

Scoil Na Croise Naofa
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5th September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back

Welcome back to everyone after the summer break.

We especially welcome the sixteen children who have started with us this year in Junior Infants.

We also welcome Kate Leonard and Sorcha Mooney to our permanent teaching staff and Paulette Burns to our SNA team.

Welcome also to Brian Maher who is joining us until Mrs. Bell returns from her maternity leave in February.

Contact Details

Please ensure the school has the up to date contact numbers of parents / guardians / child minders so easy contact can be made in the event of a child becoming unwell in school and for text-a-parent purposes.

Attendance/Absences

On the last day of term in June we celebrated the pupils with the best attendance records. Well done to all concerned.

If your child is absent please write a short note explaining the absence. Schools are legally obliged to report to TUSLA (Child and Family Agency) children who are absent for twenty days or more. We also have to report the reasons for each absence. School attendance is a very important part of a child's education. We should all aim to have our children in school every day.

Parents' Council

The AGM of the Parents' Council will take place on Monday September 18th at 8.30pm in the school. It would be great to see a big attendance at this meeting. The Parents' Council plays a very valuable role supporting the school in many ways. Thanks to all those who have helped in this way over the years and we look forward to continuing this positive relationship into the future. We will soon be holding a clothes collection in support of the Parents' Council. Hopefully this will be as successful as in previous years. More information on this later.

Ploughing Championship

With the National Ploughing Championships taking place in the coming weeks, a reminder that like last year, we are remaining open for all three days and our opening and closing times will be unchanged. For those of you with journeys to make please know that all teachers will be understanding if you are held up in traffic and are running late. The most important thing is to travel safely.

School Uniforms

It is great to see all the children turned out so well in their uniforms. We urge the children to keep their uniforms in good condition throughout the year. Also, please ensure all jumpers/cardigans are clearly labeled.

Healthy Eating Days

Once again, this year our Healthy Eating Days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On these days, we ask you and your children to pack healthy options for the lunch breaks. We would hope to see food such as crisps and chocolate kept as treats for Fridays. Fizzy drinks should not come to school any day. Advice on healthy lunches can be found in the Downloads section of our website. Thanks, as always, for your co-operation in this matter.

Insurance

See the Personal Accident Insurance note which is attached to this newsletter.

Book Rental

A reminder that any outstanding book rental money should now be sent in with your child to school. We are hoping to have all this money collected by the end of September. Arrangements can be made if anyone wants to pay in stages. Thanks to everyone who has already paid.

Arranging Meetings with Teachers

All teachers are very happy to meet with you to discuss your child's progress throughout the year. For these meetings to be worthwhile it is best to arrange an appointment suitable for both you and the teacher by contacting the office. Our secretary Mrs. Coughlan is in school from 9.30am until 2pm.

School Calendar

Our calendar for the year was distributed with the school reports in June. It is available on our website at www.geashillns.ie

Internet Safety Seminar

On Monday, September 25th we will be visited by a group called Zeeko who specialize in providing internet safety seminars to children, parents and teachers. They will visit 1st to 6th Classes during the day and present age-appropriate workshops covering topics such as cyberbullying, online gaming, stranger danger, media/screen time and much more. After school, they will meet with teachers advising on how best to deal with issues that may arise in the classroom. Then at 7pm there will be a meeting for parents. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend as this area has become one of importance over recent years. You can find out more about Zeeko on www.zeeko.ie.

New Website

A reminder that www.geashillns.ie is our new website address. We hope that it will become a very useful resource over the coming months and years. Keep an eye on it for the latest news and photographs.

Punctuality

Please be in school on time. The bell rings at 9.15am and classes start at 9.20am. It is also important to note that children should be collected promptly at both 2pm and 3pm and should not be playing in front of or around the school at these times.

Wishing everyone a very happy and productive school year,

Mícheál Hyland

Principal

