



Newsletter October 9th 2021

A sincere thank you to all parents, guardians and grandparents, for helping to make the first 5½ weeks back at school as calm and peaceful as possible.

All parents/guardians must continue to wear a **face mask/covering** on school grounds. We ask this because it's very difficult to social distance and also because one of us might be asymptomatic and not know it. **Please wear it at all times.** We don't want to have to ban parents/guardians from entering school grounds, but a lot of people are not wearing a mask/face covering when dropping off and collecting children.

* You know your child best. Ring your GP if you are unsure whether to send him/her to school

*If **your child is absent** because he/she has to go for a COVID test, please send the appointment text to our HSCL teacher. If the result is negative that text also. This will ensure that your child will not be marked absent for normal sickness, as you don't want those days to mount up or TUSLA becoming involved in your child's absences.

*The HSE are no longer contact tracing for COVID-19 in schools

***€65 is still** owed by some families for their child's books, resources, e-learning, photocopying, art and craft materials etc. for the current year. Please drop by the office this week to pay it.

***YELLOW MARKINGS** at main **gate area**: please don't park on the yellow lines.

* **CARAMBOLA LUNCH**: the new HOT LUNCH service has been a big hit, even though we had a lot of teething problems in the first two weeks!!

Some children continue to bring a lunch from home and are also getting a HOT LUNCH and the amount of uneaten and wasted food is disturbing and wasteful.

Please allow your child the opportunity to try the hot lunch and encourage them to do so.

You must edit the menu before noon on a Friday for the following week.

Any problems ask Ms. Chaney, HSCL teacher

* **HALLOWE'EN** We have 2 weeks in school until the Hallowe'en break. It will be Hallowe'en as normal in the school. We will take photos and post them on the website so you can see what went on.

We'll also be having our usual HALLOWE'EN prizes for the best homemade costume in each year group.

We ask each child who's dressing up and not wearing the school uniform to **contribute €2** towards the day.

***SEESAW**: most parents have signed up their child for SEESAW. Teachers are now using SEESAW for home work and as means of communication with you. We don't want your child to feel left out or fall behind. Please make sure you check it daily.

***Our new HSCL teacher, Ms. Chaney** 'has been flat out' since she started in her new role on September 1st. She's doing a fabulous job connecting with parents/guardians. She is available during the day 8.50am-2.30pm to answer any worries or concerns you may have. Her information is on our website. You will also find in the HSCL section of the website (Our School -> HSCL) information on courses/classes for parents & guardians which may help you or your children.

Ms. Chaney will help you out if you're having difficulty changing your child's lunch menu.

Over the next few weeks she will be dropping by our new junior infant parent's homes to say hello and to drop off a little pack to help with learning.

9am Priorswood Park Monday mornings: parents/guardians are meeting up for a 5k stroll, walk, skip, jog, run. Please join them

Free Yoga Class: starts Wednesday 13th October in the fabulous new parish centre. 14 free places. Text Ms. Chaney on 086 014 0321 if you would like to book your place.

***Sight and Vision test, HSE.** Children currently in 1st class and Senior Infants returned the sight and vision form last year but due to COVID-19 testing wasn't carried out in school. We will send home a note this week asking you for permission for the school to give the HSE your child's name and date of birth so that they can cross reference the forms and see who hasn't returned one.

Junior Infants will be given the form this week and we will also ask those parents for permission for HSE to cross reference. The HSE hope to carry out the tests in early 2022.

If you are concerned that your child has a significant sight or hearing problem please let us know.

****Website**** Please check the drop down menus regularly

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Anti-bullying policy for 2021-2022 have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Management and both along with Our Notifications are on the website under Our School -> School Policies

Gallery is full of **fabulous photos** of the children learning and having fun.

Thanks to everyone; pupils, parents/guardians, and staff for making the past 5½ weeks so normal and ordinary despite all the rules and regulations!!

A. Plunkett, Principal