

September Newsletter



30th September, 2021.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome:

On behalf of all school staff, I wish to welcome all pupils back to school for the school year 2021/2022. A special welcome to our new Junior Infants and new entrants to other classes. We wish you many happy days with us, in Coosan National School.

Appointments:

- We have one new permanent appointment in our school. Ms. G. Kelly has joined our permanent staff and will teach 1st class this year.
- Ms. Manning is working in our Special Education Unit.
- Ms. Barrington has joined the Special Education Team.
- Ms. McCormack is teaching 5th class.
- Ms. Cleary is teaching Junior Infants.
- Mr. P.Kenny is teaching Senior Infants.

Retirement:

Mr. Brannigan, retired from his position as caretaker of our school at the end of August. We want to thank Bernard for his loyal service to our school since October 2001 and wish him many years of health & happiness in his retirement.

Appreciation:

I wish to thank you for having the children so well prepared for school and for the effort you have put into buying books, getting uniforms ready, labelling items, ensuring children have healthy lunches, tying back hair, getting children to school on time etc.

Uniform:

Please note the following regarding your child's uniform and appearance at school:

- Pupils must come to school in full uniform, clean and tidy.
- No jewellery is allowed except a watch, single pair of small earrings (i.e. ear studs or sleepers, one in each earlobe).

- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- No make-up or fake tan may be worn.
- Pupils with long hair are expected to wear it tied up, in a neat and tidy fashion (not obstructing vision), with no unnatural colours allowed.

Assemblies:

Next week, I will re-commence assemblies with the pupils. They will not take place in the GP Hall but instead I will talk to each individual class every second week in their classrooms.

Covid-19:

As a result of Covid-19, there continues to be significant changes to the way our school now functions.

- There is now supervision of pupils in the morning from 9.10am to 9.20am. It is great to see so many parents/guardians 'drop and go' at this time. I would encourage all parents/guardians to continue to 'drop and go' in the mornings.
- We continue have staggered break times throughout the school day. Each standard now has an entire yard to themselves resulting in each class within the standard having half a yard to themselves.
- Each class (bubble) is now made up of pods (groups). The pods do not mix together in class, except on yard at break time.
- The staff are divided into pods and do not mix outside this pod when in the staffroom. As our staffroom is not large enough to facilitate the staff pods, a large number of staff members have their breaks, socially distanced, in the GP Hall.
- Children wash their hands and sanitise their hands regularly throughout the day.
- There are hand sanitising stations in every classroom and at all exit doors in the school.
- Staff wear face masks/face guards at all times except when within their 2 metre exclusion zone within their classrooms.
- These and other measures are in place to safeguard the children, staff and parents/guardians in our school community.
- Thanks for your help, goodwill and understanding as we do our best to keep the Covid-19 at bay.

Records:

It is most important that addresses/emails and phone numbers of all our students are up to date. If your address/phone number/email has changed, please inform Pauline, our secretary, as they are required for correspondence purposes.

Absences/Pupils' Journals:

Please document all absences in the absences section of your child's journal if your child has been absent for any reason. Parents/Guardians of Junior Infants are required to send in a note explaining their child's absence as the Junior Infant classes do not have a journal.

Religious Ceremonies:

Last Thursday, 23rd October, our present 3rd classes made their 1st Confession in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan. Congratulations to both classes.

These boys and girls will make their 1st Holy Communion on Saturday 9th October, 2021 with Ms. A. Kelly's class (Ms. Brophy's 2nd class) making their 1st Communion at 11.00 am and Ms. O'Carroll's class (Ms. Manning's 2nd class) making their 1st Holy Communion at 1.00pm.

Last year's 6th class pupils will make their Confirmation on Tuesday, 5th October, 2021 at 5.00 pm in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Coosan.

Labels:

Please label all items of clothing to ensure that items that go missing are returned to their rightful owners as soon as possible.

Traffic Safety:

The drop off and collection times are working very well since our return to school on 31st August. However, I appeal to all drivers to be mindful and respectful of pupils using the pedestrian crossings. Please continue to give them right of way. Thanking you in advance of your co-operation.

A number of pupils are presently cycling to school. It has come to my attention that a small number of pupils that cycle to school are taking unnecessary risks. Please advise your child not to be taking unnecessary risks when cycling to and from school.

'Drop and Go' at 9.20 am

Thank you for adhering to our 'Drop and Go' regime in the mornings. This is to reduce contact between parents/guardians. There are still a small number of parents/guardians waiting at the Senior Infant/First/Second class yard until children enter.

There are staff on the yard from 9.10 am every morning to allow parents/guardians to leave promptly after dropping their children to the yard. We would appreciate full co-operation here to keep everyone as safe as possible and also give the children ample space to walk to their lines in the mornings.

From Monday, November 1st, (after Mid-Term Break), Junior Infants will begin school at 9.20 am and finish at 2 pm with the Senior Infants, lining up, entering and exiting the building via the same doors as they do presently.

A reminder to all adults to wear face masks at all times when inside our school gate.

Homework Club:

There will be no homework club this term.

Christmas Cards:

We will participate in this project again this year. Templates for your child/children(s) Christmas cards will be issued in early October.

Parents Association:

The Parents Association held its AGM this week and were delighted to see so many families attending. The PA sincerely thanked Mr. Flahive and all the staff of the school and Board of Management for getting the children back to school this year. Thanks were also extended to all the families and the school community for their support and generosity this year.

The following committee was elected:

Co-Chairs	Elaine Galvin & Lynn Union
Treasurer	Fiona Corry
Vice-Treasurer	Julie Fallon
Class Liaison Co-ordinator	Caoimhe O'Connell
Secretary	None elected - Vacant

We are holding our next monthly meeting on Tuesday, 5th October 2021 at 9pm via Zoom and details will be circulated in advance of the meeting. We would welcome all parents/ guardians in the school to attend and we love to see new faces. If anyone wishes to join the Parents Association Whatsapp group, please email coosanschoolpa@gmail.com and we will happily add you. We are busily preparing for next month and look forward to more Hallowe'en fun.

Outside Coaches:

This term we are re-introducing basketball and Gaelic coaching. All pupils from 1st - 6th will receive basketball coaching over a 7-week period and all pupils in the school will receive Gaelic coaching for a 7-week period. All basketball & Gaelic coaching will take place outdoors only. Coaching sessions lost through inclement weather will be made up in the last term.

The Lunch Bag:

Please see below, flier from The Lunch Bag Company, who asked me to bring this flier to the attention of the parents/guardians in our school.
Looking forward to a successful year,

Le gach deá ghuí,

Mr. Flahive



What is it ye do exactly?

High Quality Brands

High Quality Facilities

Simple Economics!

We only use reputable Irish Brands

Made with love in sterile facilities by trained haccp staff

€2 for a different fresh choice every day!

And what are ye doing it for?

Empowering Kids

85% of Fussy Eaters trying something new with The Lunch Bag**

Healthier, Happier Kids

A world of different choices everyday!

100% **sustainable**

We reduce packaging in the home & reduce food waste by up to €1k per year

**Internal research report Feb '21

THE LUNCH BAG

Available in your school - download 'TheLunchBag' app from your app or playstore

