



LISNAGRY SCHOOL NEWS



September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back!

Firstly, I would like to welcome all our pupils, staff and parents back to Lisnagry National School for another school year. We are really looking forward to another great year in the school working with everyone in our school community. A special welcome to all our new junior infants in Miss Deloughrey's class and Miss Conroy's class who have settled into school life so well. We also welcome the new pupils who join other classes up through the school and hope that they will experience a warm Lisnagry welcome, settle and make new friends.

As always at the beginning of the year, there are a number of items, about which I would like to remind you. Many thanks in advance to you for co-operating with these guidelines and apologies for the overload of information. Please do take the time to read it.

School Improvements

We've had a very busy summer in the school with lots of work being carried out to improve our school environment. In late August, the school underwent a full deep clean by CleanHabit Contract-Cleaners, including all floors and windows (inside and outside). In addition, all our SET rooms were freshly painted, giving the school a bright and welcoming feel for the new year.

We are especially delighted to share that Room 5 has been repurposed into a wonderful inclusive space, designed to support the needs of our pupils. Our new outdoor sensory space/ playground is also nearing completion, and we are confident it will be a hugely valuable addition to our facilities here in Lisnagry. We would also like to sincerely thank all the families and local businesses who have contributed so generously to this project. Your support has been instrumental in making our new playground and sensory space a reality, and we are truly grateful.

A special word of thanks goes to Cathal Glynn, who has transformed and extended our outdoor shelter into a fantastic outdoor classroom space. This new area will be enjoyed by pupils and staff across the whole school and will be a wonderful resource for learning in the years ahead.

Our Staff 2025

- Mr. Cusack – Caretaker
- Clean Habit – Cleaners
- Ms. Smith – School Secretary
- Ms. O'Brien – SNA
- Ms. Thompson – SNA
- Mr. O'Neill – SNA
- Ms. Duffy – SNA
- Ms. Mullowney – SNA
- Ms. Byrnes – SET
- Ms. O'Halloran/Ms. S. McCarthy – SET
- Ms. Ryan – SET
- Ms. Boland – SET
- Ms. Blake – SET
- Ms. Carroll – SET
- Ms. Conroy – Junior Infants
- Ms. DeLoughrey – Junior Infants
- Ms. Perrill – Senior Infants
- Ms. E. McCarthy – 1st Class
- Ms. McInerney – 2nd Class
- Mr. Raftery – 3rd Class
- Mr. Foley – 4th Class A
- Ms. McKenna – 4th Class B
- Mr. Colleran – 5th Class B
- Ms. Delaney – 5th Class A
- Ms. O'Doherty – 6th Class A
- Mr. Martin – 6th Class B

NEW PLAYGROUND



Notices

School Calendar

Our school calendar for 25/26 can be found on our school website www.lisnagryns.ie. Please note that we have also been informed of four extra full day school closures for the year ahead.

1. **October 24th** – Presidential Election
2. **November 14th** – Child Protection Procedures Training
3. **February 10th** – Primary Curriculum Training Day for Staff
4. **May 12th** – Primary Curriculum Training Day for Staff

Supervision

Children are supervised on the school grounds from **8:45am each morning and for 15 minutes after school**. Please note that children on the premises before or after these times are not supervised, and the Board of Management cannot accept responsibility for pupils dropped off early or collected late.

School finishing times are as follows:

- **Infants: 1:40pm**
- **1st – 6th Class: 2:40pm**

Punctuality is expected at all times. We respectfully ask that children are collected promptly and kindly request that this message be passed on to childminders and crèches who may be collecting on your behalf.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Collection During the School Day

If a child needs to be collected early for any reason, parents/guardians must advise the school in advance. This can be done through the Aladdin App or by emailing info@lisnagryns.ie/phoning the school office at 061-331011.

When collecting your child:

- Please use the front door only and report to the secretary at reception.
 - All pupils arriving late or leaving early must be signed in or out.
 - All visitors, including parents, must report to the school office when dropping off or collecting children, or leaving items in for them.
- We kindly ask that parents and visitors refrain from disturbing classes during the school day.

Drop-Off and Collection Protocol – Safety Notice

We are very fortunate to have a Stop and Drop facility, a new pedestrian crossing, and footpaths outside the school, all designed with your child's safety as a priority. We ask for your cooperation in ensuring these are used correctly.

Crossing the Road

- Children should only cross at the pedestrian crossing outside the school gates.
- It is extremely dangerous to cross the busy main road at any other point.
- Please do not allow children to cross through the small roundabout.
- We should all encourage every child to use the official designated crossing.

Stop and Drop Facility

- Drive as far as possible to the front-door end of the facility before stopping.
- Children should use the handrail pathway when entering and exiting the school.
- Do not park or leave your vehicle unattended in the Stop and Drop.
- For safety, children must exit on the path side only. Exiting on the road side is extremely dangerous as cars may be overtaking and could miss seeing a child.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping all children safe at drop-off and collection times.

