



*Scoil Naomh Feichín
Termonfeckin*



School News – September 2015

Dear Parents,

As we are now into our second week of the new school year, we hope that all of our pupils have settled back after their summer break. Over the last few years I have prepared regular newsletters to help parents keep in touch with what’s happening in our school. As we are a Green School, I intend sending these newsletters by email only from now on as this will reduce the amount of paper we use. I will also upload the school newsletters onto our revamped school website. However, from time to time, there may be important notices for school families which we may send home via notes in school bags.

We have also updated our school text system this year. This new system will be much more economical and reliable. Each family will have a dedicated contact number which will receive school texts. Please let us know if you change your phone number during the year so that we can amend our database and ensure that you continue to receive school texts.

*Bryan Collins
Principal*

New Junior Infants

We are delighted how quickly our new class of Junior Infants have adapted to life in “Big School”. From the very first day they appeared very happy and excited to be in their new classroom. Many thanks to all parents of our new arrivals who have helped make the transition so successful. Thank you also to Mrs Cassidy and Ms Carolan who have been working with the class and helping get everyone settled in. We hope that over the next 8 years the children will make lots of new friends and enjoy their school days. We extend a warm welcome also to a number of other children who joined our school in other classes this September.



❖ Road Safety – Dropping Off & Picking Up

We would appeal to all drivers to be extra cautious in and around the school when dropping off and picking up children from school. As we have now 20 members of staff, it is important to leave sufficient spaces free for people working in the school to park each morning. The entry and exit of the car park should also be kept free – parents are requested to drop children off and then drive on as there is frequently congestion in this area in the morning and afternoon when drivers leave cars unattended. Drivers are requested to be extra vigilant and observant at 3pm when hundreds of pupils are leaving the school at the same time. I have ordered a new consignment of Hi-Viz vests and we will distribute these to the children over the next week or two. We will also be reminding children who are walking or cycling to school to be very careful on their journeys.

❖ School Opening and Closing Times

As you are aware, classes begin each morning at 9.20am. There is a free-play assembly period in the playground each morning from 9am-9.15am. Teachers and SNAs provide supervision at this time. Teachers collect their classes after the school bell rings at 9.15am. The Board on Management reminds parents that there is no supervision of pupils before 9am. Infant classes finish for the day at 2pm and all other classes finish at 3pm. Parents should make every effort to collect their children on time and if delayed, please telephone the school.

❖ School Uniforms

Please ensure that names are written on labels on school jumpers, jackets and tracksuits. These are mislaid regularly and it is impossible to return lost property unless the owner's name is visible. At the moment we have about 50 tops and jackets in our lost and found box. Parents are welcome to look for lost property – please check in with the secretary or principal to arrange this.

❖ Attendance & Punctuality

Good school attendance is very important. If your child is absent for any reason, please write a note to explain the reason for absence. All pupils should be in the school playground by 9.15am each morning to line up with their classmates.

❖ Extra Curricular Activities

A programme of activities available for pupils after school hours will be arranged over the next week or two. GAA training will commence shortly as there are league matches for boys and girls teams coming up soon. Details of additional activities will be available shortly.



Cross Country Running

Third class girls competing in a 350m cross country trial last week. 50 pupils (3rd-6th) will represent the school at the primary schools event this Wednesday.



❖ GREEN SCHOOL NEWS

As you can see from the pictures, we are very proud that *Scoil Naomh Feichín* is an award-winning Green School. We have been involved with the Green Schools Programme for many years and over that time we have been awarded 4 Green Flags for environmental work carried out by pupils, teachers and parents. We are currently working on the theme of Biodiversity and hopefully our efforts will be rewarded with another flag at the end of the year. Just before the summer holidays our school was presented with a GROW AWARD by Louth County Council following a visit by the environment judges in May. Congratulations to Mrs Cassidy and Ms Carolan and all of the pupils and parents who do brilliant work in this area.

❖ Visiting the School

It is school policy that all visitors to the school check in at reception. Parents who would like to arrange a meeting with their child's teacher should telephone the school to arrange an appointment. Our scheduled Parent/Teacher Meetings will be in November – however if you have any questions or concerns about your child at school, academically or socially, please arrange to speak to your child's teacher.

The Liturgy for the Start of a New School Year will take place in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Termonfeckin, on Friday Sept. 18th at 10am. All of our school families are invited to attend this service.