



Newsletter

January 2022

Happy New Year to all. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. We look forward to the new term ahead. Keep an eye out for updates via email, on our school website and Twitter.

Reminder

The school day begins at 8.50 a.m. Please ensure your children are in school on time every morning. Please note that we will not be responsible for children arriving before 8:50 a.m. If there is any change to collection arrangements, we would appreciate you letting us know.

Please do not congregate at the school gate and try to maintain a 2 metre distance. If you get out of your car, please wear a mask.

Children from 3rd to 6th class must bring a mask to school each day (as per Department guidance).

Absences

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, please fill in the 'Absence Form' on the homepage of the school website (see the green box).

If your child was absent in the days leading up to the Christmas holidays, please ensure you follow up by completing an absent note if you have not already done so.

The school is required by law to report unexplained absences, frequent absences or late arrivals to school to the Education Welfare Office, who will investigate the report.

Please find attached the most recent Isolation Quick Guide for under 13s. If your child has any symptoms of COVID-19, **however mild**, please keep them at home and contact your GP for further advice.

Before returning to school

If your child has been absent from school, complete the 'Return to school declaration form' prior to their return. You can access this on the homepage of the school website (see green box). This form needs to be filled in every time your child is absent from school or if a child is sent home early from school if feeling unwell but are well enough to then return the following day.

Change of P.E. days this term

Please note that the children from Junior Infants to 3rd class will begin GAA training with coach, Gavin Webb, each Wednesday. This will be held during school hours. Each child must bring a **gum shield** (pre-moulded) and a container for the gum shield to school. They will not be allowed to participate without a gum shield. Please ensure your child is wearing tracksuit bottoms and appropriate footwear.

P.E. days

Síológa: Tuesday

Junior Infants - 1st: Wednesday

2nd and 3rd class: Wednesday

4th and 5th class: Thursday

6th class: Friday

Head lice

Please be vigilant in checking your children's hair weekly and informing the school immediately if you suspect your child has head lice, so that we can alert other parents. If you do detect head lice, please treat accordingly with medicated treatments. Ask pharmacists for advice as to what treatments would suit your child. Sometimes, one treatment is not enough and it can easily re-occur. There are numerous treatments available.

Please note all hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back.

School Uniform

A sky-blue polo shirt and official school jumper/sweatshirt are compulsory for all children every day. Black footwear must be worn (runners permitted). Navy school trousers, skirt, pinafore must be worn. Leggings and branded bottoms are not permitted. Navy tracksuit bottoms and runners must be worn on P.E days.

We need to keep some windows open to keep air circulating in the classrooms during the day. Please ensure that your child wears plenty layers under their school jumper and polo shirt and brings a coat to school every day. It should be waterproof and have a hood. It is very important that pupils have coats, allowing classes to enjoy break outside on damp days.

Uniform order

We intend to place an order for extra uniform in the coming days. If you need some extra jumpers, polo shirts or jackets, please email the office and specify the size you require by Tuesday next, 18th January.

Milk

If you would like to order milk for your child this term, please email Sue in the office and let her know by Friday 14th. The cost of this will be added to your bill.

Bills

We are currently in the process of finalising bills for this term. You will be able to pay this via Aladdin. We would appreciate if all bills could be paid by the beginning of February, please.

Healthy lunch-box policy

Children must bring a healthy lunch to school – no fizzy drinks, no sweets, and no crisps please. Children should bring water to drink – no juice/smoothie cartons please. **A small treat is permitted on Fridays.** We would appreciate your cooperation with implementing all of the above in helping to maintain a healthy environment within the school.

The Student Council and Amber Flag Committee members are due to meet over the next couple of weeks to discuss some fun activities. Watch this space!

BLAST: Arts in Education

Julie Kelleher will begin the art project work with children from Síológa and Junior Infants to 1st class in the coming weeks. She has lots of exciting plans for the children. She has asked that we gather some materials. We are looking for the following, please: bubble wrap (small bubbles!), rolls of white paper /wallpaper, pudding containers e.g. plum pudding containers and old cotton sheets.

Dates for your diary:

GAA begins on Wednesday 12th January
Spring mid-term: 21st February - 25th February