



Scoil Náisiúnta Inse Rátha, Little Island National School.
Tel: 021 – 4354087.

Principal – Micheál Rea

30/08/2012

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that you all had a lovely summer and that you are ready for the school year ahead. I would especially like to welcome the children and families who are new to our school community. I hope that you will have a very happy and fulfilling time here.

It was a quiet summer compared to last year when we had a big extension project but there was still a lot of work done. Our local Community Association organised for the painting of the school shed in the yard. When the building work is completed we will replace the art work. We rearranged the pictures on the corridors and hung up new ones. Please feel free to come in and have a look at them after school any day. There was the usual maintenance and cleaning work as well so that the school looks great and ready for the children and staff. Over the last few days the staff have been in making sure that everything is ready and their dedication to their work is fantastic. Thanks to the Cogan family for tidying up the garden and trees. There was a lot of work involved in this and it has brightened up the front of the school.

We have permission to build a new extension to replace some of our pre-fabs so during the summer we applied for planning permission, a fire cert and a disability cert for the new building. Once we have these we can tender for a builder. We hope to begin construction in October, with the project completed by Easter. There should be minimal disruption to the running of the school and at all times the safety of our students will be our priority.

We have some teachers on leave this year and during the summer we recruited teachers to replace them. I am very confident that we have a great team in place to continue the excellent traditions of the school.

Our staff is as follows:

SNAs: Ann O’Keeffe, Maeve Tomlins, Mary Clifford, Siobhan Collins and Laura Daly.

Secretary: Jacinta Flannery

Cleaner: Ann Leahy

Caretaker: Mick Glavin

Junior Infants: Miriam Hennessy and Julie Neville

Senior Infants: Audrey Roche

1st Class: Brigid Lynch

2nd Class: Amy Ni Cheallaigh

3rd Class: Niamh Ni Chaoimh

4th Class: Michelle Dunne

5th Class: Robert Aherne

6th Class: Estelle Cassidy

Resource and Learning Support: Gillian Diamond, Nuala Murray, Grainne Duggan



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We will have a range of after school classes running this year. You will receive notes from the organisers of these classes over the next week or so. We have arranged for tennis, drama, art and craft and modern dance to be offered so far and we hope to have more soon. The school is facilitating the organisation of these classes but you will be entering into an arrangement with the class organiser so all queries and money will need to go directly to them. These are optional classes and our teachers will continue to run extra-curricular activities such as football, hurling, chess etc. Children are allowed into the school yard from 8.30 am and will be allowed into their classrooms at 8.40 am. Formal classes begin at 8.50 am. No responsibility can be taken for children before 8.30 am or after school unless on official school activities. We receive very strict guidelines from our insurance company so we have to stick to these times even if it is wet or cold. Please bear this in mind when you drop your child to school.

You will receive information about the pupil insurance scheme shortly. I would encourage you to avail of it. Accidents happen both at home and in school and this insurance has proven to be priceless for families over the years that have taken it up. It pays out quickly and is relatively hassle free. Please feel free to talk to me about it, if you have any questions.

Each teacher will communicate with you via notes and your child's homework journal. Please check regularly for notes. We will continue to use Text-A-Parent so make sure that we have your most up to date contact details. I will send home a newsletter each month to keep you updated on school news. Our school website has been a huge success and we will update it regularly so keep an eye on it – www.littleislandns.com.

Jacinta is in the office until 1.45pm each day. There will be no one in the office after that. Leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Uniforms: Children are to wear black shoes that they can run and play in with their uniforms and plain runners (not bright multi-coloured runners or high tops) with their tracksuits.

Please label all your child's belongings clearly – even for those in the older classes! That's all for now. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Please note that the car park is for staff use only and we would appreciate if the entrance could be kept clear at all times. Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking outside the school and don't block their entrances or park on the yellow lines.

All the best.

Micheál Rea.



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