



September Newsletter

Welcome back to everyone. We are delighted to see everyone back in the school again this year and we are especially delighted to welcome our new Junior infants and new pupils in other classes that have joined the school community. Here is a brief summary of some news and upcoming events.

Child Protection: The Department of Education has issued new Child Protection Guidelines and the school has updated our Child Safeguarding Statement to reflect these changes. This can be seen on our website.

Enrolment: Our current enrolment is 75 students. We have had 7 Junior infants start with us this year.

School Yard resurfacing: The yard resurfacing work was completed over the summer months. I would like to thank James Hayes for his excellent work and Kevin O'Keeffe for his help in managing the project. We also widened the school entrance for ease of access if ever needed.

Retirement: Ms. Sheila Thompson has officially handed in her notice of retirement to the Board of Management. She will be leaving the school on Friday 10th of November after many years of outstanding service to the school and community.

Sacraments: First Holy Communion has been set for Saturday the 18th of May 2024 and First Confession will be on Wednesday the 28th of February.

GAA: We have started school training again on Tuesdays and will have games beginning in October. The children have put in a great effort at training so far and we hope this helps them in their coming games.

Teaching Practice: Mr. O'Flynn has started his 4th year teaching placement. He will be teaching in 3rd and 4th class for a 3 week period and then in Junior and Senior Infants for a 3 week period.

Extra-Curricular Classes:

Swimming lessons have started for 1st-6th class. There has been a great response to this with the vast majority of students participating. The school will be covering a significant cost for this.

Gymnastics classes and French class will be starting in November. Both classes will run for a 6 week period and we would like to thank the Parents Association for their continued support in helping cover the cost of these.

Parents Association: The Parents association kindly organised a fundraising walk on Sunday 27th August to help raise funds to offset the cost of buses throughout the year. €500 was donated.

Curriculum Planning: The school will be closing for a half day on Thursday October 26th. This is to facilitate the staff to engage with Curriculum planning.

Staff Training: the whole staff completed First Aid training on Monday September 25th as part of Croke Park Hours.

The PDST are coming to the school for a series of advisory sessions on Literacy in the coming months.

SSE: The staff will be choosing an area to focus on our school self evaluation for the coming years. We are required to focus on Wellbeing and we are looking at another area. There will be a questionnaire sent home to the parents and to the children in the coming weeks and we would greatly appreciate your cooperation with these.