

Killina National School

Newsletter

6th September 2017

Welcome back!

We hope you all had a very enjoyable summer. We are delighted to have everyone back and we are looking forward to working together during the year ahead.

We especially welcome our new Junior Infants Class: Ryan, Taylor, Hugh, Eoghan, Isabelle, Aoibheann, Donncha, Garry, Caoilainn, Colm, Leah.

We also welcome Bálint in Senior Infants and Alivia in Second Class.

School Calendar

We have attached our School Calendar for the year ahead. We will inform you of other important dates as they become available to us. (Communion, Confirmation etc.)

Parent Association AGM

The Parent Association plays a very important role in our school life. They organise fund-raising events, coffee mornings, healthy eating events, and support the school in numerous ways.

The AGM will be held in the school on Monday 11th of September at 8pm in the school. All help, ideas and support welcome.

Please come along, new faces are very welcome.

Text-a-Parent

We use Text-a-parent to inform parents of upcoming events: emergency closures etc.

Please make sure that the school has **one current mobile** contact number per family. If you change this number please inform the school secretary or class teacher immediately so we can update our system.

School Hours

The school will open to receive pupils at 9.10am. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before this time. The bell goes at 9.20am.

Children must use the side door at 9.10am to gain entry. After 9.40am parents/visitors must ring bell at front door. Please do not come through front door before 9.40am.

Parents/Guardians are asked not to disturb the children or the teacher in the morning or during the course of the day.

Classes will end each day at 2pm for Infants and 3pm for 1st to 6th class.

Parents/Guardians who wish to have their children escorted home should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school as the school cannot accept responsibility for looking after children after school hours.

Parents/Guardians are kindly requested to limit disruption to classes as much as possible. If you need to drop off something or collect a child parents are asked to wait inside the front door and secretary or teacher will relay the message.

Attendance

Under the Welfare Act schools are obliged to report children who miss 20 days or more. We are also obliged to report children who miss days without giving an explanation.

Children must present a note signed by parent/guardian when absent. Parent/Guardian must indicate reason for absence. This is required by NEWB.

Please use absence notes in school journal. Please provide sick note from doctor for prolonged periods of illness. Parents must specify why child is absent.

Morning Drop Off

We are delighted at how well the children have all settled in during the last week. In order to get them into school routine as quickly as possible we would appreciate that from Monday next 11th September if parents just drop children at side door and allow them to proceed to classroom on their own. A teacher will receive the children at the side door and another teacher will supervise the yard until 9.20am. Thank you for your co-operation.

Head Lice

Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice. Do not send children into school with head lice until they have been treated. Same procedure for scabies or any contagious conditions.

Please inform school if your child has headlice so school can notify other parents to be on the alert.

Arriving late or leaving early

While sometimes being late for school or having to pick a child early from school is unavoidable (e.g. medical appointment / dental appointment) it should not be a frequent occurrence.

Children arriving late on a regular basis or leaving early on a regular basis are missing out on valuable teaching and learning time.

Children who are not present when roll is being called are marked absent and the roll book cannot be changed. If you know your child is going to the dentist/doctor and will be attending school later in the day please send in a note to that effect the day before to the class teacher.

Roll is called each day at approx. 10am. Children who leave early/arrive late must be signed in and out. Book in hall at front entrance.

Communication

Please use homework journal (1st - 6th Class) to communicate with classroom teacher. Teacher may also use journal to communicate with parents/guardians.

Infant parents/guardians can send in a note.

Please look out for our Newsletter which is sent out a few times each term.

Please keep school informed if you change your mobile number. We use text-a-parent frequently.

Parent-Teacher meetings are held in November.

Children receive written reports at the end of the school year.

Please make an appointment with the secretary if you want to speak to classroom teacher/principal in relation to important matters.

Additional Costs

Each year the school charges a fee to cover costs such as photocopying; arts & crafts material; folders; test material; text-a-parent etc. We try to keep this fee as reasonable as possible. The cost per child is €35.

If you have not done so already please send in €35 per child in an envelope with the child's name on it asap.

We will issue receipts to those who have paid. Reminders will be issued to those who have not paid by end of September.

Money

If sending money into a teacher please put money in a sealed envelope.

On the outside of the envelope please write the child's name, class and amount enclosed.

If change is required please write "Change Due". Where possible please put in exact amount as it makes life much easier for busy teachers!

PE Days

Junior & Senior Infants: Tuesday & Thursday

1st & 2nd Class: Wednesday & Friday

3rd & 4th Class: Friday

5th & 6th Class: Thursday

Please wear school tracksuit and runners on PE days. Children will not be allowed to participate in PE class if they are wearing shoes.

Credit Union

Edenderry Credit Union visits the school each Wednesday morning. This is an ideal opportunity for your child to start saving small sums of money.

The Credit Union will accept any lodgement no matter how small. Each child receives a card and money is credited to the card when the child saves.