

## Newsletter September 2018

I'd like to say a very warm welcome back to all our staff and pupils after the summer holidays and an extra warm welcome to our new Junior Infants. I hope you all enjoyed the break and aren't finding the early morning starts too difficult! It is great to see so many happy faces coming to school in the morning and in class. We are looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and celebrating, Is deas a bheith óg.

### School Times

- To ensure the continued safety of your child Allianz Insurance has recommended that we make you aware of the following: *The official opening time of the school is 8.35am. The inside gate will be unlocked at this time to admit pupils to the classrooms. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before this time.*
- 10 mins Assembly time is allowed in the morning and classes will start at 8.45am
- Junior Infant parents are welcome to show their child to her seat when you arrive at the classroom. Once your child is settled say your goodbyes and leave. Once you feel your child is ready to come in from the cloakroom on their own, please encourage them to do so.
- All other classes should come into the class on their own. Children arriving after 8.55 am should come to reception and be signed in. Lateness will be recorded from 8.55am
- School finishes at 1:15
- Parents should wait in at their child's dismissal area at home time. Please complete the attached note about collection time and return it to your child's teacher.
- Please try to be punctual as it really upsets children if parents are late.
- If collecting children early during the year please inform the teacher in writing and enter the school through the reception. We prefer if children are not collected during break time. Children who are collected early must be signed out.

### School- Home Communication

During the year notices are usually given out on Mondays. Teachers also post notices on the classroom doors. Please check our school website regularly too. Formal Parent-Teacher meetings will take place in November.

### Contact Details

If there are any changes to your contact details or you have not provided the school with up to date emergency numbers please contact Lorraine at reception. It is extremely important that we would have up to date contact numbers. It can be very upsetting for your child and stressful for the class teacher if a child is sick or injured and the school is unable to contact anyone. The online payment facility is available now and includes all books and stationary. We have sent epayment links by email. If you have not received these links could you please get in touch with the school secretary as we may not have the correct contact details for you.

### **Belongings**

Remember there are lots of identical jumpers, coats, schoolbags and lunch boxes in each class so please label everything. We still have a lot of lost property stored. If you are missing any items from last year please ask at reception as we are going to dispose of unclaimed lost property at the end of this week.

### **Healthy Lunches**

- We have a number of children in the school with an allergy to Nuts. We therefore ask that **no nuts or nut products** be sent in. We like children to have a healthy lunch. Sweets, large chocolate bars, crisps and fizzy drinks are not allowed. Frubes & yogurts are also discouraged as they can be very messy for young children to manage.

### **Medical Needs**

- Any medical issues please chat to the teacher after school during the first week or two
- If your child has long-term medical needs you need to complete a 'HealthCare Plan' for your child and sign an indemnity form. Parents who have previously informed the school will have received these forms already.

### **HSE Visit**

The nurses from the HSE will be visiting the school on 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September to carry our Hearing & Sight tests on all Junior Infants. Forms to follow. If any parent from another class has a particular concern relating to their child's sight or hearing please let us know and we can arrange for them to be tested during that week too.

### **PE days**

In order to allow sufficient time for warm up, a complete lesson and cool down it has been decided that instead of doing PE twice a week for 20 mins & 30 mins the pupils will now do PE once a week for 45mins. GAA will continue for all classes in 9/10 week slots. Your class teacher will you advise you of those dates.

### **New School Warden**

On foot of a request by parents an extra school warden will now be at the junction of Kincora Road and Oulton Road at end of lane. He/she will start 10<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Illness**

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please send a note in to the class teacher on her return explaining her absence. Schools are obliged by law under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 to submit reports on school attendance to the Educational Welfare Services of the Child and Family Agency. Reasons for absences must also be submitted.

### **Parents Association**

We have a very active Parents Association in our school. Our parents are very involved in school activities and organize many fund-raising, social and educational events throughout the school year for parents and students.

The committee are willing to help out at every opportunity and provide invaluable support to the school in very practical ways.

They meet the first Monday of every month, unless it's a bank holiday and then it's the second Monday. New members are always welcome to join us throughout the year!

The following are upcoming PA events:

- Parents' Association AGM will be held in the School Hall on Tuesday 25th September at 8pm
- Junior Infants Day will be held in the School Hall on Sunday 7th October from 2-5pm
- Annual Quiz night fundraiser will be held in the Clontarf Rugby Club on Friday 19th October at 8pm

### **Enrolments for Junior Infants September 2019**

In July the Schools Admissions Bill passed all stages of the Oireactas and can now be enacted into law. As a result the Board of Management will be reviewing and revising our Enrolment policy to take account of the bill. Therefore, the school will not be taking applications for Junior Infants 2019 until further notice.