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Newsletter September 2021

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Welcome back

A céad míle fáilte welcome back to all involved in Lisdowney NS. We are looking forward to a great academic year ahead. A special welcome to our 13 new Junior Infants Amelia, Aoife, Gavin, Harvey, Bella, Isla, Lorcan, Michael, Nancy Rhys, Rian, Sinead and Tess.

Tetra Pak Tree Day

National Tree Day will take place on Thursday 7th October 2021. The school will plant a Wild Cherry Sappling to mark this day. The wild cherry is possibly the most attractive of our native trees. It has beautiful clouds of blossom in spring (sometimes referred to as cherry blossom) and its bright summer fruits bring a splash of vivid colour. Its warm autumn leaves fade to a deep crimson, giving a warm glow. We will look forward to seeing this tree grow in our school garden. We are sending home a booklet with information on native trees. Please encourage your child to use this wonderful resource to become familiar with native tree species.

Past Pupils

Congratulations and well done to all our past pupils who received their Leaving Certificate results recently. We wish each and everyone of them good health and happiness in what ever path they choose in life. Welcome to Claire O'Carroll a past pupil who is doing sub cover for Ms Walshe.

Staff

Congratulations to Ms Henderson and her husband Kevin on the birth recently of their third child Ger. Welcome back to Ms Phelan who will be covering Ms Henderson's maternity leave.

Release Time for Principal Teachers

We are delighted to say that Ms Amy Sweeney has been re-appointed to this fixed-term position. This position commenced on 30th August 2021. A weekly schedule has been drawn up between the five schools (Lisdowney, Clontubrid, Gathabawn, Johnstown and Johnswell) in the cluster. All principals will work closely with Ms Sweeney to ensure effective and structured continuity of teaching, learning and classroom management in each school. We wish Ms Sweeney continued success within this role.

Staying Active

Children will continue to engage in regular class movement breaks both indoor and outdoor.

These help to regulate the brain and improve learning. Please encourage your child to exercise on a regular basis.....walking, running, swimming, playing sportwhat ever is...keep it fun and inexpensive.

Parents Association

We welcome on board our new Parents Association TJ Phelan, John Costelloe, Ger Murphy, Lorraine Kenny, Lisa O'Shea and Leanne Dziewa.

Thank you very much to all the members of the outgoing committee Shane McGlynn, Keith Farrell, Eugene Tallis, Eimear Skehan, Fiona Kenny and Breda Fitzpatrick for their dedication, help and support throughout their term in office. The work and support of the Parents Association is a very important ingredient in the over all functioning of the school.



Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form

Under Department of Education guidelines it is a requirement that the Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form is completed by a Parent/Guardian after any absence from school. From May 31st this form will be sent out electronically and can be completed and submitted on line. There will be no requirement for a paper copy to be submitted.

Fund Raising



Thank you to our Fun Run Committee and the Parents Association who are working on holding a live FUN RUN on 23rd October. We will keep you updated of details re same. This is a very important fund raising event on the school calendar the proceeds of which play an important role in the overall financial operation of our school. Like all sectors Covid 19 has impacted on our society in many ways. We look forward to being able to run this fun filled, healthy, community event. Sponsorship cards will be sent home with your child this week.

Absences

In the event that your child is absent from school, please email the school office at lisdowneyns@gmail.com , directly with absence reasons. Or send a text to the school mobile 086 - 1445629. You will receive a Return to Education Parental Declaration form for completion before your child returns to school after any absence. Please complete and submit this form when required.

Meeting Teachers

We would like to reminder parents wishing to contact teachers, to discuss queries or issues that arise, that they contact the teachers by emailing the school at lisdowneyns@gmail.com or by phone - 056-8833495/0861445629.

Lisdowney Montessori

The team at Lisdowney Montessori Play and Learn Helen, Anne and Eileen would like to thank the community for their continued support over the years.

If interested in the Lisdowney Montessori Play and Learn facility please collect a starter form from the pre school –during the hours of 9am to 12.30pm Monday – Friday. There is currently a high demand for places in the pre-school.

Early drop off to primary school from play school is available from 7:45am daily. This facility must be pre booked in advance.

Pre school hours are: 9am 12.30pm – Monday to Friday.

Any queries please contact Helen on 087 6978588.

Condolences

On behalf of the school community we express our condolences to Ms Johanna Walshe and her family on the death of her father Jimmy in June 2021.

Our sympathies also lie with Ms Tierney, Creenkil NS, on the death recently of her father Michael Tierney. May they both Rest in Peace.

Board of Management

A Board of Management meeting took place on Tuesday 21st September. The Board updated and ratified the Child Protection and Safeguarding Statement and Scoil Bhríde Covid 19 Response Plan.

