



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 2023

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 4th
Junior Infant full day begins
Thurs Sept 14th

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Free Hot Meals

Preschool & Afterschool Services on site

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to St Fiacc's for the start of an exciting new academic year!

First and foremost, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new students and their families. We are delighted to have you join our school community, and we are committed to making your transition as smooth and positive as possible. Our school's values of care and compassion will ensure that everyone feels at home in our classrooms.

To our returning students, I look forward to supporting your development in the year ahead. I would also like to extend my gratitude to our staff. In particular I welcome new staff members to our school and those returning from leaves of absence.

This year I want to emphasize the importance of collaboration between school and home. We believe that strong partnerships between parents, teachers, and students are critical in a DEIS school. I encourage you to stay actively involved in your child's education, attend school events, and communicate with their teachers regularly. Together, we can ensure each student's success and growth. I look forward to your continued interaction on Seesaw and attendance at our September class meetings.



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Now that Covid 19 is behind us we will be promoting various extracurricular activities in areas of sport and music, among others. However, we remain committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all students, staff, and visitors. The barrier at the front of the building is to ensure a safely supervised yard in the morning for all our pupils. Additionally please ensure that your child **keeps their mobile phone at home** as it creates multiple issues if brought to school.

I hope that our building programme will progress this year. It involves the building of 4 classrooms and a Special Needs base for pupils with Autism. Additionally we will be replacing an old prefab with a 6 room Special Needs Modular Building at the back of the school.

All other reminders are listed below this letter and I hope that you will take the time to read each section carefully. Wishing you all a successful and fulfilling academic year!

Warm regards,
Mr John Brennan

Swimming

***Swimming for Miss Minnock (6th) and Mr Groarke (2nd) McCarthy (2nd) starts on September 5th at 2pm. A payment facility will be set up on Aladdin. It will run for 6 weeks.**

***Swimming for Mr O' Flaherty (6th) and Miss Tuite (2nd) starts on September 7th at 11am.**

***Swimming for Mr Keogh and Miss Roche (2nd) starts on September 8th at 11am.**

****Hot meals will start Monday, September 4th. (September 18th for Junior Infants). Until then, please bring a lunch.**

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. Last year we introduced a new tracksuit for 3rd-6th which can be purchased from JF Sports, Carlow. Infants - 2nd pupils may now avail of the new tracksuit. Your class teacher will tell you which day the tracksuit is required.

Photocopying and Arts and Crafts fee

There is a €20 per pupil fee for photocopying, purchasing of Art and Craft supplies and school insurance. The fee is payable through the Aladdin App. The school provides the pupil with all text books and copies. 3rd - 6th will need a pencil case with pen, pencil, eraser. Other classes will have stationery provided.



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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. Please 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. All meals are brought home in a special plastic container so you can check if your child is eating the food. Please wash and return daily.

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

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

Family Contribution

We also invite 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. Please do not get into the habit of carrying small dogs onto the school grounds.

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. We will be using SeeSaw as an assessment tool in all classes this year as part of our Digital Learning Strategy.

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.

Class	Teacher	Rm Number
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Junior Infants a	Ms Hutton	6
Junior Infants b	Ms O'Brien	5
Junior Infants c	Ms Reddy	1
Senior Infants a	Mr Nolan	2
Senior Infants b	Mrs Nolan	3
Senior Infants c	Mrs Daly	7
1st Class a	Miss Coakley	4
1st Class b	Ms Mullen	11
1st Class c	Ms Hennessy	10
2nd Class a	Mr Groarke	12
2nd Class b	Miss Tuite	29
2nd Class c	Miss Roche	9
3rd Class a	Miss E Doyle	30
3rd Class b	Miss Ronan	32



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3rd Class c	Miss Davitt	31
4th Class a	Ms Kavanagh	13
4th Class b	Miss O' Toole	21
4th Class c	Miss Canavan	14
5th Class a	Ms Ivory	18
5th Class b	Miss Scully	22
5th Class c	Miss Fogarty	5b
6th Class a	Ms Minnock	19
6th Class b	Mr O Flaherty	26
6th Class c	Mr Keogh	20