



St. Fiacc's N.S.
Fírinne le Misneach

Telephone: 059 9132444
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website: www.stfiaccsns.ie
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For Child Safeguarding: The DLP is Mr Brennan and the DDLP is Mr Bolton

January 2024

Dates for your Diary

Jan 8th: St. Fiacc's reopens after Christmas Break

Jan 9th: Mass at **11.30** to mark the feast of the Epiphany (1st - 6th classes)

January 8th: St. Fiacc's will commence accepting application Forms for Admission to Junior Infants for the 2024-2025 school year. Please call to the office for a pack or access a form at this link [JI-Application-Form-24-25](#) . We will accept applications until January 26th.

January 24th: Parent Teacher Meetings (St Fiacc's will close at **1:50pm** for Infants and at **2pm** for all other pupils).

January 31st: Parent Teacher Meetings (St Fiacc's will close at **1:50pm** for Infants and at **2pm** for all other pupils).

Jan 22nd - Jan 26th: Catholic Schools Week (Including Grandparents' Day Jan 24th).

February 5th: Public Holiday (St Fiacc's is closed).

February 15th-16th: St. Fiacc's is closed for Mid Term Break (2 days)

Thank you!

To all families returning our family contribution envelope. Date of next contribution: Wed January 10th . Thanks also to everyone who contributed to our school calendar through advertisements or purchase and to our Christmas jumper morning. Both initiatives pay for resourcing of school materials.

Relationships in Sexuality in Education (RSE) Programme

The RSE Programme will begin this month in all classes. A letter will issue to all parents prior to the beginning of the programme. For further information on the RSE programme please visit our policy on our school website at the following link [St Fiacc's RSE Policy](#)

ATTENDANCE

Attendance rate for November – 91.2%

Attendance rate for December – 88.6% (>5.8% on 2022)

Term One overall – 91.3% (>2.7% on 2022)

All pupils who reached 95% attendance or greater received a cert of excellent attendance from our attendance coordinator Miss Kavanagh.

Parent Teacher Meetings

St Fiacc's Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on January 24th and January 31st respectively. Appointments will be arranged using the Aladdin Connect App.

On Jan 9th Families with 3 or more siblings will be offered slots. On Jan 10th families with 2 siblings will be offered slots. On Jan 11th everyone else will be offered slots.

Living Our Ethos - Catholic Schools week



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We will celebrate our Catholic identity during Catholic Schools Week this month. The theme is "Communities of Service".

Grandparents Day will take place on Wednesday January 24th, as part of Catholic School's Week, where one grandparent from each class will talk with the children from 10-10.30am.

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.

Green School message on Hot meals

As a Green School we again remind all our pupils that they must bring home their hot meal cardboard box in the plastic lunch box provided. If your child is not eating their hot meal you can either change the order online or cancel the hot meal entirely.

Announcements on successful grant applications

St Fiacc's has successfully applied for a school garden grant that is in development with Mr O Flaherty and Mr Bolton.

Recently St Fiacc's was awarded a STEM grant which will allow us to expand our coding programmes throughout the school lead by Mr Bolton and Mr Kelly.

Student Council

Please click on the link to read our digital Student Council Newsletter created by Miss Minnock and her Council.

[Student Council Digital Newsletter](#)

The link will also bring you to our anti bullying song "We're all the same" composed by Mr Kelly and recorded by Mr Keogh

Revised Parental Complaints Procedure

A revised parental complaints procedure has been agreed by all the management bodies. A copy of the procedures can be accessed via this link [Parental Complaints Procedure](#)



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School Building Update

Our building project is still in progress. Our architect is presently finalising drawings that will go out to tender. Unfortunately the fact that the school has had to apply to both Laois and Carlow County Councils for planning permissions, fire certs and disability access certs has slowed our progress. Presently our plan is to have 4 extra classrooms and 2 special needs classes for ASD pupils by September 2025.

NOTE RE COLLECTING A CHILD FROM SCHOOL

Children may not be removed early from class unless for HSE appointment or family emergency. The removal from class causes significant disruption to classes and the running of the school.

In the event that a child has a HSE appointment:

- 1. Inform teacher and Secretary via Aladdin/email**
- 2. Teacher arranges for the pupil to be at the office for collection.**
- 3. Pupil is signed out by parent**
- 4. All early removals are recorded on Aladdin**

Yard time (10.50-11.10 & 12.50-1.10)

Due to unavailability of staffing during yard times, pupils cannot be removed from yard for early collection so prior notice of HSE appointment is required

**Thank you,
Mr John Brennan**