

Scoil na Croise Naofa
Geashill NS
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Roll No. 091911
Registered Charity No. 20204543

May 10th 2024

Dear Parents,

Please see the calendar below which outlines the remaining school closures this year and some other important dates.

Please note the dates in bold print as they were not included on previous calendars.

Maths Teacher Inservice Training Half Day Closure	Friday 31st May The school will close at 12.30pm
June Bank Holiday	Mon 3rd June
Senior School Tour	Thursday 6th June
Local & European Elections	Friday 7th June (School Closed)
Parents' Council Bake Sale	Saturday 8th June
Junior School Tour	Monday 17th June
6th Class Graduation & End of Year Celebration	Wednesday 19th June
Summer Holidays	School closes on Friday 21st June at 12.30pm

6th Class Graduation & End of Year Celebration

You are all invited to a graduation ceremony for 6th Class and our end of year celebration at 1pm on Wednesday 19th June. We plan to hold this outside and for the whole school to be in attendance. There will be some refreshments in the school afterwards.

Please note that if the weather is bad we will hold the ceremony inside and attendance will be limited to 6th Class and their parents.

2024/25 School Calendar

School Opening	Thursday August 29th
Hallowe'en Mid Term	Oct 28th-Nov 1st
Christmas	School closes on Friday 20th December & reopens Monday January 6th
St. Brigid's Day Public Holiday	Monday 3rd February
Mid Term Break	Mon 17th - Friday 21st February
St. Patrick's Day	Monday 17th March
Easter	School closes Friday 11th April & reopens Mon 28th April
May Bank Holiday	Mon 5th May
June Bank Holiday	Mon 2nd June
Summer Holidays	School closes on Thursday 26th June

First Communion

First Holy Communion takes place on Saturday May 18th at 11.30am in Raheen Church. 3rd to 6th Classes are taking part in the choir and while I know everyone won't be available I hope as many as possible will be able to attend. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Uniform

,As mentioned in the last newsletter, Geashill Tidy Towns and the school have set up a school uniform bank where uniforms that are no longer in use, but still in good condition, can be reused instead of being thrown out. So, if anyone has some part of the uniform (plain navy tracksuit legs and jumper and light blue polo shirt) that are in good condition please send them into school in the coming weeks. A rail has been set up at the entrance close to the office and you are welcome to pop in and take any part of a uniform that suits. Thanks to Karen, one of our parents, who has volunteered to help us run this initiative.

Green Flag News

We were delighted to get the news recently that we have been awarded our 8th Green Flag from An Taisce. Well done to the green school committee who have led the school so well in this area. We will be collecting the flag at an awards ceremony on May 21st in Athlone.

Active Flag & Active School Week

We've had a most wonderful week of activity in equally wonderful weather for Active School Week. All classes have had the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of activities. Well done to our active school committee who have worked so hard in organising the week.

Standardised Testing

Standardised tests are being carried out in English and Maths in 2nd, 4th and 6th Classes later this month. Results will be included in school reports. Results also have to be reported to the Dept of Education. More information on standardised tests can be found at this link:

<https://www.geashillns.ie/wp/wp-content/uploads/primary-standardised-testing.pdf>

School Reports

School reports will be sent home on Tuesday 13th June. If you have any concerns about your child's progress - be it academically, socially or emotionally, please feel free to get in touch with your child's teacher or myself before the holidays.

School reports will also include your child's attendance record. As you know, if your child has been absent for 20 days or more, they will be included in the end of year Annual Attendance Report which schools have to submit to Tusla. It is therefore important that you continue the good practice of sending a short explanation of any absence to the class teacher. This can be done via Class Dojo or in a note.

Class Allocation 2024/25

I will send home information on teachers and classes for next year before the end of May.

Free Books Scheme

This week the Minister of Education announced that the free books scheme for primary schools will continue next year. All schools have been asked to send [this letter](#) home to parents. I would just like to add, for your information, that this year's grant to all primary schools is €16 per child less than last year.

Primary Curriculum Developments

I included this in the last newsletter and am keeping it in this one as well.

The primary curriculum is being currently updated in many subject areas.. New curriculums in English and Irish have been introduced already and a new Maths curriculum will be introduced from next September. In the coming years new curriculums will be introduced in Arts Education, Social & Environmental Education, Science, Technology & Engineering and Wellbeing, while a modern foreign language is also to be introduced. The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment is responsible for the design and implementation of these new curriculums. It is currently running a consultation process on all of this and parents are welcome to take part in this consultation. Anyone interested in taking part can find more information [here](#).

And Finally

Remember you can keep in touch with the many activities going on in the school by looking at Class Dojo, our website www.geashillns.ie and following us on X @GeashillNS.

Yours sincerely

