



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

*Principal – Micheál Rea*

28/08/2014

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.

We are to build a new room this term and at the moment we are waiting for planning permission, fire and disability access certification. Construction should begin at the end of September. 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, Siobhan Collins, Mary Clifford, Laura Daly and Louise Taaffe.

Secretary: Jacinta Flannery

Cleaner: Ann Leahy

Caretaker: Mick Glavin

Junior Infants: Miriam Hennessy

Senior Infants: Eleanor Crowley

1<sup>st</sup> Class: Brigid Lynch

2<sup>nd</sup> Class: Julie Neville

3<sup>rd</sup> Class: Audrey Roche

4<sup>th</sup> Class: Ken Crewe

5<sup>th</sup> Class: Robert Aherne

6<sup>th</sup> Class: Niamh Ní Chaoimh

Resource and Learning Support: Gillian Diamond, Gráinne Duggan/Gillian Daly (job-share), Páidí O’Sullivan, Ber Walsh (shared with another school tbc) and Denis Davern (shared with Mitchelstown CBS).

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, art and craft, Irish dancing and modern dance to be offered so far. 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 brought into their classrooms by their teacher at 8.40 am. Formal classes begin at 8.50 am. On wet days children will be supervised in a classroom from 8.30am-8.40am. No



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responsibility can be taken for children before 8.30 am or after 2.30pm 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. The bus service is a private arrangement between parents and Joe Delea and, while the school facilitates it, we are not responsible for it in any way.

Pupil accident insurance: our Board of Management have, in line with many schools, decided to make this insurance compulsory for all children from this year.

Accidents happen both at home and in school and this insurance has proven to be priceless for families over the years. Check out [www.allianz.ie](http://www.allianz.ie) for more details. It pays out quickly and is relatively hassle free.

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](http://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!

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.

Best of luck to everyone for the year ahead. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

All the best.

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Micheál Rea.