

SEPTEMBER 2014



**Dear parents and children,**

Welcome back to all of the school community. A special welcome goes to the junior infants and the new children who have joined the school. We are all looking forward to another year.

We've had a great start with the weather, long may it last.

Thank you to all the parents for complying with the new school uniform. The children look great.

This newsletter has lots of information so please take the time to read down through it.

### **School Self Evaluation**

There is a page designated to this on our website. This page will inform you of our literacy and maths initiatives. It sets out our three year improvement plan and it shows our School Self Evaluation Report. It is a work in progress and may change from time to time.

#### **Junior infants:**

The children are slowly but surely getting used to big school. It is a lot for them to take in. Their class is bigger; there are lots of books, copies to fill and rules to learn. I wish to remind you that Aistear, the new programme will start shortly. We have sent out a list of resources we need and there is a box outside of Ms Hannon's and Ms Farrell's rooms. Ms O Mahony will also use these resources. Please donate what you can.

It would be useful for you to google **Aistear information for parents**, you will open the website of the NCCA. This explains Aistear.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> the junior infants will go home at 2pm. They will also start to line up in the mornings and go in class by class. They will line up in their yard lines. The children will know themselves. **You the parents are still more than welcome to come in with them.** Please be patient with this process as it will take time.



**Children should do their best to get to school on time.**

**School starts at 9.20am. The children are under supervision from 9.20 to 3pm.**

*All lateness and absences need to be explained. A quick note in your child's journal will suffice.*

#### **Party Invitations/ cake**

*We as a staff have discussed the issue of party invitations/cake and have decided it is in the best interest of all the children that invitation/cake are not given out in the school. Please do not put the class teacher in a compromising position by asking him/her to distribute invitations/cake. Invitations should not be distributed in the yard. Thank you for your support in this matter.*

## **Healthy Lunch Policy**

**Available on our school website.**

**We promote healthy eating at school through our SPHE programme.**



**Green flag**

We are setting up a new committee at the moment. We are in the second year of our theme 'Biodiversity'. We have a school garden where we produced some funny shaped carrots, potatoes and onions. We have an insect hotel and a bee hotel. These are located on the left hand side as you go up the hill. **We will bring home all our waste this year to give our compost bins a rest.**

## **Walk on Wednesdays and Foot on Friday**

The number of children walking and cycling to school has really increased over the last few years. It is great to see this and makes so much sense.

Well done children. Children cycling please wear a helmet. Your brain is everything!

### **Lost property**

Due to the hot weather that we are currently experiencing some children have lost their lovely new jumpers.

**Names need to be written on all items of clothing as otherwise it is impossible to trace them.**

## **Yellow Flag**

Our yellow flag programme teaches the children to be inclusive and to show respect to everyone. We are due to renew this flag this year. We will set up our committee again. We will ask for volunteers from the parent body to be on the committee. This involves one meeting every 6 weeks maximum. If you have any interest please let Mrs Murphy know.

## **School building**

As you are aware nothing has happened! The reason for this is we are working through three conditions set by Fingal on the planning application. This takes time. Once these conditions have been amended and agreed by the board, the planning application will go back into Fingal.

Fingers crossed all will be well. So hold onto your hard hats for another while.

## **Monies at the start of the year.**

All monies requested on the booklist are used for resources for the children mainly for their art and craft and photocopying. The younger children can have an additional cost of copies and extra photocopying. For SESE and Stay Safe, in particular, the children use lots of worksheets.

I would ask you to remember that this money is needed by the class teacher as soon as possible as teachers stock up in September.

## **Garda Vetting**

We need parents to be garda vetted . Forms are available from the office. Any parent offering lifts, helping with sport must be Garda Vetted. All information is strictly confidential.

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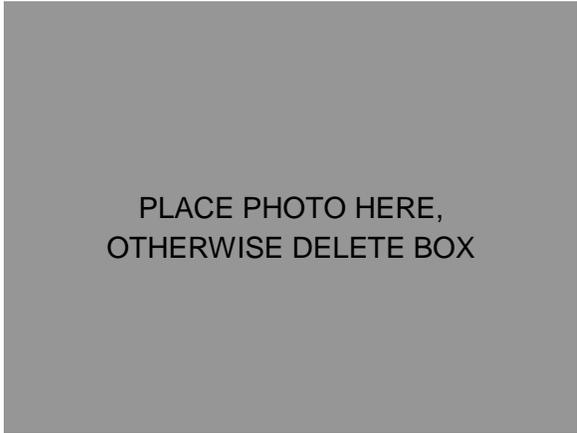


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