**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER**

Admissions for 2022-2023 school year

On 11 October, we will start accepting applications for Early Start and Junior Infants 2022 school year. Each application will need a birth cert and proof of child’s PPS number. Our Admission policy is available to view on our website. Paper copies available on request.

St Brigid’s Girls School and St Fergal’s School will also start accepting applications for places in second class and their special classes.

Annual Admission Notices will be published in the parents’ noticeboard and on the school websites.

Health and Safety in and around our school

No dogs, no cycling, no scooting on school grounds! All children and adults must walk their bikes and scooters on school grounds.

All schools are still following their Covid Response plan: staggered times for drop-off and collection; separate play zones in the yard; sanitising; social distancing and reducing interactions between staff and class groups; limiting visitors into the school; lots of outdoor learning; open windows; sending home children who show any signs of illness.

Most parents were relieved to hear that the HSE have stopped instructing all classmates of a positive case to self-isolate. Classmates of a confirmed case may come to school but must stay at home if they have symptoms.

**Children with symptoms or “off-form” in any way must stay home until 48 hours symptom free.**

If there is a confirmed case in the household, children must stay home.

The Board of Management requests all adults and teenagers to wear a mask on school grounds. We are moving towards a time of personal responsibility in preventing the spread of illness and we would like to thank you, the parents and grandparents of our pupils, for your continued support for our safety measures. We are still trying to keep our families and community safe.

Autumn is here and the weather has turned cool. Children should dress warmly every day. They can wear extra layers under and over their uniform. All jumpers and cardigans should be labelled. We have some spare clean coats and hats. Just ask a member of staff.

Communication

We need to have three up-to-date contact numbers for every child, in case of emergency.

Have you signed up to Class Dojo yet? The teachers share messages and photos of children’s learning on Class Dojo.

If a child is sick, please ring the office every day to explain the absence.

Reminder to all parents to be respectful of privacy of pupils and staff in your social media communications. Our Acceptable Use Policy can be viewed on our website.

Outstanding workbook and materials money should be paid as soon as possible. We have a sale or return arrangement with the publishers so we cannot give out workbooks until they have been paid for. Anyone who would like to arrange a weekly payment off their bill can call to the window at Jackie’s office.

What we are learning this term

* Lots of nursery rhymes to help our memory, vocabulary, reading and spelling.
* Early Start, Junior and Senior Infants enjoy their Aistear play stations every day.
* Senior Infants and First have started their Guided Reading Instruction.
* Outdoor education in our lovely school garden. We are planting daffodils and tulips.
* Maths week coming soon! We love numbers, counting, calendars, clocks, shapes and patterns.
* Art, music, drama and stories
* Gaeilge ar fud an lae (Irish throughout the day).
* Outdoor games and PE
* Keeping safe and healthy: handwashing, respiratory etiquette
* Care of our common home/environmental awareness: keeping our classroom and school grounds clean and tidy; recycling our rubbish
* Our school rules: Walking Feet, Hands to Self, Listening Ears, Eyes on Teacher, Inside Voice, Quiet Hands Up, Working Hard

Calendar dates for October

New Glanmore menus will be given out this month. Ham and jam are back!

Halloween Dress Up and Dance day Fri 22 Oct

Maths Week: 18 – 23 Oct

Midterm break: School closes Fri 22 Oct at the usual time. Reopens Monday 1 Nov.

In the month of October we are turning our attention to the value of KINDNESS.