

Kilcolgan Educate Together.

March 2011

Your School Needs You!!!

We are having a table quiz on 14th April at 8.00 p.m. in O' Donoghue's pub and we need your help to make it a success. In order to judge how many tables and what nibbles we will need on the night we will be selling tickets beforehand. Tickets are €10 per person or €40 for a table of four and are available from class teachers. We are hoping to have a good representation from all classes so start organising your teams now!. Families and neighbours also more than welcome. Please spread the word and do your best to join us on the night. All proceeds go to our school and it is also a really good social opportunity to meet up with others from school so please speak to other parents to make up teams. We will also make up teams on the night so please buy a ticket even if you don't have a full team. Looking forward to seeing you all there.



Calendar



Staff meeting Fri...children finish at 12.00p.m. ~ Fri 1st April
Information meeting for new parents ~ Wed 6th April @ 8.00 p.m.
Easter holidays...children finish at 12.30p.m. ~ Fri 15th April (school re-opens Tues 3rd May)

Information Evening for New Parents

We will be holding an information evening for parents of new children on Wednesday 6th April at 8.00p.m.. If you are aware of anyone who may be interested in their child attending our school next year please be sure to let them know of this opportunity to find out more about us.

March/April Birthdays



2nd Mar ~ Indira
3rd Mar ~ Theo
4th Mar ~ Joshua (JI)
9th Mar ~ Jackson
13th Mar ~ Darragh
14th Mar ~ Fern

2nd Apr ~ Toto
13th Apr ~ Amber (1st)
15th Apr ~ Aoibhín
15th Apr ~ Connor TL
16th Apr ~ Kaelan
23rd Apr ~ Abigail
29th Apr ~ Megan





Pupil Absences

If your child is absent from school please phone or send a written note on return to school. We are obliged to report an absence record of more than 20 days and have to fill in a coded reason for absences e.g. illness, holiday, family reason etc.



Swimming

Swimming will start on the first Tuesday after the Easter holidays and will run for eight weeks. The children will travel to the pool by bus and children who hold bus tickets will be collected from the pool. Parents will need to collect children who don't normally travel by bus from Kilcornan at 2.00 p.m.

Bus Update

Applications for bus transport have been sent to bus Éireann in time for the deadline. Thanks to the bus committee for overseeing and organising this. Parents will be issued with invoices over the next few months.. Families with a medical card and on the bus route are entitled to free transport.

Tesco Tokens

We are collecting Tesco Tokens and would appreciate them from anyone who may get them while shopping. Please send them in to class teachers. Thank you. (We do not want parents to change shopping habits).

School Policies

Policies have been added to our school website recently. You will now find a selection of these school policies for your information there. Others can be viewed in school on request. There has also been an update to our complaints procedure which is available for viewing on our website under online library.

Racism Projects

The children in Eimear's and Anna's rooms have finished excellent projects on racism under the title "Show Racism the Red Card". These can be viewed on our website. The children from Eimear's class will travel to Dublin for the prize-giving ceremony on the

E.T. Events

A two-day conference entitled "Re-imagining Learning: Curriculum integration in the early secondary years" is being organised by Educate Together in partnership with the NCCA and the University of Limerick, for May 13th/14th 2011. More info on www.educatetogether.ie

Castle Visits

On the 14th March we all set off on a trip to Tulira Castle to celebrate Tree Week. Deirdre, Seán Daróg and Róisín met us there and gave us a guided tour of the evergreen woodland and we also saw "The Darógs" which are young Oak trees. We had our lunch sitting on bales of hay in the hayshed and learned about the different tools used for working with trees and wood. On the 16th we took up a kind invitation from Karen, Tony and Linda to visit Kilcolgan Castle.

We had a lovely nature walk on the way there when we had a chance to spot and listen to signs of Spring. In the castle grounds we saw pigs, hens and ducks and we met a recently born kid. We even got to see a goat being milked. We had our lunch on the grass near the castle. Thanks to Deirdre, Seán, Karen and Tony for these opportunities. We all really enjoyed the trips and we learned lots of valuable information.

Visit from the National Aquarium of Ireland

Nóirín Burke from the Salthill Aquarium visited all of our classrooms on March 29th. She showed us some of the many marine creatures living in our seas and on our seashores. We saw real sea horses, felt shark's teeth, learned how to recognise the skin of a dogfish and examined a section of a Fin Whale's back. Nóirín was very friendly and answered all of our questions about sea life.



Traffic/Parking



We would like to remind parents of our one way system for approaching and leaving school. Please enter at Rafftery's Rest and exit at O' Donoghues Pub. As our school has a greater number of pupils than ever the success of this one way system has become critically important. As regards parking we would ask parents to only park in front of O'Donoghue's Pub if they are dropping off their children rather than coming into the school for whatever reason. If parking in the O' Donoghue's area please reverse into a parking space so that visibility is at the optimum for leaving again, ensuring that you have a clear view before starting off. Also please do not park at any time in front of the school gates. It is the busiest place for children on foot and it also needs to be kept clear for the bus drop off. This is an issue which needs constant vigilance and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

News from the Board of Management

The planning application for the school has been withdrawn by the developer, this came to our attention after the fact on Tuesday. It is our understanding that the intention is to resubmit the application following clearing up some technicalities. We are actively furthering other possibilities. We will let you know as soon as we have further clarification. Please feel free to ask Melinda for information informally.

The school has been given the use of a football pitch by Colga football club, so we owe them a huge thank you.

Coffee morning will be held in Mother Hubbards next Monday Morning 4 April all welcome.

We are looking at the possibility of hosting suicide awareness training in the school. It is run over 2 days back to back. It will be opened to the local community to take part in. If parents are interested please talk to Melinda.

We had a visit from Educate Together in relation to ethos and they were happy with the progress in the school.

Thank you to all the parents who have made donations to the school, and thanks also for all the other inputs.

Next Meeting April 11th 8.30pm



Student Council

Hooray—we have set up our student council with representation from 1st to 5th class. Our aim is to give every child in the school a voice. We will keep you updated on any developments and or decisions being made.



It's time to be turning down the thermostat on heating and adjusting timer clocks. It's also time to swap tumble drier usage for the clothes line!