

Newsletter – 4th December 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Children,

Our first student Council has been elected. It is hoped that this will increase pupil participation in school decisions, allow children to become more confident in expressing their opinions and promote leadership skills. The council was elected by their peers and will be as follows;



4th class - Ryan Lugares (Ms Power), Shavron Biju (Ms Ryan), Dylan Whelan (Ms Deacon), Tom O'Brien (Ms Walsh)

5th class - Godin Savio (Ms McNamara), Zach Dawson (Ms Hamilton), Emma Martin (Ms Greaney)

6th class - Sidharth Biju (Ms Woods), Cecilia Lyn Yi Xiao (Ms Glynn), Brianna Crisan (Ms Ward)



Thank you to Ms Coughlan for organising the council and we look forward to its impact on the school.

School Calendars will be given out to children next week. Due to the huge support from our families and sponsors we have been able to purchase new musical instruments for each class level in the school and also to fund a resilience/mental health program for our children. We have five teachers who have completed the training in conjunction with the National Educational Psychology Services this term and 5th and 6th class children will begin 'FRIENDS for Life' in the new year. FRIENDS for Life empowers participants to cope with emotions by engaging with positive thoughts, emotions, and self-regulation strategies. The program also teaches creative alternatives to solving problems fostering the development of confidence and self-esteem. Most importantly, FRIENDS for Life encourages smiling, happiness and bravery, and facilitates smooth transitions into adolescence. We hope to have the opportunity to extend this, through 'Fun FRIENDS' to some of our junior classes in the coming months also. Thank you to the PA for all their help in producing the calendars and making these purchases possible.



Our staff fundraising team have organised to purchase a **new literacy scheme for our junior classes**. From January our Junior and Senior infants will be learning to read through 'Wonderland': It is a fantastic program, which allows children to explore a range of texts and interactive materials. It is so important that our emergent readers begin their relationship with books through positive experiences. Wonderland will certainly provide this for our youngest readers.

Assembly: Ms McNamara's class organised, presented and performed at assembly this week. The performance was great, well done to all involved!

Homework Survey: Many thanks to those who completed our homework survey. It is reassuring to see that the vast majority of children are spending around the recommended time on homework. With that said, 3% of our children are spending too long on homework - please remember that if homework is causing stress/anxiety in your home you can contact the class teacher and discuss ways of making homework more manageable.

Plans are well under way for our 'Christmas Fun Day' on 16th December. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas themed clothes on the day and are asked to bring in €1 each which will be donated to Focus Ireland. On the same day children will watch our school Christmas concerts and can enjoy a Christmas Goody Bag (€3 each & available via Aladdin app). We hope to have a few other Christmas surprises for children on the day too.



Reminder- We are asking parents not to send Christmas cards in for children in their class as the distribution of cards in class would mean there was increased risk of transmission of Covid19. To keep everyone safe please remember to very closely follow the government guidelines in relation to your movements and socialising in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Kind Regards,
Ms O'llwill
Principal

Ms Lannery
Deputy Principal

Finishing Times for Tuesday December 22nd

Teacher	Class	Home Time
Ms. Louisa Howard	Junior Infants	12:00
Ms. Leah Halford	Junior Infants	11:55
Ms. Rebecca Mc Inerney	Junior Infants	11:50
Ms. Maeve Kelly	Senior Infants	12:00
Ms. Karen Coughlan	Senior Infants	11:55
Ms. Jennifer O Toole	Senior Infants	11:50
Ms. Joanna Jordan	1 st Class	12:00
Ms. Lauryn McNamara	1 st Class	11:55
Ms. Grace Sciacia	1 st Class	11:50
Ms. Tara O Brien	2 nd Class	12:00
Ms. Dónal MacSweeney	2 nd Class	11:55
Ms. Jennifer Eastment	2 nd Class	11:50
Ms. Laura Brett	3 rd Class	12:00
Mr Ben Davis	3 rd Class	11:55
Mr Aidan O Donovan	3 rd Class	11:50
Ms. Sandra Deacon	4 th Class	12:00
Ms Ailbhe Power	4 th Class	11:55
Ms Louise Walsh	4 th Class	11:50
Ms Roisin Ryan	4 th Class	11:50
Ms Rita Hamilton	5 th Class	12:00
Ms Ailbhe Greaney	5 th Class	11:55
Ms Niamh Mc Namara	5 th Class	11:50
Ms Celine Glynn	6 th Class	12:00
Ms Jenn Ward	6 th Class	11:55
Ms Louise Woods	6 th Class	11:50
Mr Alan Barrett	Lighthouse 1	11:30
Ms Kornelia Jankova	Lighthouse 2	11:30
Mr Loughlin Casey	Lighthouse 3	11:30
Ms Roisin Mc Sweeney	Lighthouse 4	11:30