

LISNAGRY SCHOOL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014



September 2014

Principal:

Mr. Michael Feeney

Deputy Principal:

Mrs. Bernie Kennedy

Present Staff Allocation

Michael Feeney (Principal)
Bernie Kennedy (Resource)
Maura Barry (L. Support)
Marion Cahill (1st Class)
Maura Boland (2nd Class)
Maureen Copse (4th Class)
Eimear Carroll (Jun. Infants)
Sinead Bourke (5th Class)
Sandra Delaney (Sen. Infants)
Marie Blake (L. Support)
Helen Mc Inerney (3rd Class)
Edel O' Doherty (6th Class)
Kevin Raftery (5th Class)
Shane Mc Grath (1st Class)
Aine O' Grady (Secretary)
Lorraine Duffy (SNA)

Contact Details

Tel.: (061)331011

Email: info@lisnagryns.ie

Website:

www.lisnagryns.ie

Welcome Back

On behalf of the B.O.M. I would like to welcome you all back after the summer holidays, especially the new entrants and their parents and to thank you for entrusting the education of your children to the staff of Lisnagry National School. I look forward to all of us working together to ensure the school will be a safe, happy, and busy place for your children to grow and learn.

Points of Information

School officially starts for all classes at 9.20 am so please ensure your child is present on time so as to limit disruption to classes. Roll call is taken in each room at 9.50am so any children not present at this time are marked absent. However, if you know that your child has an appointment which will delay them please notify the teacher in writing in advance and your child can then be marked present on their return.



Should you wish your child to remain indoors during break time a note is necessary stating the reason. Children who are sick should stay at home until fit for school.

School Absences

In accordance with the School Welfare Act '98 schools are obliged to inform the relevant authorities of absences of 20 days or more. Notes from parents explaining each absence are required at all times and will be kept in school files for the NEWB. A phone call will not suffice. Parents are requested not to withdraw pupils during term time.

Supervision

Children are supervised every morning in the yard from 9am to 9.20 am and for fifteen minutes after school. Children who are on school grounds before and after these times are not supervised.

Appointments

All parents and visitors are requested to use the front door only and to report to Áine at reception. Please refrain from disturbing classes as much as possible. If you wish to speak to a teacher concerning your child please make an appointment. Please sign and use your child's homework diary to ensure consistency of communication between the school and

home.

School Uniform

Children should be in the full crested Lisnagry NS school uniform attending school. Clothing with logos or branding e.g Nike, Canterbury etc are not permitted because wearing these types of clothing differentiates children and defeats the point of having a school uniform. Please ensure that all of your child's possessions especially jumpers and jackets are clearly labelled with their name and class as these can easily be mislaid.

Healthy Lunches

A healthy eating policy is in operation in our school in an effort to develop good eating habits and help combat obesity in the future. This policy can be viewed on our website www.lisnagryns.ie. Please support this initiative and provide healthy lunches for your child including fruit and veg. Children are requested to take lunch wrappings home in an effort to encourage green awareness as part of our SESE curriculum.

Nut Allergies

A number of pupils in our school have an extreme form of food allergy to nuts. In the interest of health and safety we request that children are not given nuts or nut related products for lunch. While we are aware of the inconvenience that this may cause we cannot take a risk with a child's life. Here in Lisnagry, we will do all

we can to ensure these children's safety but we depend on parental support with regard to lunches. The BOM earnestly requests your support in this matter.

School Contribution

I would like to thank the parents who have paid the requested €45 school contribution which goes towards photocopying, art and craft and insurance. I would just like to remind those of you who have yet to do so. Should you have difficulty meeting this payment, please do not hesitate to contact me in the strictest of confidence. Your child is insured for personal accident twenty four hours from the 1/09/2014 to the 31/08/2014. Please keep expense receipts in event of accidents. Claim forms are available from the school

School Photographer

Eamonn Andrews will visit the school on Monday 15th September should anyone wish to get their child's photograph taken. Forms will be sent out next week. Class photos will also be taken so it is very important that full school uniform is worn on that day.

Updating Contacts

We are updating our telephone contacts and e-mail addresses at the moment. If you have changed numbers, please notify reception immediately to ensure effective communication between us. Those nominated by parents as people whom we can contact in the event of an illness or an emergency must be contactable during the school day please. It can be most distressing for children when contact cannot be made in such circumstances.

