



Dromtrasna National School

Tús na Scoilbhliana 2022/2023

Fáilte ar ais/ Welcome back: Fáilte romhaibh go léir ar ais ar scoil. We welcome everyone back to school after, what we hope was, a good summer break for all. We look forward to working closely with parents for the coming school year for the benefit of your child, who you entrust to us on a daily basis to further develop their knowledge, skills and confidence. A special welcome to all our new pupils, both in Junior Infants and in other classes, starting school with us this year. Tá fáilte is fiche romhaibh, a pháistí.

Fáilte: I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Ms Lisa Dalton teacher of Rang 1 and Ms Tessa Collins teacher of Rang 5, covering the posts created by Ms Galvin's and Ms Doody Sheehan's leave. Tá fáilte romhaibh, Lisa & Tessa agus go n-éirí go geal libh.

Uimhreacha Teangmhála / Contact Details: Please ensure, if you haven't done so already, that you update your own contact details, your emergency contact details and your family GP contact details on Aladdin immediately, (or contact Diane in the office if necessary), particularly if any of those details have changed during the summer. It is vitally important that parents/guardians, and/or your nominated emergency contacts, are contactable during school hours, in the case of an emergency.

Uaireanta oifige/Office hours: Diane works in the office Mon-Fri 9:30a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Outside of these times email is the best way to get in contact.

Teangmháil trí Aladdin / Communication through Aladdin: As we will be using Aladdin Connect to communicate with parents during the coming school year, we encourage you to download the Aladdin Connect App. on your mobile. You may also access Aladdin on your internet browser.

Covid-19: The majority of the HSE requirements in relation to pods, bubbles and close contacts have been relaxed. We will continue to encourage hand sanitising upon entry and handwashing in advance of eating. Children should not attend school if they are feeling ill or if they have any Covid symptoms.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education has removed the staff substitutions arrangements that were in place for the previous two years. What it means on the ground is that for certain categories of leave no substitute will be provided and there will have to be a return to the splitting up of classes as was the case two years ago.

Cash for clobber: Thursday 20th October. Bags of unwanted clothes, paired shoes, handbags, towels, curtains, and bedding can be dropped to the school from 17th Oct.

Cruinnithe tuismitheoirí múinteoirí /Parent teacher meetings: These will take place during the week of 17th October. These can be scheduled through Aladdin Connect App closer to the time.

Na sacraimintí /Sacraments: We are awaiting dates for our Communion and Confirmation this year. Once these have been confirmed we will be in touch with parents in the relevant classes.

Dromtrasna Challenge: Sat 22nd October. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to this event in support of Milford Care Centre. Registration is now open:
https://www.dromtrasnachallenge.com/events-1/2022-dromtrasna-challenge?fbclid=IwAR39Npef_b7p6AK9dTTHkWcY9txg9Zewv4sYn2Z30C0gcF_SY5tRJValKYc

Ríomhairí/Chromebooks: Last week we got a very special delivery of chromebooks. They will be used to enhance the learning experience of all pupils.

Oiliúint foirne/Staff training: The Board of Management have facilitated professional development for the whole staff recently in the areas of well-being and health and safety.

Child Safeguarding: The Board of Management has reviewed, adopted and fully implements, without modification, the Department of Education's "Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools", in relation to Child Safeguarding as per the terms of Circular 0081/2017. Consequently, if there are matters of concern in relation to abuse of children, we are obliged to report this to Tusla (The Child & Family Agency) and / or An Garda Síochána.

Frithbhulaíochta/Anti-Bullying: The Board of Management has reviewed the school's Anti-Bullying Policy in accordance with the Department of Education's "Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary/Post-Primary Schools" and Circular 0045/2013. All instances of any form of bullying behaviour that are witnessed or reported to the staff will be dealt with in accordance with this policy.

Tionól/Assembly: There will be a whole school focus on anti-bullying during October. We will discuss this at assembly on Friday morning with the pupils. We are encouraging them to devise an anti-bullying slogan for our school. Children of a Digital Age will present a workshop to all pupils in relation to cyber bullying and online safety on Monday 17th Oct. There will be an information session for parents on this evening also, we would encourage a parent from each household to attend.

Rialacha na Scoile /School Rules and Expectations: It is parents'/ guardians' responsibility to ensure that your child arrives and is collected each day at the appropriate times. It is essential that pupils be on time for school each day. The school will open to receive pupils at 9.10 a.m. and will not provide supervision before this time.

- Classes end each day at: (a) 2.00 p.m. for Infants, (Junior / Senior).
(b) 3.00 p.m. for all other classes, (Rang 1 – 6).

It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their child has arrived in school by 9.20 a.m. and is collected at the appropriate time, as at (a) or (b) above. The school cannot accept responsibility for pupils before or after these times.

Fiche lá as láthair/School Attendance and Punctuality: We wish to remind parents of the school's obligation under the Education Welfare Act 1998 to report to Tusla, (Child & Family Agency), any pupil's absence of 20 days or more, for whatever reason, over the course of the school year. It is necessary that a note giving the reason for absence is forwarded to your child's teacher in the event that your child is absent from school, preferably on Aladdin.

Fadhbanna Sláinte/Health Issues: If your child develops a medical condition or receives a diagnosis of any sort during his/her time in school which we weren't aware of previously, it is vitally important that you inform your child's class teacher/school immediately.

Iocaíochtaí daltaí/pupil contributions: Thank you to all who have paid their contributions. We would appreciate payment of any outstanding amounts as soon as possible. €25 per child/€50 per family.

Lón Sláintiúil / Healthy Lunch: We intend to continue to promote healthy eating in the school this year as part of our Health Promoting School Policy. However, we can only achieve this with your support and encouragement. Therefore, we also request only to give treats to your child on a Friday. Bí sláintiúil le bia sláintiúil!

Páirceáil/ Parking: In the interest of pupil safety, pupils travelling on the bus will be dismissed first in the evening. Please always be mindful of children crossing from the school to cars. Your co-operation in this is much appreciated.

Obair Bhaile/Homework: Homework is assigned on Monday – Thursday. If you find that your child is having difficulty with homework, please make contact with your child's class teacher to discuss the matter, as soon as you notice a pattern of difficulty developing.

Peace Proms: We are delighted to have been selected to take part in the Peace Proms. Pupils from 3rd – 6th Classes will take part and the program culminates in a large-scale performance for our choir in the university of Limerick in January 2023. The programme is tailor made to ensure it is fun and engaging for pupils and the end performance is an inspirational and thrilling experience for choirs, teachers, parents and audiences alike.

Marcaíocht/ Horse Riding Staff have undertaken training in order to take the pupils from our Joy class to the equestrian centre at Liskenneth Farm.

Bord Bainistíochta: The Board of Management is charged with the running of the school on behalf of the Department of Education (DE) and the school Patron, Bishop Brendan Leahy. The Board is comprised of eight members, namely: Vincent Sheehy (Chairperson / Patron nominee) Canon Tony Mullins PP, (Patron nominee) Dearbhla Ahern (Parent nominee) Bobby O'Connor (Parent nominee) Jerry Flynn (Community nominee) Judith O'Sullivan (Community nominee) Marian McNamara (Teacher nominee); Anne-Marie Downes/Aileen O'Connor (Principal / Sec. to BoM)

We look forward to working closely in partnership with parents for the coming school year for the benefit of your child.

Le gach dea-ghuí,
Aileen O'Connor (Príomhoide Ionad/ActingPrincipal)