Notices

Healthy Eating

We encourage all children to bring healthy lunches and snacks to school. Please support us by following our Healthy Eating Policy, which helps promote balanced lunches, healthy lifestyles, and lifelong positive eating habits. A small treat on a Friday is allowed if you wish.

Our hot school meals will continue to be provided by Gourmet Kids this year. We ask parents to check that their child is eating the meals provided and, if necessary, adjust their orders regularly. There is also an option to select no meal if your child does not wish to order a hot meal.

Together, we can help children develop healthy routines that will benefit them for life.

School Uniform /Dress Code

At Lisnagry National School, we are very proud of our school uniform and expect all children to wear it. The uniform plays an important role in the image of the school and helps foster your child's sense of belonging and association with the school community.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank parents and guardians who ensure that children always wear the correct uniform.

Please note:

- Clothing with **logos, branding, club gear, hoodies, or GAA shorts is not permitted**, as this defeats the purpose of having a school uniform.
- If your child wishes to wear shorts, they must be plain navy and appropriate length. Crested shorts will be available from Fennessys in Term 3. Plain shorts are available to order now.
- All clothing and belongings should be clearly labelled with your child's name and class, as items can easily be mislaid.
- Children should wear a coat with a hood to school each day, given the unpredictability of the weather.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our school's high standards.

Communication

Home-school communication is very important to help teachers understand and support your child's well-being and learning. If there is any information that you feel might impact their

learning, whether it be medical, family situation, or concerns re learning issues, please let us know. Your first point of contact should always be the class teacher.

Please use the Aladdin Connect app to message your child's teacher in relation to absences indicating the reason for late arrivals or early leaving. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please phone the school office on 061 33 10 11 or use the school email address info@lisnagryns.ie. Fiona will inform the 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 need to contact the teacher on a sensitive matter, please be mindful that they will not be able to answer emails during the teaching day, but will get back to you as soon as possible and practical. I would ask parents to schedule emails to be sent during the working week between 8am and 4pm. For all our sakes, it is important to set up good, healthy and respectful boundaries.

The school also has a Twitter account which gives a great snapshot into school life. We can be found on Twitter @lisnagryns. The school website can be found at www.lisnagryns.ie. We also publish a newsletter termly with a summary of school activities.

Parent-to-Parent Communication

We appreciate that parent WhatsApp groups and social media platforms have become a popular way to stay connected, share birthday invitations, organize playdates, and support one another.

However, we kindly remind parents that any concerns, complaints, or questions about the school, teaching staff, teaching methods, or school policies should not be discussed in these forums. If you have an issue, please contact the school office to schedule a discreet meeting with your child's teacher. This ensures that matters are addressed appropriately and respectfully.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a positive and supportive school community.

Notices

Homework

As the pupils begin to settle into school routine after the summer holidays, they will begin to receive some formal homework. It is a good idea for pupils to complete their homework in a quiet space free of distractions. Reading with your child is one of the most important things you can do at all class levels. Please remember that it is a parent's responsibility to check that homework is completed and that your child's journal is signed. Please do not rely on your after-school care to do this or you will not know how your child is progressing or if they are completing daily tasks or not. If your child is experiencing problems with homework, please contact the teacher.

Mobile Phone & Digital Device Policy

We kindly remind our school community that pupils are not permitted to bring mobile phones onto the school premises. This also applies to school outings and trips.

If your child needs to make contact during the school day, this can be arranged through the school office.

We do recognise that, in some cases, it may not be feasible for a child to be without a phone while travelling to and from school. In such circumstances, pupils may bring a phone; however:

- Phones must remain switched off while on school grounds.
- Phones should be handed to the class teacher at the start of the day and will be returned at home time.
- This applies before 8:45am, after school while your child is still on school grounds, and during after-school activities.

If a pupil is found in possession of a phone during the school day, it will be confiscated and parents will be required to come into school to collect it.

We would also like to remind parents that smart watches are not permitted in school. Fitness trackers, digital watches, and other simple timekeeping devices are acceptable. However, watches with features such as:

- video or audio recording,
- video playback, or
- calculator functions

are not allowed.

If a pupil brings a prohibited digital device to school and has it switched on, staff may remove it and store it securely. Parents or guardians will then need to contact the school office to arrange collection.

This policy is in place to protect pupil safety and ensure a safe, focused learning environment.

No Smartphone Voluntary Code

As we begin another school year, we would like to remind parents of our No Smartphone Voluntary Code.

This code is designed to support parents and guardians who are concerned about the potential negative impacts of smartphones and social media on children's health and well-being. By agreeing collectively to delay the purchase of smartphones, we can:

- reduce peer pressure among children, and
- strengthen parents' ability to say "no" with confidence.