P.T.O »»»

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not allowed in school. Children have the use of the school phone in emergencies. Should a child have an occasion to bring a phone to school, it must be accompanied by a signed parental note stating the reason for its use. It should be handed up to the class teacher at 9.20 and it will be returned at home time. If a child brings in a phone without parental consent, it will be confiscated and kept in school until parents collect it in person.

Parking

On behalf of the Board of Management, I would like to appeal to parents to show patience and courtesy when dropping off and collecting children from school.

We are very fortunate to have the facility of a stop and drop area with safety barriers all around. We also have speed ramps outside the school. In the health and safety interests of everyone, I would urge the following as per previous years.

»We ask you to observe the pick up and set down area as it is intended. Do not park your car here or in the designated bus parking area.

»Do not park your car in the stop and drop area and leave it unattended. Should you need to enter the school building, please park your car outside the school wall. Also please refrain from parking your car outside the post office. Do not reverse at any time. Instead please wait for traffic in front to move. Three-point turns in a congested area are extremely dangerous.

»Please keep the staff car park unobstructed and do not park there. It is a serious safety hazard to partially park across the entrance.

»For your child's safety, please ensure he/she exits the car on the path side of the stop and drop and walks behind the barrier into school.

Please encourage older siblings to walk in with their younger brothers and sisters. Thanks to the majority of parents who already co-

operate with this strategy.

Aistear

This year we are hoping to further implement Aistear in all infant classes. Aistear emphasises the importance of play based methodologies in supporting children's learning and development. In order to implement it fully and to ensure the children benefit as much as possible we need resources, many of which you may have at home and no longer want. We appreciate all donations that are in good condition. A wish list of resources will be sent to all families next week. You can send in any items to the class teacher or a box will be set up in reception for you to drop off anything of use for Aistear.

Numeracy Booklet

As we begin a new school year please consult the Parent Numeracy booklet for ideas and ways to assist your child in maths homework.

New School Website

Keep up to date with the latest school news and events on our School Website www.lisnagryns.ie

Literacy Lift-Off

Our Literacy Lift Off reading initiative will commence again this September starting with 2nd Class for 6 weeks.

Book Rental Scheme

I am pleased to inform you that the school will introduce a book rental scheme in the next school year. This should result in considerable savings for you the parents. We are asking for any parents who would be willing to help set up this initiative to contact the school.

Child Protection

The school is obliged to act in accordance with child protection guidelines and procedures introduced by the DES in relation to the welfare of children. Consequently if there is a matter of concern in relation to child abuse we are obliged to report this to the HSE. They will assess the case and provide support for the child. Children First Guidelines may be accessed on www.dcy.gov.ie

Stay Safe Programme

As per our school policy, the stay safe programme is taught in every classroom during September. The programme seeks to enhance children's self-protective skills by participating in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger.

Anti-Bullying

Our new anti-bullying policy was ratified by the Board of Management in June and is available to view on our website. Thank you to parents, staff and pupils who were involved in the updating of this policy. On Tuesday 3rd June Sean Fallon gave a presentation to staff, followed by a presentation to parents. He shared his expertise with us and advised us on how to ensure our school is a safe place for pupils, where bullying situations are dealt with promptly and effectively using the "reform not blame approach".

School Calendar

The 2014/2015 School Calendar is available to download from our school website. Please take a look at the dates for this term.

Sacraments

First Holy Communion for 2nd Class is on the 23rd May 2015. Confirmation for 6th Class is on Saturday 25th April 2015.

Credit Union

Savings from the Credit Union resumes next Wednesday 10th September. If your child wishes to save but is not a member of Castleconnell credit Union, they must join at the Castleconnell office.

After-school Activities

Our after school activities will begin again next week after the summer break. You will receive a schedule for this term.

All-Ireland Hurling Sunday

Tom Morrissey, a past pupil of our school is playing with the Limerick minor team in Croke Park on Sunday. We wish him every success. We would also like to wish the very best of luck to Mr. McGrath who is playing with Tipperary in the senior game.

I look forward to liaising with you all during the coming year and if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Michael Feeney (Principal)