

Clocha Rince NS

Meán Fómhair 2017 Newsletter

Calendar

Sept. 18th, 25th, Oct. 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd
October 2nd
Oct 30th – November 3rd

Swimming for 1st to 6th Class
Engineering/Science Workshops (4th – 6th Class)
Hallowe'en Mid-term Break

Welcome

Tá fáilte romhaibh go léir ar ais do scoilbhlian nua. Welcome back to all our members of staff. We welcome our new members of staff, Ms. Dunne in 5th Class, Ms. Stackpoole in 4th Class and Mr Johnson in 1st Class. We welcome Ms Swords back from her career break.

Welcome also to all our new families and pupils. We know your time with us will be fruitful and happy.

Parent Association

As a parent/guardian, you are all members of the Parents' Association. It is important that the school has a Parent Association Committee to oversee the running of events and to be a link between home and school. Please don't shy away from volunteering to help us. We are especially hoping to hear from our new families and families of younger pupils. There will be a meeting called shortly to discuss this issue and to elect a committee and we would ask that a representative from as many families as possible is in attendance.

School Book Rental & Fees

School fees for the current school year are now due. Please send these to the school by Friday 15th September. Should you require a payment plan, please contact the school to make an appointment with the Principal, via Liz and we will do all we can to support you. It is important to pay the Book Rental as soon as possible so that your child/ren have the required books for their work. No books under the scheme are issued until the fee has been paid. Joan McGuire began computer lessons for the children on Tuesday 5th September. The fee for 33 weeks is €36 per pupil in total and is paid to Joan for provision of these lessons.

Coats, School Jumpers and Footwear Seeking Owners

There was a particularly large amount of clothing in perfect condition left behind in school at the end of the school year in June. The majority of these items were left outside last year's 1st Class, 4th Class, 5th Class and 6th Class. They will be in the hall until Friday 15th September for parents to check if it belonged to their child. If not claimed they will be bagged for recycling.

Please label your child's coat, jumper and indoor shoes as this saves us having a large pile of unclaimed clothes.

Rag-Man

The Rag Man visits our school twice per year (autumn and spring). **They will visit the school on 4th October** this year. This is a great opportunity to clear the wardrobes, drawers and cupboards of the summer wear and get ready for the winter. We would be grateful if you would bag any old or unwanted clothes/blankets/shoes for recycling.

Please inform your family, friends and neighbours that we gladly accept their old unwanted clothes as the funds raised are much needed by our school. **This year the money raised from the bag collection will go directly towards purchasing levelled readers for use by whole school during Guided Reading times.**

Library Event

As a reward for completing 'The Summer Reading Programme' in July, whereby the children had to read at least 10 books, Clocha Rince Community Library will be hosting an award ceremony. This will take place in the school hall and the date will be announced shortly. Congratulations to all the 151 participating children and we hope they continue to have a love of reading well into their adult years. A huge thank you to Suzanne for organising the reading Programme and the celebration.

Active School Flag

Last year a huge effort was put in by the school to help us to achieve the Active School Flag. All our documentation has been submitted to the committee and we are awaiting news of their decision. The school will be continuing to promote the initiative and there will be a number of strategies employed again. It is a most enjoyable way to assist the children and school community to be active and fit for life.

Cards Night

Every year the school provides the venue for Cards' Night for members of the community from September to Easter. It is co-ordinated by Frank O'Meara and Pat Byrne and Liz. The school is very thankful to all the families who helped out on the Cards' Nights.

As the money that is raised on these nights is for the school, the tradition has always been that a rota of families is drawn up to come and make tea and sandwiches (tea, coffee, milk, bread and sandwich filling provided by the school) and to provide some sweet treats e.g. biscuits, cake, home cooking. It means that each family will be rostered for one night only and Liz co-ordinates and contacts families in advance.

It was very successful last year and helped to cover the cost of some of the events organised by the school so that parents did not have to pay for them. Parent help was greatly appreciated by the school.

Explanation Notes for Absenteeism

Parents/Guardians are reminded to inform the school in writing about the reason for a child's absence from school. It is a requirement as the school must file reports with Tusla (Child and Family Agency) in relation to attendance and the reasons for absences which accumulate to 20 days or more in a school year.

Parents of children from 1st Class to 6th may complete slips found in the homework journal, whilst parents of children in Junior or Senior Infants should email secretary@clocharince.ie or write a note to class teacher explaining the absence. Even if you phone the school to explain a child's non-attendance, the school will still request that a slip/note is completed.

Social Media/Cyber Bullying

Parents are asked to be vigilant regarding your child's use of the internet, social media and mobile phones. We would also remind you that no mobile phones or digital technology of any description may be brought to school by the children. Please refer to the school website for the policy. Our school will continue to educate the pupils on the appropriate and safe use of the internet. The primary responsibility for this rests with parents/guardians. Where a complaint of cyber-bullying is made to the school between pupils in the school, regardless of where the cyber activity took place, the school will apply the procedures as established in our Code of Behaviour and Discipline and Anti-Bullying Policy.

Car Park

Parents of pupils in 2nd class upwards should consider using the Church car park at Drop-off and Collection Times which would reduce the number of cars in our yard and thus reduce the risk to our pupils. The foot-path joining the Church car park to the School means they can walk safely to and from school.

Parents/Guardians are reminded that the lane through the staff car park is a drop off area only. Cars must not be parked in the staff area. If using the school car park enter at bottom gate and exit via gate nearest the Church. Please do not park your car at the school gate, bus area nor along the footpath on the road. Please put the safety of our children and parent/guardian drivers first!!

Healthy School Lunches

As part of the Active Flag and promoting the school as a 'Healthy School', it is important that we all strive to implement our Healthy School Lunches Policy. There are many healthy options available for children nowadays. Please see policy on web-site or request a copy from the office, for guidelines. There will be a Healthy Challenge Week organised in October.

Credit Union

Edenderry Credit Union will be continuing to offer the savings scheme via the school for the coming year. We will let parents know via text message when the scheme begins. The children can join at any time. It is a great way for the children to learn about saving and to plan for purchasing items for Christmas etc. There is no limit to what the children bring in to save.

