



St. Fiacc's N.S.
Fírinne le Misneach

Telephone: 059 9132444
Email: st.fiaccs@gmail.com
website: www.stfiaccsns.ie
Twitter: @StFiaccs

For Child Safeguarding: The DLP is Mr Brennan and the DDLP is Mr Bolton

September 2022

Welcome Back

WE ARE RE-OPENING ON AUGUST 31st

START TIMES:
Junior Infants 9:10 - 11:50 (First fortnight only)
Senior Infants 9:10 - 1:50
First - Sixth: 9:10 - 2:50
Hot lunches begin Mon Sept 5th
Junior Infant full day begins Thurs Sept 15th
Welcome to our Ukrainian friends

St. Fiacc's N.S.
Fírinne le Misneach
st.fiaccs@gmail.com

Free Hot Meals

Preschool & Afterschool Services on site

Dear Parents,

I would like to wholeheartedly welcome you and your child(ren) back to our new school year. I am excited about this school year in that Covid will not be the dominant theme and that we will continue on our journey to ensure a sense of normality at St. Fiacc's. On the same note I would like to reassure you all that St. Fiacc's will retain certain infection prevention and control measures that were in place last year. These measures protect pupils, their parents and school staff. A reminder of some of the safeguards are:

- Any child who is unwell is sent home.
- Classrooms are well ventilated.
- Regular wiping down of surfaces by cleaning staff.
- Parents enter the building by appointment only.
- Regular handwashing and sanitising by pupils and staff.

Much of the previous Covid 19 supports have been reduced or withdrawn entirely by the Government so we will maintain a common sense approach regarding the safeguards listed above. One common sense approach all parents should continue to take is not to send your child to school if they feel unwell.

Kind regards,

Mr John Brennan



*Swimming for Mr Keogh (6th) and Miss McCarthy (2nd) starts on September 1st at 11am. A payment facility will be set up on Aladdin. It will run for 6 weeks.

*Swimming for Miss Scully (5th) and Miss Ivory (5th) starts on September 2nd at 11am.

*Swimming for Miss Minnock (6th) and Miss Kinsella (2nd) starts on September 6th at 2pm.

**Hot meals will start Monday, September 5th. (September 15th for Junior Infants). Until then, please bring a lunch.

New Appointments



Congratulations to Mr Pauric Bolton who is our newly appointed Deputy Principal. Mr Bolton is a highly regarded member of our school community and looks forward to his new role. Mr Bolton is contactable at mrbolton@stfiaccs.com



Congratulations to Miss Fiona Payne who has been appointed to the new post of Home School Community Liaison teacher. Miss Payne will be supporting and empowering parents to support their child's education through parent programmes, home visits and phonecalls. A longstanding member of St. Fiacc's school community, Miss Payne has tremendous knowledge of the families of Graiguecullen. Miss Payne can be contacted at misspayne@stfiaccs.com



Other Reminders

Attendance

Please ensure that you have downloaded the Aladdin App. This is the easiest way to inform the school that your child is absent. We are duty bound to follow up unexplained absences and absences over 20 days. Your explanation makes it easier for us to prioritise which absences require a follow up. Our attendance coordinator is Miss Mary Kavanagh and can be emailed at missgiblin@stfiaccs.com The class rolls are called no later than 10.10am each morning. Pupils who arrive after said time are marked absent.

Uniform

Uniforms can be purchased from Shaws in Carlow. We are introducing a new tracksuit for 3rd-6th which can be purchased from JF Sports, Carlow. Infants - 2nd will retain our present tracksuit which can also be purchased from Shaws. The teacher will tell you which day the tracksuit is required

Book Rental

Book rental fee is €90 which can be paid through the Aladdin App. When you pay the fee the school provides the pupil with all books, copies and insurance. 3rd - 6th will need a pencil case with pen, pencil, eraser. Other classes will have stationery provided.

Class meetings

Your teacher will arrange a class meeting for parents in September for 20-25 mins approx at 3pm or 2pm in the case of infants. This will provide an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and visit the classroom.

Collecting your child

The teachers from infants - 2nd will "hand over" your child at school closing time. Please be patient in the first week as this will take time. Keep your distance so teacher can see all the parents. It is helpful to send in a photo of who will be collecting your child. Please be on time collecting your child as keeping a child waiting is a form of neglect and must be recorded. The Principal must be provided a copy of any Court Orders in the event of a custodial issue.

Medical Issues/Assessments

Please ensure all inhalers, epipens etc are up to date and labelled. Remind us if your child has a serious medical issue. Provide us with copies of latest educational assessments also.

Hot Lunches

We spend a lot of money on Hot Lunches; they are nutritious for your child. However be sure to select food from the menu your child will actually eat as otherwise the meal is disposed of. If you would prefer to opt out that is fine also just inform the relevant teacher/secretary.

School Calendar: This can be viewed by clicking the following link:

http://www.stfiaccsns.ie/?page_id=2420



Family Contribution

We also request a family monthly contribution of €5 per month per family or €50 for the year. This payment is voluntary but assists us in resourcing the school. This is also payable through Aladdin

Supervision

St Fiacc's opens at 8:50am and closes at 2:50pm. St Fiacc's does not take responsibility for supervision of pupils before 8:50. am or after 2:50pm. To this end we advise pupils to assemble in the school grounds between 8:50 & 9.10. where there will be supervision. The school would greatly appreciate your support in this matter.

St. Fiacc's will open to receive pupils at 8:50am. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time. Classes will commence each day at 9.10am. No pupils should arrive later than 9.05am.

Classes will end each day at 2:50pm. Parents who wish to have their children escorted home should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school gate and the person to escort them should be at the gate no later than 2:50pm as the school cannot accept responsibility for looking after children after that time.

There will be morning supervision provided by Senior Management and SNAs between 8:50 and 9.10am.

*Parents of Infants may wait with their child in the morning in a designated area but pupils from 1st-6th are expected to walk to their lines and wait with their classmates. We keep this area free of parents for child safety reasons.

Health & Safety

Everybody is aware of the mess dog dirt can cause especially around young boys and girls. Please keep dogs away from the school grounds to be fair to everyone.

Homework

There will be no homework for children in September except for some reading at home or some rote learning (eg times tables or poetry). Teachers will use an app called *Seesaw* to communicate with parents from Infants - 1st while 2nd - 6th will use the homework diary (provided). Seesaw codes will be provided in due course.

Label Uniforms/books

Please ensure that your child's clothes, school requisites or sports equipment are either clearly labelled or are marked in such a way as your child can identify them.

Children can leave books that they do not require for homework in school each evening. We would appreciate if you would regularly check the children's bags to ensure that they are not carrying unnecessary requisites or an accumulation of paper to and from school.

Contact details

Please ensure that your mobile phone details and home address is correct on Aladdin Connect otherwise you will not receive messages from St. Fiacc's or more importantly we will be unable to contact you if your child is ill.