

Scoil Inse Rátha

Déan do Dhícheall

Newsletter September 2022

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of our first month back already. The important routines have been set up in each class and staff and students are working hard. There is so much work being done it is hard to quantify. In Irish there is a saying “Tús maith, leath na hoibre” (a good start is half the work). After having a good start, we look forward to the rest of the year! We are planning events and initiatives for the year ahead so we hope that there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

Parking:

I would ask you to be conscious of our neighbours when you are parking outside the school. There are double yellow lines on the road so that traffic can flow safely – please do not park on the double yellow lines or in front of our neighbours. The Set Down area outside the school is for parents who are dropping their children and leaving so should be kept clear and not parked on.

New Junior Infants:

Our new Junior Infants have been great, and we are delighted to see them settle in so well. They are our future, so we hope that they have a very happy time in school.

Making an appointment to speak to a teacher:

Our teachers are always happy to speak to you about your child’s progress, or to address your concerns. Please ring Jacinta in the office to arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time as this allows the teacher to be prepared for the meeting and to be able to give you their full attention.

Date for Parent Teacher Meetings:

Our Parent Teacher meetings this year will take place on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th November. We will close at 1pm on Wednesday 23rd and have meetings from 1.30pm-2.30pm. On Thursday 24th meetings will be held from 2.45pm on. If these dates don’t suit you, please contact your child’s teacher to make a different arrangement. We will organise the meeting times after midterm break. We hope that we will be able to hold our meetings in person this year but will follow Public Health advice.

Sciath na Scol:

Our school football teams have been taking part in the Sciath na Scol championship this month. They are representing our school really well and we are very proud of them. They are demonstrating a great attitude and deserve their treat this week. Well done to all involved.

Official School Opening and Closing times:

Children are supervised from 8.40am each morning. They go into their classes at 8.50am when teaching starts. Infants go home at 1.30pm and 1st-6th classes go home at 2.30pm. Outside of these times we are not responsible for your child(ren) unless they are on a school related activity. We cannot take responsibility for children who are dropped to school before 8.40am. Sherpa Kids offer a childcare service before and after school. You can contact them at lins@sherpakids.ie.

Allianz Insurance:

Every child in our school is covered by the pupil personal accident 24hr insurance policy. The policy is valid from 1/9/2022-31/8/2023. Please visit www.allianz.ie for full details. There is a claim form on the website that has to be filled in and signed by me to confirm your child is part of the scheme.

Post Primary Enrolment:

In recent years there has been a growing demand for secondary school places in East Cork. Please be aware of the relevant closing dates for your preferred schools. They will all probably have waiting lists and if you miss the closing date you will be bottom of the list regardless of any other criteria. It is important to have a back up plan, in case you don't get your first preference.

Credit Union:

The Credit Union are back. They will visit every week on Wednesdays. If you can at all, encourage your child to save as it is a great life skill.

Maths Week:

Maths Week will take place at the end of October. We have a workshop booked from The Lifetime Lab for 3rd-6th Classes. Each class will do different activities to mark the week. You can help too by involving your child in shopping (estimating the cost of items, paying for them, checking the change etc) or identifying shapes, looking at the different sizes of items by weight or volume etc.

Covid-19:

While the future looks brighter this year, we still must be cautious. Schools, by their nature, are spreading grounds for viruses. The government have continued to provide funding for extra cleaning and sanitising. We will continue to encourage our children to wash their hands, sanitise and to have good coughing etiquette as well as taking ventilation breaks. We will follow any Public Health advice as the situation evolves during the winter. Please continue to be responsible and keep your child at home if they have any symptoms.

That's all for now. Remember to watch out for our latest news on our app.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

5th October: World Teachers Day

10th October: Board of Management meeting

14th October: school closed for in-service for Primary Language Curriculum. Sherpa Kids will be open all day to facilitate parents.

17th October: Lifetime Lab Maths Workshop for 3rd-6th classes.

17th-21st October: Maths Week

18th to 25th October: Scholastic Book Fair.

31st October – 4th Nov: school closed for midterm break

