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# Scoil Lios na Groí

## Lisnagry National School

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January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Dear Parents,

As we begin another school term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy new year. There are a number of issues which I want to bring to your attention.

- On the advice of the HSE regarding the current flu outbreak, we would like to remind you that any child displaying flu like symptoms should be kept at home from school.
- As per our school newsletter, **Parent Teacher Meetings** have been arranged for **Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup>**. We are introducing a new online booking system for our meetings. It is designed to allow you to book your meeting slots for more than one child together, so that you can plan your visit at a convenient time. You will be able to view multiple teachers' availability side by side. The system will also send you an email reminder of your appointment time. We hope that this method provides families with a more convenient way of selecting the dates and times that work best. If you cannot access the online system, or cannot attend on either of the days offered please see your child's class teacher to book an alternative appointment. **School will end at 2.50pm on both of these days.** These meetings are brief meetings to allow you and your child's class teacher to exchange information about your child. If you feel you need a longer meeting, please arrange one over the next few weeks, as it would be impossible to deal with a major concern on these days.

To access this online booking system you will need to visit

[https://ptcfast.com/schools/Lisnagry\\_National\\_School](https://ptcfast.com/schools/Lisnagry_National_School). The site will be live from January 12<sup>th</sup>. There is also a link from our school website [www.lisnagryns.ie](http://www.lisnagryns.ie).

- Swimming lessons **for second and third class** will commence on Monday next, **January 15<sup>th</sup>**. Payment for same should be made to your child's class teacher or by epayment. **Please remember your swimming gear on Monday morning.**
- Catholic Schools Week takes place from **29<sup>th</sup> January to 4<sup>th</sup> February**. As part of the celebrations, we are having Grandparents Day on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. This is to show appreciation for the contribution they make to their grandchildren's lives. To mark this occasion, we would like to invite the grandparents of the children in Junior and Senior Infants in for a cup of tea and a chat on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February between 1.20 and 2pm**. They will also get a chance to visit their grandchild's classroom and see their work.
- Our Fifth Classes have just begun the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. This ten week programme is an entrepreneurial awareness and skills enhancement programme for primary school children. The programme aims to help children recognise enterprise and entrepreneurialship and to foster an awareness and understanding of the entrepreneur's role in the community, therefore empowering the child to start to think and act with the initiative, creativity, independence and ideas that are invaluable in the modern world. For more information, please log on to [www.juniorentrepreneur.ie](http://www.juniorentrepreneur.ie).
- Mr. Flannelly's fourth class have been busy preparing for the 2018 Science Fair in MIC on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Their project investigates how music can affect how we exercise. Along with showcasing the school projects, the fair has an exciting educational entertainment programme that visitors will have an opportunity to engage with. It is well worth a visit and it is open to the public from 10am to 3pm.
- Munster Rugby will provide four non contact rugby sessions for boys and girls from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class with a big emphasis on hand eye co-ordination and movement, beginning next Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

- We ask for your continued support and co-operation as we apply for our health promoting schools flag. All our new initiatives introduced since we embarked on this programme last year have proved very successful. Please keep up the healthy lunches and remember that treats are for Friday only.
- The Peace Proms concert will take place in NUIG on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 2pm. Pupils from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class will be performing and tickets are on sale from [peaceproms.com](http://peaceproms.com). 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class will continue to participate in Music Generation this term.
- You will receive the new Term 2 schedule for After School Activities this week. The date each activity will commence is on the schedule. ***It is very important that you collect your children promptly after these activities have finished.*** We appreciate your co-operation in this matter
- As many of the children have received smart phones, tablets, gaming consoles or other connected devices this Christmas, we urge you to be extra vigilant re the dangers of unsupervised internet access. **We remind you that pupils are not permitted to have mobile phones or any other devices on the school premises under any circumstances.** In school we educate the children through the S.P.H.E. programme and webwise lessons, but you their primary educators also need to take responsibility. We need to ensure that they can enjoy technology without putting themselves and others at risk. We advise you to be aware of your children's privacy settings and filtering software. The website [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie) has great advice for parents and we have many internet safety links under the parents tab on our school website
- This letter has also been sent via e-mail. If you have not received it, please notify the school as we always send correspondence via e-mail also. If you have not already given your e-mail details to the school we would appreciate it if you could do so as soon as possible. Please remember to visit our website [www.lisnagryns.ie](http://www.lisnagryns.ie). You can also download important documents and forms and there are links to other useful and interesting topics. Follow us on twitter @lisnagryns. This is another ideal way to get a flavor of what's happening in the school.
- Recent use of our STOP AND DROP facility has once again become a cause for serious concern. As a new year begins, and in a spirit of co-operation, we are appealing to all users to observe the following safety procedures:
  - **No parking on double yellow lines at any time.**
  - **Do not leave your car unattended in the STOP and DROP area, at any time**
  - **No parking in front of the school gates**
  - **Ensure pupils alight from your vehicle on the footpath side only**

On any day within ten minutes 95% of our children have gone. Therefore with patience, courtesy and correct use, the facility has proven to operate smoothly.

As you will have noticed, we now have "little people" safety signs as a reminder of your responsibility to prioritise safety at all times. None of us wants an injury to a child. Failure to observe the above procedures puts lives in danger. **PLEASE THINK SAFETY**

Please note the following school closures this term: **Mid-Term Break February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, (two days). Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> (St. Patrick's Day Observance)**

Thank you for your co-operation in all of the above.

Yours sincerely,

**MICHAEL FEENEY,**  
Principal.