

# Kilcolgan Educate Together.

September 2010

## Welcome Back

A big welcome back to everyone especially all our new pupils and their families. We hope everyone had a great time over the holidays and that a good rest was had by all.

## European Day of Languages

We will be celebrating European day of Languages on Friday 24th September. We would like parents who speak a language other than English to read or sing or teach a greeting to children in their native languages. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to join us on that day.



## Calendar



P.A Meeting Thursday 30th Sept @8.00pm  
Rosh Hashanah ~ 10 day Jewish festival beginning 8th Sept  
European Day of Languages 26th Sept (celebrating in school on 24th)  
30th Sept..Trip to Tulira Castle ~ details to follow  
Staff Meeting Fri 1st Oct @ 12.00 (early collection of children at 12.00)

## Thank You

Thank you to the parents who helped out during the holidays with painting, cleaning and furniture removal. Your help was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Allen who spent a lot of time in July painting the downstairs rooms and the stairwell. We're delighted with the results.



## September Birthdays

5th Sept ~ Cian (4th)  
6th Sept ~ Eoin Moylan  
7th Sept ~ James (3rd)  
9th Sept ~ Naima (SI)  
13th Sept ~ Kenny (SI)  
15th Sept ~ Fieera (SI)  
18th Sept ~ Maya (JI)  
18th Sept ~ Hannah (3rd)  
21st Sept ~ Karina (JI)  
21st Sept ~ Nicole (SI)  
26th Sept ~ Owen (5th)  
30th Sept ~ Moya (1st)



## Books/Sundries

Almost all book and sundries money has now been paid. However there is some still outstanding. If you have not paid to date please give the following amount to your child's teacher. Junior/Senior infants €100 for books and sundries and €70 sundries for all other classes. Thank you.



## Annual School Meeting

The Board of Management will be holding our Annual School Meeting in school on Wed 13th October at 8.00p.m. All parents/guardians are invited. There will be tea/coffee afterwards. Hope to see you there.



## 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.

## Construction Toys

We are currently equipping our new infant class. If anyone knows someone who has older children who may have outgrown toys which would be appropriate for 5/6 yr olds we would appreciate them. We are especially looking for construction type toys e.g. lego and jigsaws with all pieces intact. Thank you.

## Family Swim



Family swim starting Sunday 17th January in Kilcornan pool. Experienced swimming coach. Separate swimming lanes for parents. Contact Sue Clarke on 087 6302780. Further details on notice board at top of stairs.

## Coffee Morning



A coffee held each morning is Monday in O Donoghue's Pub beside the school from 9.00 to 10.30. This gives parents a good opportunity to meet up and get involved in school life. Everyone welcome.

## Class Meetings

We will be holding class meetings later this month for parents. Each class teacher will outline the curriculum for their class group and teachers will also speak about other aspects of the year ahead. These meetings will take place during school time. Please keep an eye on children's bags for notes regarding time and date.

## Rosh Hashanah/ Yom Kippur

We are currently learning about the Jewish festival of Rosh Hashanah which is being celebrated at the moment. It is a ten day festival to mark the start of the Jewish year. On the tenth day the festival comes to a close with the celebration of Yom Kippur.



## Traffic/Parking



We would like to remind parents of our one way system for approaching and leaving school. Please enter at Rafferty's Rest and exit at O' Donoghues Pub. It is extremely important that all parents adhere to this system in the interest of safety for all but especially the children attending our school. 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. Parents are also asked not to drop the children off on the main N18 road as it is extremely dangerous with children having to walk from that point past cars at O' Donoghue's to get to the school. We have had parents on duty over the past couple of weeks to guide the traffic and parking. They will be unavailable after this week so we will be relying on people recognising the need and importance of these measures after that. A huge thank you to those parents involved who gave their time voluntarily for the safety and good of all our children. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Hello, welcome and help!

Firstly I'd like to say a very big welcome to all the new parents and children and a big welcome back to everyone else. It's wonderful to see so many happy and cheerful faces.

At this stage I think I've met all the children and a lot of the new parents too. For those of you who don't know me I'm the lost soul sporting a baby that wanders around making work for herself.

And that is where the 'help' comes in. I am organising a fundraiser in the school for Educate Together (ET). Educate Together is our patron body and one of their many roles is that they provide a school support service to schools like us. This service has been very helpful to us in providing advice and training for staff and board members. ET are, no more than all of its schools, a charity relying heavily on donations. They are holding a national fundraising day on October 22nd and have asked all ET schools to get involved by hosting something in their school.

So I am organising a breakfast morning. The plan is to invite parents and children (or children can bring another friend – relative, neighbour...) to have breakfast in the school for a small charge. Everyone should arrive in pyjamas as there will be small prizes for the biggest sleepy heads so you can get creative with messy hair, fluffy slippers and bathrobes.

In the run up to the event, children will be learning about the importance of breakfast and healthy eating and hopefully trying out some healthy recipes in the classrooms. They will also do their best to learn some songs to provide entertainment.

I need parents to help with the preparation, setting up, teas and coffees and tidy up so if you can spare your morning on Friday 22nd I'd be grateful for some help. Parents would need to be available to help out before school begins. I would also like to explore 'breakfast around the world' but the depth and success of this depends on parental involvement. If you would be interested in hosting a small stand exploring breakfast in another country I'd love to hear from you.

Given that I'm not in school regularly at the moment and that I'm also supposed to be moving house any day now, it would be best if you could contact me by email at [anna@kilcolganetns.com](mailto:anna@kilcolganetns.com). If you'd like to be involved but don't have access to email please leave your details with Fionnuala.

Many thanks,

Anna (principal on maternity leave)



**Green School Tip**



Unplug your phone charger and other equipment left on stand-by. Equipment on stand-by uses up to 20% of the energy it would when fully on.