

Scéalta 1

News & Information for St. Mochta's National School Community August 2015

Welcome Back Everybody

We hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday, 31st August 2015.

Welcome to our new Junior Infants

A particularly warm welcome to our new Junior Infants starting school for the first time on August 31st. Please enter the school by Gate No. 1 (to the left of the main school building). Below you will find school times for the first two weeks for Junior Infants only. We hope you enjoy your time at St. Mochta's.

Aug 31 10.00-11.50	Sept 1 10.00-11.50	Sept 2-3 9.30-11.50	Sept 4 9.30-12.30
Sept 7-8 8.50-12.30	Sept 9 8.50-12.30	Sept 10 8.50-1.30	Sept 11 8.50-1.30

Senior Infants to Sixth

All classes have school at the normal starting times next week. On arrival at the school on Monday, 31st August, please check the enclosed Room & Yard Allocation Sheet to see what number your class teacher's line is and then go to that line and wait until the bell rings at 8.50am. For safety reasons each morning there is **no** running allowed around the yard before the 8.50am bell. Everyone's co-operation with this arrangement is expected.

New Students to St Mochta's – Senior Infants to Sixth

Please report directly to School Reception on your first morning at 9.00am with your parent/guardian. It is most important that a parent/guardian stays with the child until he/she goes into the classroom.

Pupil Accident Form

The fee is €9 and **we strongly encourage you to take out this insurance cover for your child**. Further details and forms will be emailed to you early next week and forms will also be available from school reception.

What Gate to Enter

Gate 1
<u>St. Mary's Yard</u> All Junior & Senior Infant Classes 1 st - Mr. Cryan & Ms. Stewart <u>St. Benedict's/White School</u> All 5 th and 6 th Classes

Gate 2
<u>St. Patrick's Yard</u> 1 st Class - Ms. Reilly 1 st - Ms. Mackle All 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th Classes



Items for your Attention!

School Book Rental Scheme-

Sails – Junior to 2nd Class €10
3rd to 6th Class- €10

Your child's class teacher will be collecting money at the start of September. Thank you those who have already paid.

Art, Craft, Photocopying, etc. Fee

To those who have already paid, many thanks and to those whom have yet to do so this fee is now due:-

€65 - Senior Infants classes
€55 – All other classes (1st – 6th)
Please bring the money to your class teacher.

Which teacher does my child have?

Please see the attached sheet for details and this information is also available to view on our website www.stmochtas.ie

Rental Text Books

All **paid for** school rental books have been delivered to your child's new class. All pupils are expected to have all their books, copies and uniforms by 31st August 2015.

After School Activities

Will begin in the first term and further details will follow shortly.

Our school Calendar for 2015/2016 is available on our school website.

Parking

There is very limited parking on Porterstown Road. School Car Parks are strictly for staff only.

Do not park in nearby housing estates and do not obstruct local residents' driveways. Think safety, courtesy and consideration at all times. Thank you for your co-operation.

The Clonsilla Inn by kind permission have given us the use of their back car park during school term (afternoons only), so please use it.

School Newsletter and Correspondence

To help reduce costs and in keeping with our Green Schools initiatives, we will continue to send Scéalta and all school correspondence via email. Please ensure your correct email address is given to the office at the start of the school year. Thank you.

Important – Nut Allergy

Some of our pupils have a severe allergy to peanuts/nut products, cross contamination and breathing products in the air. Since this condition can be life threatening, please minimise the risk to this child by:-

- Avoiding giving children peanuts in school lunches
- Avoiding giving peanut butter sandwiches, other spreads such as nutella and snacks/bars containing nuts or labelled "may contain nut traces" in school lunches
- Asking children not to share lunches

Due to the severity of the problem, it is important that all parents in **every class** carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of allergic reaction to these children. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Contagious Illness

Whilst there is no need to telephone the school if your child is sick, we would greatly appreciate if you would contact us if your child contracts a contagious illness e.g. measles, mumps, rubella, etc. There are children in the school who are at increased risk of contracting these illnesses. Parents should acknowledge their child's absence from school due to minor illnesses on their return, in writing, in the child's School Journal or in a note to their class teacher.

Contact Details

It is essential that we have the correct address and contact details (**e.g. home telephone, parents' mobile numbers and email addresses**) for your child. If **any** of your details have changed over the summer, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Dropping in forgotten lunches, bags, homework etc.

It would be greatly appreciated that if you are dropping in any of your child's forgotten belongings e.g. lunches, bags, homework, etc., that they are **clearly marked** with your **child's name and their class teacher**. For your information and to ensure forgotten lunches arrive in time, the following are the break times for the children.

Break-Time Arrangements -

- The 10.30 break will be a common break for all classes.
- The 12.00-12.30 Lunch Break will be for Third to Sixth Class
- The 12.35-1.05 Lunch Break will be for Junior & Senior Infants, First and Second Class.

Attendance at School

St. Mochta's National School encourages full attendance at school throughout the year. Further information is available by reading our Attendance Policy (available on our school website). We would like to remind parents that a reminder text will automatically be sent to you when your child has missed 10 and 15 days. If your child misses 20 days, an email will automatically be issued to you. The school is also obliged to inform the Educational Welfare Services if a child misses 20 days. Further information for parents is available from TúsIa by clicking CTRL and the following link. [School Attendance - what parents need to know](#)

Global Consent Form and Code of Behaviour

A gentle reminder that you have signed these forms which are still valid throughout your child's primary school years. If any circumstances or personal details have changed, please contact the office so we can update our files.

Medical Concerns

We have a number of children with medical needs in our school. It is important that we are fully aware of all medical needs. Please notify the school office about your child if you have not already done so.

If you have been sent a medical form to complete, please send it into the school office with an updated photo as soon as possible. In addition to the form, if your child requires medication, and it was handed back to you at the end of June, please make sure your class teacher and the office are supplied with new and clearly labelled replacements for the new school year.

A Free Talk for Parent's

The Parents Association are beginning the new school year by hosting a free talk for parents on Tuesday 8th of September from 7.30pm until 10pm in the school PE hall, on the subject of Positive Parenting and Positive Discipline. All welcome.

School Hall

Our school hall and reception area had a makeover over the holidays. A huge thank you to our PA for funding this project. The hall looks fantastic! Special thanks to our caretaker, Gerry for painting our reception area. We hope all children enjoy activities in our lovely hall over the year.

Labelling/Lost Property

Returning lost property during the school year is greatly increased if items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please ensure jumpers, PE tracksuits, coats, etc. are labelled with your child's name and class.

1st and 2nd Classes Drop off and Collection

Ms. Reilly (line 6) & Ms. Mackle (line 2) – pupils in these classes should enter via Gate No. 2 & go to Line 6 or 2. When collecting your child at 2.30pm, please enter via Gate No. 1 – your child's class will be lined up in St Mary's yard. On wet days, your child can be collected directly from the back of the PE Hall but please enter the yard through Gate No. 1.

Ms. Stewart and Mr. Cryan's, 1st Class can be collected daily from their class lines outside their prefab.

All children in 2nd Class should enter the school via Gate No. 2 & go directly to their appropriate line. At 2.30pm, the teachers will bring the classes to the school reception entrance and the pupils can be collected directly from here.

Finally, we wish your child a happy and successful school year ahead. Our concern at all times will be for their happiness, safety and welfare. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have a query or concern.

A happy new school year to one and all in St. Mochta's National School Community!