



11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians

**RE: ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – DIRECT DEBIT VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PLAN**

As you are aware all schools, including our own, are facing huge financial pressures. This is due to a lack of funding from the Department of Education and the failure of the political parties to set a budget in place that will fund our education system fairly.

You will have heard on the news that school budgets have been cut continually over the past number of years. As it stands, our budget barely covers running costs for the school year, leaving us with no additional funds to purchase books, replace outdated/faulty equipment or even to cover the odd pot of paint for maintenance.

St Patrick's Primary School budget, like most, is in an alarming condition. In the future this could very well result in class amalgamations and/or loss of personnel.

In the past we have used the occasional fundraiser to allow us to buy much needed items for our pupils, and for this we are very grateful. St Patrick's has been blessed with very supportive families through the years.

I am writing today to appeal to you, our parents, for a monthly 'voluntary' contribution. We fully understand the pressures families face today. Please note this is a 'voluntary' contribution and not a compulsory donation to your school. However, we do hope that the majority of families will see their way to signing up, to help our school continue to function in the way that has worked extremely well for years.

We have decided to ask each family to set up a direct debit of £10 per month. This will allow us to continue to fund new reading books, access the Accelerated Reader Programme, purchase ICT equipment and software and some play resources as well as supplement trips out of school. Therefore, every single child in the school will benefit.

We would like to set this up to begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022. All you need are the school bank details (below) and you can set this up from your phone/online banking. Alternatively, you can visit your bank where they will assist you.

If the vast majority of families sign up, it will make a significant improvement to school funds and your children's experiences at our school.

If you need any further information, please contact me at school.

Many thanks

S Scullion  
Principal

<b>School Bank Details:</b>	<b>Bank of Ireland UK, Magherafelt, Co Derry</b>
<b>Sort Code:</b>	<b>90-49-82</b>
<b>Account Number:</b>	<b>8 1 1 6 4 9 1 1</b>