We sincerely thank all parents for their continued engagement with this important and positive initiative. Together, we can help children enjoy a healthier, more balanced childhood.

New Bí Cineálta Policy

Our new policy was ratified by the Board of Management in June following consultation with parents, staff and pupils. Pupils have produced their own child-friendly Bí Cineálta version. This policy reflects the national mandate to foster a whole-school approach to preventing and addressing bullying.

The full policy is available to view on our school website.



Notices

Allergies & Medical Conditions

Parents are asked to inform the school if their child has any medical issues or allergies that the school needs to be aware of.

If your child requires medication or the use of an EpiPen, please email the school office at info@lisnagryns.ie to request an indemnity form. This form gives permission for staff to administer the listed medication to your child if required.

We also ask that you notify the school if your child has head lice or any infectious/contagious illness, so that we can take the necessary steps to protect all pupils.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and healthy school environment.

Attendance

This year, our school is using the Aladdin School Management System to help monitor attendance. The system automatically sends parents a text message when a child reaches 10, 15, and 20 days of absence.

If you have already informed the school of the reasons for your child's absences, there is no need to contact us again after receiving a text.

Please note that the school is obliged to report to TUSLA, the Child and Family Agency, when a pupil misses 20 days in a school year.

If you wish to discuss your child's attendance, please make an appointment through the school office. You can also use the Aladdin Connect app to notify the school of absences. Meetings should be arranged for outside school hours whenever possible.

School Photographer

Eamon Andrews, our school photographer, will visit on Monday and Tuesday, 22nd and 23rd September, for individual and class photographs.

Forms for individual photos will be sent home prior to these dates. Class photos will also be taken, so it is essential that all pupils wear full school uniform on both days.

Annual Contribution

As outlined in your child's workbook list in June, we ask for a €60 contribution per child at the start of the school year.

This contribution helps cover the cost of:

- Art and craft supplies
- Photocopying costs
- Classroom resources
- Interactive licenses and educational apps

It also includes 24-hour personal insurance cover for your child from 1st September to 31st August each year. Claim forms are available from the school office.

All funds collected are used solely to benefit your child's education and to ensure full access to the curriculum.

We would like to sincerely thank those who have already made their contribution, and kindly remind those who have yet to do so. We understand that September can be a costly month for families, so payments may be made at any time during Term 1.

Payment options:

- Preferably via the Aladdin app
- In instalments, by cash or cheque, directly to Fiona in the school office.

If you are experiencing any difficulty in meeting this payment, please do not hesitate to contact the school in confidence. Thank you for your continued support.

Child Protection

Our school is obliged to act in accordance with child protection guidelines and procedures introduced by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) to ensure the welfare and safety of all children.

If a matter of concern arises in relation to child abuse, the school is legally obliged to report this to Tusla. They will then assess the case and provide appropriate support for the child.

The Children First Guidelines can be accessed at www.dcy.gov.ie

Our **Child Safeguarding Statement** is reviewed annually at the first Board of Management meeting and is available to view on our school website.

Notices

Junior Infant Enrolments 2026

The application process and admissions notice for Junior Infants 2026 will be published on our school website at the end of this month. The school will begin accepting applications for Junior Infants September 2026 from 1 October 2025. If you have a sibling starting in 2026, please contact the school.

Final Word

Finally, please be assured that the safety, happiness and well-being of your children is of paramount importance to all the staff of Lisnagry National School. Trust us to nurture and lead them in their learning and we will continue to work in partnership with you to ensure your child gets the best educational experience possible. May I wish all our pupils a wonderful, happy and exciting year ahead.

Best Regards,
Michael Feeney,
Principal

Cúinne na Gaeilge

Beatha is sláinte chugaibh, a chairde, (Hello Friends) Fáilte go cúinne na Gaeilge. (Welcome to the Gaeilge corner) Tá súil againn go raibh samhradh deas ag gach aon duine agaibh. (We hope you all had a lovely summer.)

Tá gach duine ag socrú isteach arís tar éis laethanta saoire an tsamhraidh. (Everyone is settling in again after summer holidays) Tá cúpla seachtain gnóthach os ár gcomhair amach againn. (We have a busy few weeks ahead of us.) Caithfidimid Coiste na Gaeilge nua a bhunú. (We have to create a new Irish Committee.) Beidh an seans ag gach páiste a (h)ainm a chur sa hata. (Every child will have a chance to put their name into the running.) Táimid ag súil go mór leis. (We are looking forward to it.)

Seo cúpla frása deas daoibh idir an dá linn (Here's some nice phrases for you all until then)

- Aon scéal? – Any news?
- Conas atá tú? – How are you?
- An raibh briseadh deas agat? – Did you have a nice break?

Go dtí an chéad nuachtlitir eile, slán go fóill (Until the next newsletter, bye)

JUNIOR INFANTS 25-26



6TH CLASS 25-26