



Scoil Mhuire

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13/9/2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Fáilte ar ais! Welcome back! A very special welcome to all our new Junior Infants and to the pupils who joined other classes and all the new parents. We also welcome Ms. Victoria O' Brien who joins our staff on the Supply Panel. Here is some of the latest news from Scoil Mhuire:

Child Safeguarding

The Board has reviewed, adopted and fully implements without modification, the Department of Education "Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools", in relation to Child Safeguarding as per the terms of Department of Education Circular 0081/2017. Consequently, we are obliged to report any matters of concern in relation to the abuse of children to Túsla (The Child & Family Agency) and/or An Garda Síochána. The Designated Liaison person (DLP) in the school is the principal (Rory Gibbons) and the Deputy DLP is the deputy principal (Margaret Sheahan).

Birthday Invitations

To avoid causing upset to any child we ask parents not to send in birthday party invitations, goodie bags, cakes/treats for distribution in school. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Board of Management

The BOM is responsible for the management of the school on behalf of the Department of Education and the school Patron, Bishop William Crean. The members of the board give generously of their time and expertise and their work is completely voluntary. The term of office is normally 4 years and the next board will be elected in October 2023.

The members of the current Board of Management are as follows:

Margaret Twomey	Patron's nominee /Chairperson
Denis Hickey	Patron's nominee
Rachael Ahern	Parent nominee/treasurer
Donie Magner	Parent nominee
Denis Hartnett	Community nominee
Annette Roche	Community nominee
Eleanor Dalziel	Teacher nominee
Rory Gibbons	Principal / Secretary to BOM

Contact Details

It is vital that we have your correct contact details. Please review your details via Aladdin Connect. You can submit changes to personal contact information and emergency contact information on Aladdin. Aladdin are constantly reviewing their product in line with GDPR requirements and for this reason have further restricted parental viewing of family information within the family circle. Parents will only have access to view and edit their own personal contact information, for example Dad can only see his details and Mam can only see her details. More information can be found on https://www.aladdin.ie/connect_app_faqs.html

Communication

It is important that you check your email and notice board on Aladdin Connect for messages as these will be our main way of communicating with parents. If you wish to meet with the class/support teacher please contact the secretary to make an appointment. The Board of Management are currently reviewing the use of email as it relates to current legislation (Right to Disconnect) and existing workplace policies (e.g. Dignity at Work Policy, Parental Complaints Procedure).

Enrolments

Pre-enrolment for September 2024 is open now. Anyone with children starting next year can pre-enroll on the school website (www.scoilmhuireballyhooly.ie/enrolment) or by phoning the office on 025 39638.

September Fees

Thank you to those who have paid the September Fees on Aladdin already. For those who have not paid as of yet it would be appreciated if this would be done before the end of September. I am happy to discuss payment issues with anyone in confidence should they wish.

The Lunch Bag

School lunches, as provided by the company 'The Lunch Bag' continue to be available for purchase. This is an optional service for families provide by an independent company. New families to the school will receive an information pack shortly with all the details.

Label Jumpers

Please ensure all school jumper/tracksuits are labelled with your child's/children's names. As with last year, uniforms are to be worn on Monday and Tuesday with tracksuits on Wednesday to Friday. If the weather is warm, shorts and polo shirt may be worn (any day).

New Primary Maths Curriculum

The Department of Education have launched a new Primary Maths Curriculum which will be rolled out to the schools over the next three years. I have attached a leaflet for parents from the Dept with some information on this new curriculum. Scoil Mhuire will have to close for one day during the school year to accommodate teacher training in this curriculum. When we receive notification of this date we will inform parents immediately.

Parent Teacher Meetings

The parent-teacher meetings will take place this year on November 21st and 22nd – more information on these ahead of that time.

Congratulations!

We sent our warmest congratulations to our 5th Class teacher Mr. Stephen Bennett who got engaged over the summer holidays.

Student Council

We will soon be establishing our first Student Council in Scoil Mhuire which is an exciting development for us. You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Is mise, le meas,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rory Gibbons", written over a horizontal line.

Rory Gibbons

Principal