also important for a child to learn to accept defeat with dignity and to celebrate the success of others – although his can take time!**

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**PE uniform is to be worn with trainers – not football boots. If the weather is very good, the children can wear shorts and t-shirts. Please ensure your child is wearing sunscreen and a sun hat on the day if the sun is shining on us. They should also have a bottle of water with them.**



**There will be a couple of events that will involve parents (not compulsory) so please wear the appropriate gear!**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

**The Staff and pupils of St Malachy’s P.S.**