

Kilcolgan Educate Together.



September 2011

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. We look forward to a busy and fruitful year ahead.



Calendar



Starting/Finishing Times

Class Meetings

Jnr Infs ~ Tues 27th @ 7.00p.m.

Snr Infs ~ Tues 20th @ 9.15a.m.

1st class ~ Tues 20th @ 9.45a.m.

2nd/3rd class ~ Wed 21st @ 9.15a.m.

4th/5th/6th class ~ Wed 21st @ 9.45a.m.

Staff Meeting Fri 7th Oct @ 12.00
(early collection of children at 12.00)

Annual School meeting @8.00p.m.

A quick reminder to parents of our opening and closing times. School begins at 9.00 a.m. but children can arrive from 8.50. Teachers will be in school before this time but will be preparing work. Infants finish at 1.40 p.m. with all other classes finishing at 2.40 p.m. Children finish at 12.00 on the 1st Friday of each month to facilitate staff meetings.



September Birthdays



5th Sept ~ Cian (5th)

6th Sept ~ Eoin Moylan

6th Sept ~ Eden (JI)

7th Sept ~ James (4th)

9th Sept ~ Naima (1st)

13th Sept ~ Kenny (1st)

15th Sept ~ Fieera (1st)

18th Sept ~ Hannah (4th)

21st Sept ~ Karina (SI)

21st Sept ~ Nicole (1st)

23rd Sept ~ Róisín (JI)

26th Sept ~ Owen (6th)

30th Sept ~ Moya (3rd)



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 our school secretary....Junior/Senior infants €91.50 for books and sundries and €70 sundries for all other classes. Thank you.



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.



Babaró Festival

We have made an application to bring all classes to a production in the Babaró children's theatre festival which takes place in Galway in late September. The cost of the trip including bus will be €10 per child. We will put out a note with arrangements as soon as we hear from the Babaró festival office on whether or not we are successful in securing tickets.

'No religion'

At last year's whole school meeting an interest was expressed in forming a working group to examine how best to include the 'and none' aspect of the school's multi-denominational ethos which respects 'all faiths *and none*'. Mary, Aongus and Anna formed a working group within the school to examine the curriculum and set a strategy for moving forward. They met with the secretary of the Humanist Association and began putting some ideas together. They would now like to invite interested parents to join them to discuss learning objectives and content of such a curriculum on the 26th October at 7.30pm. Please email the school at info@kilcolganetns.com if you are interested in attending so that we can send out some extra information prior to the meeting. If you do not have email just let us know and we'll photocopy the information for you.



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 co-ordinated the Summer paint works. We're delighted with the results.

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 as follows

Junior Infants ~ Tues 27th Sept @ 7.00 p.m.

Senior Infants ~ Tues 20th Sept @ 9.15 a.m.

1st class ~ Tues 20th Sept @ 9.45 a.m.

2nd/3rd class ~ Wed 21st Sept @ 9.15 a.m.

4th/5th/6th class ~ Wed 21st Sept @ 9.45 a.m.



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. Mary O' Donoghue has also asked that people not park behind their premises apart from two spaces which she has kindly allowed two of our teachers to park in. 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. These measures have been put in place for the safety and welfare of all the children attending our school and we would appreciate if everyone can help us to make them successful.



Sport In School

Following our successful application for our Green Flag last year this year we have decided to apply for the Active Flag which is awarded to schools who do something extra to promote physical activity in school. We are hoping to add to our sporting activities and to this end we would like to know if any parents/guardians have an interest in getting involved in coaching some element of sport or in helping out with sporting activities - please let Eimear or Fionnuala know. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Educate Together Second Level

Working groups for second level Educate Together education are meeting on Saturday 24th September from 10—1.30pm in Rush and Lusk Educate Together, Co. Dublin. Reply to secondlevel@educatetogether.ie.



European Day of Languages

We will be celebrating European day of Languages on Monday 26th 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.

Get well soon

Goodbye for a short time to Mary who will be away from work on sick leave for the next few weeks. A big welcome to Clare who will be taking over until Mary's return.



Thank You PA

Many thanks to the parents who organised the fun-filled barbecue/picnic at Renville. The weather was kind and it was a great opportunity for parents and children to meet. Well done to all involved.



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.