

Back to School Newsletter

September 1st 2017



Welcome

I extend a very warm welcome to all the new faces beginning with us in September. To our junior infants - Katelyn, Dylan, Jim and John we hope you have many happy years here in Scoil Mhuire. The junior infants will continue to go home at 12pm until Fri. 15th. They will begin their full day from Mon. 18th



The school community also welcomes back Ms. O'Loughlin into her new role as Special Education Teacher along with new staff members; Mary McDonnell as SNA and Mr. O'Connell who is covering Mrs. Ormston's maternity leave. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Uniforms

As all of the children have lovely new uniforms this September, I take this opportunity to remind you to write your child's name on their jumper. Perhaps sewing a coloured button/something to distinguish it from others on the inside label is a good idea. We don't want any missing jumpers in the first week!

Accelerated Reading



Accelerated Reader has begun for this school year. The importance of reading cannot be over emphasized and whilst children are given designated time in school to read it is recommended that they read every evening for between 15 and 20 minutes (at a minimum). Children are completing their STAR tests both today and yesterday and will be able to do quizzes on books from next week.

Healthy Eating Policy

As the school has a healthy eating policy in place we are asking that children follow this. Children need a healthy balanced lunch every day to help them to stay focused and concentrated. We are asking that **treats be kept for Fridays**. If children wish to have a treat on Fridays they could bring flavoured popcorn, baked treats or a treat-size bar. Crisps and sugary drinks are not allowed in school.

Book Money

Thank you to all parents who have paid their book bills so promptly. Please send in any remaining book money by September 8th in an envelope with your child's name written clearly on the outside.

Scoil Mhuire an Fhiacail

Lees Road Athletics

Lees Road Athletics Day will be taking place later this month. No date has yet been received.

Mrs. Conlon will begin training next week in preparation. Training will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school and will finish at 3.15pm sharp. Please ensure that you make travel collections/arrangements for your child.

Allianz Insurance

Forms for those wishing to take out insurance for their child, are being sent home today. Please complete these forms and return to school by Friday 15th September. The insurance will cover children for 24hrs. Contact Marie in the office with any queries.

Cumann na mBunscol Equipment Order

Order forms for the annual cumann na mbunscol equipment are available from the office. These can be requested from Marie if anyone wishes to make an order.

Any equipment needed for GAA (helmets, hurleys, footballs, sliotars, mouthguards etc.) are available to order at very reasonable prices.

Dates for your Diary

- September 8th: All book money returned
- September 15th: Allianz insurance forms
- October 7th - 22nd: EU Code Week
- October 14th - 22nd: Maths Week
- October 27th: Freaky Feakle Feet First Friday
- October 30th - Nov 3rd : Mid term break

Bags for Coats

We are asking that all children bring to school a bag to store their coat in. This seemed to help the problems surrounding head lice for the last number of years. It is also important that long hair is tied/clipped back away from faces. We ask parents to be vigilant at this time of year and check hair regularly.

School Office Hours

Our secretary, Marie, works Tuesdays and Thursdays for the school. She is also in the office on Fridays, working for the parish, if needed. A voice message can be left outside of those hours.

If you need to contact the school urgently the school mobile is 0868942770.

Interactive Whiteboards

The Board of Management have spent over €8000 upgrading the Interactive whiteboards in the three mainstream classrooms this summer. This is a large investment by the Board which was aided by a Department ICT Grant of €3000.

Thank-you

Personally I wish to thank the whole school community who have been so supportive towards the school over the last number of months and who have wished me well. Scoil Mhuire is a beautiful school with so many wonderful children and staff. I was delighted to be appointed principal and I look forward to your continued support in the years ahead.

Marion Mahon