

LISNAGRY SCHOOL NEWS SEPTEMBER 2022



September 2022

Principal:

Mr. Michael Feeney

Deputy Principal:

Ms. Eimear Carroll

Present Staff Allocation

Niamh McKenna (Jun. Inf)
Colette Perrill (Sen. Infants)
Jack Walsh (1st Class)
Sheena McDonald (1st Class)
Maura Boland (2nd Class)
Aoife Conroy (2nd Class)
Eimear Carroll (3rd Class)
Kevin Raftery (3rd Class)
Grace Doherty (4th Class)
Niamh NiChearúil (5th Class)
Sandra Delaney (5th Class)
Edel O'Doherty (6th Class)
J DeLoughrey (6th Class)
Marie Blake (S.E.T.)
Ciara Linehan (S.E.T.)
Jonathan Martin (S.E.T.)
Helen McInerney (S.E.T.)
Aoife Quinn (S.E.T.)

Fiona Smith (Secretary)
Lorraine Duffy (SNA)
Patrick O'Neill (SNA)
Emer Mulleney (SNA)

Contact Details

Tel.: (061)331011

Email: info@lisnagryns.ie

Website:

www.lisnagryns.ie

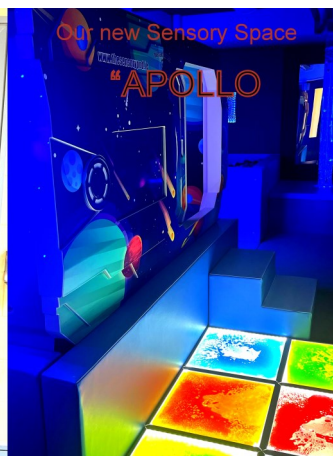
Twitter: @lisnagryns

Welcome Back

On behalf of the B.O.M. I would like to welcome you all back after the summer holidays. The children are all well settled back at this stage. 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.

School Times

School now officially starts for all classes at 9am so please ensure your child is present on time so as to limit disruption to classes. Roll call is taken in each room at 10am 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 office in advance and your child will be marked present on their return.

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. Please use Aladdin to explain absences and we will then have it on file for Túsla. All absences must be explained in writing.

Supervision

Children are supervised every morning from 8.45am and for fifteen minutes after school. Children who are on school grounds before and after these times are not supervised. Please note that the BOM cannot accept responsibility for pupils dropped off before this time. The infants school day ends at 1.40pm. We respectfully ask all parents to ensure that the children are collected promptly and we would appeal to you to pass on this message to childminders and creches who may be collecting your child. Likewise the general school day ends at 2.40pm and once again we

request your co-operation in having children collected promptly. Many thanks in advance for your understanding.

APOLLO - Our new sensory room

We are very excited to unveil Apollo, our new sensory area. Since Term 2 last year, our school management and Special Education team have been planning our new sensory space. We are delighted to see it completed now. Apollo will be a great asset to our school and will benefit so many pupils., especially those who have been exposed to stress, anxiety and those with specified sensory needs. Thanks again to our Parents Association and everyone who supported us in funding for this fantastic resource. It will further promote our positive school culture and climate in supporting everyone's health and well being.

Communication/ Appointments

All parents and visitors are requested to use the front door only and report to Fiona at reception. Please refrain from disturbing classes as much as possible. During the period of remote teaching we were all on such a high alert that there was almost a constant stream of information/communication between school and home.

Now that we are on the other side of covid restrictions we feel it is important to re-establish a more normal style of communication. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please phone the school office or email info@lisnagryns.ie. Fiona will forward your message to your child's teacher and you will be contacted at a suitable time. A note in your child's homework journal is another effective way of getting a message to your child's teacher. If you really need to contact the teacher on a sensitive matter please be mindful that they cannot answer emails during class time. For all our sakes it is important to set up good, healthy and respectful boundaries.

Guidance on Covid-19

There are no new requirements in respect of managing Covid-19. As per the HSE guidelines, the key message is to stay at home if you are unwell and until your symptoms have substantially resolved for 48 hours. We will continue to maintain a good standard of hand hygiene, ensure good ventilation and continue to maintain good levels of cleaning. We will of course have to work within the parameters of any new HSE and DES advice as it occurs during the year.