Homework

Homework is an important element of daily school routine. It improves your child's thinking and memory. It helps your child develop positive study skills and habits that will serve him or her well throughout life. Homework encourages your child to use time wisely. It teaches your child to work independently. Homework can act as a bridge and can help teachers and parents learn more about how students like to learn.

Please sign your child's homework diary each day and also sign test copies each week. Please ensure your child's homework is their best effort. Encourage your child to always do their best and seek help or assistance if needed. Please ensure that they complete all homework and present their work neatly. Praise their hard work.

School Uniform

Pupils are required to wear their full uniform everyday. The only exception to this rule is when they must wear a tracksuit and runners for P.E. Please label all uniforms and jackets. Children will be expected to wear their full school uniform beginning next week as the temperature is expected to fall and classrooms are well ventilated.

School Collection

For Child Protection reasons it is very important that school staff are aware of who will be collecting your child from school every day.

Please complete the collection permission form if you have not already done so, if somebody other than usual is collecting your child. Please text permission to the school mobile: 0861445629. If your child is going to a friend's house etc, please send in a note or text to give permission. Your child's safety is our priority

Green School



Well done to Ms Sweeney and the Green School team on gaining the school's 9th GreenFlag. We are now working on the theme of Global Citizenship and travel. We encourage as many of you as possible to walk from the village when safe to do so.

Healthy Lunches

School lunch is critical to student health and well-being—and ensures that students have nutrition they need throughout the day to learn.

Good food habits set early in childhood can last a lifetime. Lunches provide around one third of our daily nutritional needs, so it's important to put some thought and planning into them.

It is important that children take in enough fluids during the day. If they do not drink enough, they may become dehydrated, thirsty, tired and weak.

Drinks should always be included for break-time and lunch. Plain water and milk are the most suitable drinks for children.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Infants Room: We looked at primary colours, sang the rainbow song, painted Humpty Dumpty and had fun with clay. Happy birthday to Bella and Rhys in Junior Infants.

1st and 2nd Class: Happy birthday to Hugo and Noah in 1st and 2nd class. We visited the school garden and learned about nature. We are planting tree seeds to help reduce global warming. We are reading The Twitts and had great fun acting in Drama and tapping beats in music.

3rd and 4th Class: Happy birthday to Ella and Emily O. We studied electricity and did a science experiment on tooth decay. We had great fun listening to music from the 1950s. We completed a survey in maths on our favourite treats and cookies are the favourite.

5th and 6th Class: Happy birthday Mia, Evan and Ava L. We made butter, went on a nature walk, tested foods for fat, completed an experiment on how scuba divers work and made delicious Granny's Apple muffins for maths to work out the unit cost!!!!

Enrolments September 2022/2023

We will publish our Annual Admissions Notice later in the month once it has been ratified by the school patron and the Board of Management. This will confirm dates from which applications will be accepted as well as the closing date for completed applications.

Secondary Schools

Please check the following websites for details re open nights at secondary schools within this area:

- **CBS, Kilkenny**
<http://cbskilkenny.ie/>
- **Castlecomer Community School, Kilkenny**
<https://www.castlecomerccs.com/>
- **Coláiste Mhuire, Johnstown, Kilkenny,**
<https://colaistemhuirekk.ie/>
- **St Kieran's College, Kilkenny,**
<https://www.stkieranscollege.ie/>
- **Kilkenny College, Kilkenny**
<http://www.kilkennycollege.ie/>
- **Loreto Secondary School, Kilkenny**
<https://loretokk.ie/>
- **Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny**
<https://www.presentationkilkenny.com/>

Child Protection Safeguarding Statement

As you know our school Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and information notices with regard to the Child Protection Designated Liaison Person (Ms Dowling) and the Child Protection Deputy Liaison Person (Mrs O Donovan) are displayed in the school reception area (adjacent to the office of the School Secretary). Copies of the school's CP Safeguarding Statement are also available on request.

First Holy Communion

Students in third class will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday 2nd October at Lisdowney Church. We wish them every blessing.

Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Monitors

We have received 4 x Carbon Dioxide (CO2) monitors. These monitors will be rotated throughout the school and will help to identify rooms which have inadequate ventilation. Staff can adjust the degree of window opening required in rooms.

Dates for your Diary

- October 2nd - First Holy Communion
- October 25th - 29th inclusive - Mid-term break.
- October - Parent Teacher meeting - be confirmed.
- We encourage parents not to remove children from school during school term time unless completely necessary. If at all possible please try to arrange appointments outside school times as it is very disruptive to school work and progress.
- School doors opens to receive pupils: 8:45am. Please do not drop children before this time to reduce congregations of pupils outside the school. Children are recommended to stand on red markings and sanitise before/on entering the school building.
- Class begins: 9:00am
- Small break: 10:55am – 11:10am (Lón)
- Big break: 12:25pm – 12:55pm
- Infants home time: 1:40pm
- Remainder of school home time: 2:40pm



Welcome to our Junior Infant class of September 2021

