

# Welcome Back !!!



We would like to welcome back all our pupils, parents and staff. We would especially like to welcome those who are starting in our school for the first time this year. We hope you enjoyed the Summer and are looking forward to the year ahead. We are sad to say goodbye to Ms. O' Sullivan, Mrs. O' Neill, Mrs. Daly, Mr. O Sullivan and Ms. Lynagh but we would like to welcome all the new staff who have joined Scoil Mhuire this year.

We would like to remind you that a **full uniform** and black shoes should be worn every day and that the school tracksuit, runners and grey polo shirt should be worn on PE days only.



Please remember that the school day commences at 9.20 a.m. We ask parents to make every effort to have children in school for this time. September is a great time of the year to establish good

## School Security Procedures

In the interest of safety, the school has a secure entry access system. All visitors to the school must come through the Main Entrance and report to the office. If children are being collected early, an adult must sign the 'sign out book' in the office.

## NEWB Reports

Under the National Education Welfare Act, schools must make returns each quarter for all pupils who have been absent from school for 20 days or more. The National Education Welfare Board must be notified regardless of the reason for the absence.



If your child is absent, it is **not** necessary to telephone the school. However, it is necessary to send a **written explanation** to the teacher explaining the absence on your child's return. This is an Education Welfare Act requirement.



Please ensure **homework** is completed and signed every night by an adult.

## Pupil Belongings

We would like to remind you of the importance of labelling your child's belongings. Unmarked coats, jumpers, tracksuits, etc. can be very difficult to identify.



Please make sure your child has their lunch / PE gear/ football gear / recorder with them in the morning. Last year the office was inundated with parents dropping off 'forgotten items'. We would like to improve on this this year.

## Safe Parking

We are very concerned about the unsafe and illegal parking in front of, and close to the school. The safety of our pupils and other pedestrians is very important to us. We ask that all motorists observe fully the rules of the road with regard to parking.

Please remember to enter and exit the school grounds through **Scoil Mhuire gate** only.

## Morning Lines

In the morning children should place their bags in the line and go and play in the yard (no playing in the alcoves). When the bell rings, children line up where they have left their bags. We would ask parents to wait at the back of the lines to give a clear line of vision to the school staff who are supervising them. Dogs are not allowed in the school yard for safety reasons. On wet mornings, children can line up inside the school on the corridor. There is no need for parents to stay on the corridors on these mornings.



As you are aware, our school is part of the **Green Schools Programme**. We have achieved 5 green flags to date. Remember to:

- Avoid wrapping such as cling film / tin foil.
- Walk or cycle to school if you can (especially on Wednesdays)
- Bring used batteries to school to our battery box
- Bring used stamps to school for recycling.



## Healthy Eating Policy

We encourage children to bring a healthy lunch to school each day. Crisps, sweets, cakes and chewing gum are not permitted. Children should bring a small snack for their break and something more substantial for their lunch. We discourage fizzy drinks. Water is the healthiest drink to bring!



**Is maith linn bheith ag labhairt Gaeilge!**

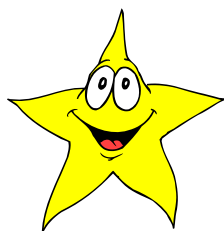
We are continuing to promote spoken Irish throughout the school. To encourage children to speak and use the Irish they know, every fortnight each class teacher will name "**Gaeilgeoir na Coicíse**" from their class. These children will receive stickers at assembly. Our other initiative is "**Duais Don Ghaeilge**". When teachers hear children speaking Irish around the school, they enter their names in a draw. At assembly, names are picked out of the "Duais don Ghaeilge" box and the winners receive a prize. We also love to hear parents using Irish in the yard in the morning.

## Parents' Association

We would like to thank the PTA most sincerely for all the work they do for the school. Being a member of the PTA is a great way of getting involved in the school. The PTA are always looking for help. If you feel you can help out in any way, big or small, please give your name to a member of the PTA at the coffee morning or at the AGM.

## Upcoming dates for your diary

- PTA collection of insurance money – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September.
- PTA coffee morning – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am – 10.30am SEP Hall.
- PTA AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> September.
- Jersey Day 9<sup>th</sup> October.
- This term there will be parent evening meetings for Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes.



**Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries or concerns. We are looking forward to a great year of work and fun!**



