



May Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Below is an update on events over the past number of weeks. Please also have a read of the following attached

- NCCA information on Standardised testing
- Green Schools Update

- **School Tours.** Due to Covid 19 restrictions and Department of Education guidelines school tours are greatly restricted this year. We do however hope to provide one day out of the classroom for each class group.
- **Administration charges** for the coming year: Last year due to the possible financial stress on parents due to Covid 19 closures, we reduced the administration charges. We plan to keep these at the reduced rate again for the coming year. The following are the Art & Craft and Administration Fees for the year 2021/2022.

One child	€30
Two children	€45
Three or more children:	€60

This helps to cover items such as art & craft materials, photocopying and other administration expenses for the year.
- **School Calendar** for the 2021/2022 school year. As already sent out in an Aladdin message, the following are the school closures for the coming year
 - School opens** on Thurs August 26th 2021
 - Midterm break**- School closes on Oct. 22nd - reopens on Nov 1st
 - Christmas Holidays:** school closes on Dec. 22nd - reopens on Jan 6th
 - Mid Term Break Feb:** School closes February 18th – reopens on Feb 28th (Week)
 - St Patrick's Day:** School closed March 17th & March 18th
 - Easter Holidays:** school closes on April 8th - reopens on April 25th
 - May Bank Holiday:** School closed Mon May 2nd
 - June Bank Holiday:** School closed Mon June 6th, Tue June 7th & Wed June 8th
 - School closes** for the Summer on Tue June 28th 2022

- **Health and Safety.** Can I please ask motorists to be mindful of the pupils who walk and cycle to school and to slow down on the approach road. Most days now we have upwards of 60 pupils cycling to school.
- **Covid 19.** We'd like to again thank all parents and pupils who have been so responsible in adhering to guidelines and protocols since our return on March 1st
- **Building Update.** The OPW are pushing on with the plans for the temporary site in Gurteen . As of yet we don't have any date of when we are likely to move there.
- **Testing in classes.** Standardised testing in Literacy and Numeracy is still on-going in all classes from 1st – 6th. Classes 2nd /4th and 6th will also be completing the Drumcondra Gaeilge test. Please have a read of the attached information leaflet from the NCCA regarding standardised test results in light of school closures due to Covid 19
- **Survey on “Spellings for me” and “Words their way”.** A survey was conducted with pupils and parents in both 1st and 3rd class in relation to both of these pilot spelling programmes. Your feedback will be very useful in our planning and thank you to all who took the time to respond.
- **Ceremonies.** No dates have yet been decided for Communion or Confirmation.
- **Green School application.** Amy, Saoirse and the Green School committee have been working very hard over the past several weeks. On Friday our application for the Travel Flag will be assessed and we wish all involved the best of luck. Please find attached an outline of the work they have been doing and how it is linked to the curriculum at each class level. Photos of the events mentioned in this Green School's update can be viewed in the Green School section on our website
- **Book Rental.** If you haven't already done so can you please contact Madge in the office for details on how to sign up for this
- **School Uniform.** Details of this have already been sent in a link to all parents. Closing date for ordering is June 15th

Take care,
Jim