Allergies/Medical Conditions

It is very important that we are aware if you child has any medical conditions. I would also ask you to inform us about headlice or infectious/ contagious illnesses. If you child needs an inhaler please make sure we have an up to date labelled one at school.

Enrolment

Please contact the office as soon as possible if you have a child you wish to enrol for next September 2023/24.

Emergency Contacts

Those nominated by parents as people whom we can contact in the event of an emergency or illness must be contactable during the school day please. It can be most distressing for children when contact cannot be made in such circumstances. Please update Aladdin with your emergency contact details.

School Photographer

Eamonn Andrews will visit the school on Wednesday and Thursday 21st and 22nd September.

Stop and Drop

Safety is always our number one concern when it comes to school drop offs and collection. Our Board of Management are constantly seeking to improve our facilities.

Limerick City & County Council now have funding in place for the installation of a footpath and pedestrian crossing outside the school. This will provide a safe link between the roundabout and the school.

We have been notified that these works are scheduled to commence soon and will inevitably cause more disruption. With safety our end goal we ask for your patience and courtesy. We also urge all parents to be particularly vigilant and to remind your children of the importance of road safety.

School Calendar

The 2022/23 School Calendar is available to download from our school website. Please take a look at the dates for this term.

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. Our Child Safeguarding Statement is reviewed annually at our first Board meeting each year and is available to view on our website.

S.P.H.E Policy

As part of two-year SPHE planning, the stay safe programme will be taught in term 2 this year.

Anti-Bullying

Please view our Anti-Bullying Policy on our website. We implement regular whole school education and bullying prevention strategies. This includes a pupil survey every term.

School Expenses

I would like to thank the parents who have paid the requested €60 school expenses payment which goes towards classroom resources, photocopying, Bua na Cainte, Aladdin Connect and pupil insurance. I would just like to remind those of you who have yet to do so. Should you have any difficulty meeting this payment please do not hesitate to contact the school in the strictest of confidence. You child is insured for 24 hour personal accident from 1st September to 31st August. Claim forms are available from the school.

Department of Education Substitution Update:

The Department had provided substitute cover for most absences over the last two years. Unfortunately, they are no longer providing the same level of sub cover and the provision of substitute teachers has now returned to pre covid 19 times. Therefore not all absences are substitutable and it may mean that, from time to time, your child's class may need to be split and dispersed into other classes where this occurs. This is far from ideal, but unfortunately, we are now forced to revert to this practice.

Building Maintenance

More maintenance works to the school roof are ongoing at present. Our junior classrooms were all redecorated during the summer also.

School Uniform

Children should be in the full Lisnagry NS school uniform attending school. Clothing with logos, branding, club gear, hoodies or gaa shorts are not permitted 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. I would also ask that children wear a coat with a hood to school each day as we all know how unpredictable the weather is.

Homework

Many thanks for your feedback to our homework survey sent in June. The vast majority of parents felt weekly homework suited their house better. We will be updating our policy as a result of your feedback and it will be available in due

course. Homework will be available to view on Aladdin for all classes and 2nd to 6th will also write it in their school journal. We will also use Google Classroom as a class blog to highlight events and activities.

Healthy Lunches

A Healthy Eating policy is in operation in our school in an effort to develop good eating habits and help obesity in the future. This policy can be viewed on our website. We ask for your support with this initiative and to provide healthy lunches for your child including fruit and veg. We have a treat day on Fridays. The "Lunch Bag" is also in operation in our school. Lunches can be ordered through their app. Details on www.thelunchbag.ie It will be launched for junior infants in week 3.

Mobile Phones/ Electronic Devices

Children are not allowed to bring mobile phones to 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 9am and then returned at home time. If a child brings in a phone without consent, it will be confiscated and kept in school until parents collect it in person. Pupils are not permitted to bring any electronic devices or smart watches to school. They can cause an unnecessary distraction during the school day and we recognise that the enhanced functions of these devices such as the camera and recording capabilities can cause concern and are susceptible to misuse. These procedures are in place to help safeguard our school community.

After-school Activities Our after school activities have begun again after the summer break. You will have received a schedule for this term. Please only send your child if they are legitimately interested in the sport or activity. Over the last few years we have noticed these activities being treated like an after-school club and it is unfair on the teacher/facilitator running the session.

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 office.

Michael Feeny

(Principal)