



Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret

Tullybuck, Clontibret, Co. Monaghan.
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2nd September 2021

September 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parent / Guardian,

As we near the end of the first week back at school please note the following information.

- **Appointments**

Our school is approachable, if you wish to speak to me or any teacher; an appointment can be made by ringing the school between 9.00a.m. and 1.00p.m. The secretary is unavailable to answer the phone after this time.

- **Label Belongings**

Please label clearly all your child's belongings particularly **jumpers, jackets, lunchboxes, books and copies.**

- **Safety in the Car Park**

- Please be very cautious in the car park when bringing children to and collecting children from school.
- Please **DO NOT** drive around the back of the Community Centre in the mornings or in the afternoons as the children use this area as their pathway.
- The Entrance / Exit adjacent to the school fencing should not be used as it too dangerous when children are arriving to and departing from school.
- Please use the dedicated Entrance at the community centre door and the dedicated Exit at the back of the church.
- **As a matter of health and safety, parents are asked NOT to drive in through the school gates or to park in the school entrance.** We are very fortunate to have access from the Community Centre car park. We would ask all parents who leave their children to school to use this facility.
- Please ensure that all who escort your child / children to and from school are aware of these aspects of safety,
- Please ensure that your child/children are collected on time in the afternoon, as supervision cannot be guaranteed after school hours.

The Board of Management does not accept responsibility for children who are waiting at the school to be collected at home time.

- **Dogs/Pets**

In the interests of health and safety please **DO NOT** take your dogs or pets onto the school grounds.

- **Absences**

Under current legislation all absences of 20 days or more have to be reported to TUSLA the Child and Family Agency. Parents must confirm in writing to the class teacher the reason for absence. There is a

section at the back of the Homework Journal if you wish to use it. Parents of Infants must hand in a note or email the school. All original notes must be kept in school for possible inspection by TUSLA.

Although telephone calls to the school and word of mouth regarding absences are welcomed, they are not sufficient for TUSLA. Reasons for absences must be in writing.

- **Signing in / Signing Out**

In the interest of Health and Safety:

If a pupil has to leave school early for whatever reason the parent / guardian must call to the front door of the school. A member of Staff will get your child for you and he / she will be signed out.

If a pupil arrives to school after Roll Call, i.e. 9.50 a.m., the parent / guardian must call to the front door of the school. A member of staff will sign your child in.

- **School Calendar 2021 / 2022**

Please find attached a copy of the school calendar.

- **Contact Details**

We are currently updating our contact details of all our families. Please complete all sections of the contact details form and return it to the school as soon as possible. Please inform the class teacher in writing if you change your contact details during the school year.

- **Pupil Personal Accident Insurance Scheme**

The Board of Management made the decision that all pupils enrolled in the school should avail of Allianz Insurance for All Pupils. This means that all pupils would be insured for 24-hour cover, 365 days a year for school activities, social, domestic and leisure activities including during school holidays.

As this is a whole school policy, it is at the reduced rate of €8 per pupil. This payment is now due. Please see the attached Allianz document for details. Please complete and return to the school on or before Friday 24th September. When sending in money, please put it in a sealed envelope with your child's name marked clearly on it. If paying by cheque please make payable to Scoil Mhuire.

- **Rental Books**

As your child receives their books on the Rental Scheme, please ensure that these books are labelled and covered with a second paper covering as soon as possible. Backing these books prolongs their lifetime and thus keeps down the costing of the book rental scheme.

- **School Outing 2019/2020**

Parental Permission Form is attached.

This form has to be completed for pupils in Junior Infants up to Sixth Class.

- **Party Invitations**

Distribution of invitations to parties etc. is not permitted through the school.



In the interests of health and safety please do not send in birthday cake/party treats as some children have allergies in the school.

- **Stay Safe Programme**

This year we will deliver the Stay Safe Programme to all classes. The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills so that they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous.

This programme is an integral part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement.

It is based on the following core elements:


-  Nurturing children's self-esteem / Building children's confidence
-  Enabling children to be assertive / Helping children to identify and express their feelings

The children are taught age appropriate personal safety skills in the context of developing their independence.

Over the coming year, your child may bring home activity sheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the message at home. These worksheets are to be signed by you. This will be an opportunity to have a chat with your child about what they are learning in school.

In conclusion I wish you and your children a happy and healthy school year.

Yours respectfully,


Elizabeth Moorehead,
Principal