

Scoil Naomh Fiachra

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The school year is now well and truly underway. Both students and teachers have settled back into work with great enthusiasm. Our Junior Infants are now well accustomed to school life and are enjoying their new routine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you the parents, your children, the teachers and the wider community of Clontubrid for the many good wishes and the warm welcome which I received. Wishing you all a very enjoyable school year.

PARENTS COUNCIL

The Parents Council will hold its **AGM on Wednesday the 15th of October at 8pm**. All parents are invited to attend this meeting. It is hoped that at least one parent from each family might attend.

The Parents Council have already met this year and have plans in place to support the school with Drama, Swimming, Tin Whistle classes, improvements to the basketball court/playground area, internet safety and maintaining some of the ICT equipment in the school.

DRAMA (TERM 1)

On **Thursday October 9th**, we will begin our first Drama workshop with Mr. Trevor Somers. Trevor is an extremely experienced Drama teacher and comes highly recommended. He will provide us with eight workshops which will run into the Christmas holidays. Each class will receive approximately one hour of drama per week up until Christmas. Trevor will teach the children many techniques in drama and also help prepare them for a performance which will take place before the Christmas holidays. The Parents Council will pay for the cost of these classes.

SWIMMING (TERM 2)

Swimming classes will take place in January, February and March this school year. It was felt that this would be a better time of the year to have swimming as the pitch may not be available for P.E. due to the expected weather conditions. Classes will take place on **Mondays @ 11am** for eight weeks. Consent forms and further information will be given before the Christmas holidays. The Parents Council will cover the cost of the bus.

TIN WHISTLE (TERM 3)

We are currently looking for a Tin Whistle Teacher for after Easter in order to teach the entire school the basics on the tin whistle. If any parent knows of a reputable tin whistle teacher could they please contact the school. The Parents Council will pay for tin whistles for each child.

MENTORING PROGRAMME

We are presently trying out a new mentoring programme between our infant and fifth and sixth class students. Our fifth and sixth class students have been pairing up to help our infants with their reading, writing, games, art and many other activities for 30 minutes every Friday. This is proving a great way to integrate the youngest and oldest students in the school. The older children are learning to be more responsible by showing a positive example, while the younger children are benefiting from the guidance and help of our older students.



CLOTHING & TEXTILES FUNDRAISING COLLECTION

There will be a clothing and textiles fundraising collection here on Friday 24th of October (before mid-term). We will accept clothes and textiles from Monday the 20th and store them here in the school until collection. They will accept all types of clothing, curtains, towels, soft toys, shoes, handbags and belts. These items must however be clean and dry. Old laptops and mobile phones are also accepted. We would ask people to support this collection as it is an easy fundraiser for the school. If you could spread the word to relatives and neighbours also it would be much appreciated.

NEW ENROLMENTS 2015

If any parents have children for enrolment for September 2015 could you please let the school know. We are presently updating our enrolment pack for 2015 and hope to get it out to parents in the coming weeks. Also, if you know of any families who have children who may wish to attend the school, could you please pass on this message.

GAELIC FOOTBALL

Our Gaelic Football team have been in training for the past number of weeks and they got off to a flying start in the league by beating Freshford in their first game. Unfortunately we were narrowly beaten by Muckalee in our second outing but had a great win over Ballyraggett in round three.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Parent Teacher Meeting will take place on the 11th and 12th of November this year. Teachers will contact parents with exact times and dates closer to the time. We will do our best to co-ordinate and facilitate families with more than one child in the school.

ACTIVE FLAG

Starting in November, the school will start work to pursue the Active Flag. More information on this project will be made known in the coming months however if you would like some information on this project please visit www.activeschoolflag.ie. We are sure that this project will have a positive impact upon the entire school community.

COLAISTE MUIRE OPEN DAY & PARENTS NIGHT

Our fifth and sixth class students will have an opportunity to visit Colaiste Mhuire Johnstown on Friday 17th of October. There will also be an open night for parents of incoming first years on Thursday, 23rd October from 7:30-9:00pm. There will be a first year assessment day on Saturday, 15th of November between 9:00am and 12:30pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, 9th October—Drama classes begin

Wednesday, 15th October—Parent's Council AGM

Friday, 17th October—Colaiste Mhuire Open Day (for students)

Thursday, 23rd October—Colaiste Mhuire Open Night (for parents)

Monday, 20th October to Friday, 24th October—Clothing and Textiles Collection Fundraiser

Friday, 24th October—Closed at 2:40pm for Mid Term

Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th November—Parent Teacher Meetings

Saturday, 15th November—Colaiste Mhuire First Year Assessment

Tuesday, 16th December—Christmas Plays

Friday, 19th December—Closed at Midday for Christmas Holidays. Reopen Monday 5th January