

(025)27446

October 2018

We are all well settled back to a new school year and already it has been very busy here in Scoil Mháirtín.

Meetings:

We had a very successful information night for Junior Infant parents at the beginning of the term. The Parents Association provided refreshments afterwards and it was lovely welcome for new comers to our school community. We also held an information meeting for the parents of the “job-share” classes. The parents of 2nd class are invited to a meeting on Tuesday, October 9th, as part of the preparation for First Communion on May 11th. The Enrolment Mass will be held on Sunday, October 14th and we want to thank the children who have volunteered to sing at that Mass.

The Parents Association held their AGM on September 11th and it was great to see many parents at this meeting. The outgoing committee did fantastic work for the past year, and on behalf of the school community, I want to thank them sincerely for their time and effort. The officers for the next year are Kelly Condon (Chair), Linda O’Meara (Secretary) and Angela Casey (Treasurer). They will be very ably assisted by their committee. They are busy at present planning for the Halloween Disco. The Parents Association is very important for our school and your support is needed at their meetings and activities throughout the year.

Swimming:

The children from 3rd, 4th and 6th classes are currently receiving lesson in Fermoy pool. We are very grateful to the parent volunteers who help supervise each week. Unfortunately our current practice will have to cease after this school year and only volunteers who have been vetted through the Cloyne Diocese will be allowed into the changing rooms. We already have some parents who have very kindly volunteered to be vetted, but unfortunately there are not enough to cover all our sessions from next year. This will mean we will have to curtail the number of classes going to the pool. Any parents willing to help will receive a vetting form which the school forwards to the diocese and vetting can take place. It is a very simple process. The greater number of parents that are vetted (especially male) and can attend swimming sessions then more classes can avail of swimming lessons.

Safety:

Our busy car park is strictly for staff and deliveries and pedestrians are advised to use the pedestrian gate and not enter school grounds through the car park.

Junior Warden:

Garda Motherway has been in contact with the school about this scheme and has already trained a number of volunteers from 5th class. We appeal to everyone to co-operate with the wardens.

Pupil Personal Insurance:

Each child who is enrolled in Scoil Mháirtín is insured under this scheme. Any expenses (medical or dental) incurred as the result of an accident either at home or in school will be covered all year from September 1st to August 31st. More details of scheme can be found on www.allianz.ie

Child Protection Policy:

As part of the *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, Scoil Mháirtín has a child protection policy which is on display in the school. The principal, Eileen O’Keeffe is the

Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for Scoil Mháirtín, and Mrs. Leddy is the deputy DLP. The DLP informs the HSE and/or relevant authorities of any report or incident of a child who may be at risk.

Absent Notes:

If your child is absent for 20 or more days, the school is obliged to inform the Education Welfare Board about these absences and the reasons for same. If your child is absent for any reason please inform the class teacher. "Absent" notes are available from the office or at the back of the journal. If you know your child will be late for school (dental/medical appointments etc) please inform the teacher, as the roll is called before 11am.

Labelling/lost property:

It is most important that all children's belongings are labelled. We have 3 large bags of "lost" clothes from last year which we will be donating to the Parents Association Clothes Collection.

Healthy Lunches:

Scoil Mháirtín is a health promoting school and we appeal to all parents to please give children healthy food for lunch. Of course all waste/wrappings must be taken home.

Head Lice:

Head lice is a constant problem in our school. **All parents must regularly check and treat children's hair if we are ever to get rid of head lice.** Consult your pharmacist on the best treatment.

School Website:

We are very near completion of our website development. On Thursday, we had a drone camera in the school to photograph the whole school together as it is our 10th anniversary. We hope to publish this photo on our website.

School Activities:

This term the children from Junior Infants to 2nd classes are in receipt of dance classes from Derek as well as golf lessons from Adrian. The 6th class attended lessons in Pitch and Putt with our local club. During October the Lifetime Lab will be visiting classes in the senior side of the school. Scoil Mháirtín funds these activities from the money you pay towards your child's expenses.

The happiness of your child in Scoil Mháirtín is very important to all the staff, please make an appointment to meet the principal or class teacher if you have any concerns.