



We wish to welcome back all our pupils and their parents and, in particular, those who are starting in our school for the first time this year. We hope you enjoyed your summer and that we can look forward to a happy and fruitful year.

Newsletters will issue every two to three weeks and will contain important information such as dates for events and activities in the school as well as details of what has been happening. ***Please check your child's bag regularly.***

We remind you that a full uniform should be worn every day and that the school tracksuit be worn on PE days. ***Dark-coloured (black) shoes or runners should be worn with both uniform and tracksuit.***

School Times

Please remember that the school day *commences at 9.20a.m.* Children should



be brought to school as close as possible to this time. While there is frequently supervision from 9.10 a.m. the Board of Management cannot take responsibility for the safety of pupils before school starting time at 9.20 a.m.

We particularly ask that pupils do not arrive late for school and this is a good time of the year to establish and emphasise good habits with them.

As part of a healthy lifestyle, we strongly encourage all children to *walk to school*. (Park & stride, and cycling are also strongly recommended).

On *wet mornings the shelter* will provide cover for pupils until we open the



P.E. Hall when supervision becomes available after 9.10a.m.

Note: With so many pupils to accommodate, we cannot allow adults to accompany the boys into the hall as there is simply not enough room!

Parents' Association AGM

Don't forget – the AGM of the PTA will take place on Wednesday 19th September at 8 p.m. in the school hall.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Morning Club

Morning club will resume on Monday 3rd September, 2012. This is a supervised facility available from 8.00 a.m. Children are welcome to participate in play, reading, drawing

and other games and activities. Weekly rate €20.00, daily rate €5.00. Family reductions available. If interested, please contact Ms. McMahon or Ms. Dunning.

After School Club 2-3 p.m.



The facility for pupils from Junior and Senior Infants to remain at the school from 2-3 p.m. continues this year. Children can be booked in to Jen's Den by term, by week or on a casual day to day basis. Costs are: daily rate €5.00, weekly rate €20, term rate available on request. If you would like more information or would like to book a place please contact Jennifer Kelly on (086) 3854958. *Fully insured, garda clearance and member of the I.P.P.A.*

After School Club 3-6 p.m.

This new facility is available for primary school children of all ages – Junior Infants to 6th class. "The After School" is open from Monday to Friday and children can be booked in daily, per week or by term. Rates or further information available from Lisa Coonan on (087) 8557478. *Fully insured, garda clearance and member of the I.P.P.A.*

Book Box

To avoid having to carry heavy schoolbags, pupils are permitted/encouraged to leave books, not needed for homework, at school. If doing so, a box must be provided for the safe/tidy storage of the books (1st – 6th class). The box should be appropriately sized – just wide enough for an A4 sized book to stand on its end – so that there is room for the box, your son's bag and his feet, under the desk!

Pupil Belongings

We would like to remind you of the importance of labelling your child's belongings, items of clothing in particular. Unmarked coats, jumpers, tracksuits, etc., can be very difficult, (if not impossible), to locate and return to its owner. Note: Iron-on name tags have proven to be a very popular solution. The school does not recommend any provider in particular, but the following companies provide this service:

mynametags.ie

Dalkey, Co. Dublin.



namelabels.ie
mystuff.ie

Naas, Co. Kildare.
Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.

Roll Call

The rolls are called in each classroom at 9.45am. The numbers are then collected centrally and entered into the school's book. This is a DES requirement. Once a pupil is marked absent, the Roll Book cannot be changed. Therefore a pupil who arrives late cannot have his attendance record amended.

Note: If you son has a planned appointment, such as a medical/dental appointment in the morning and will be coming to school afterwards, please notify the teacher in writing, in advance, and his attendance can be recorded.

Moyglare Stud Stakes – FREE FAMILY DAY Sunday 9th September – Curragh Racecourse

In celebration of the 50th year of the Moyglare Stud Stakes, Moyglare Stud are kindly inviting all of our pupils and their families to a free day at the Curragh Racecourse on 9th September to attend the Moyglare Stud Stakes.

There will be plenty of family entertainment and a special feature will be the Children's Art Display and presentation to the prizewinners, at 2.15 p.m. in the marquee behind the Champagne Bar.

There will also be a Best Dressed Lady/Style Icon award, with first prize being a trip for 2, all expenses paid, to the White Turf racing in St. Moritz in Switzerland.

Bus Safety



If your son travels to/from school by bus, please talk to him about the need for top class behaviour on the bus. The alternative is... having to walk!!

Holidays during School Term

We remind parents that withdrawing children from school for holidays during term time is strongly discouraged and we encourage families to plan holidays around school breaks.

Please Note: In the event of a pupil being withdrawn during term, teachers should not be asked to prescribe work for the period. Parents may wish to make their own arrangements to obtain the homework through other children in the class, on an ongoing basis, during the absence.

If your child is absent it is **not necessary to telephone the school**. However, it is necessary to send in a note to his teacher explaining the absence on his return. This is an Education Welfare Act requirement.

Peanut Allergy

There are a number of children through the school who are allergic to peanuts.



If they are exposed, or come into close proximity to peanuts or peanut products, the consequence can be very serious and even life threatening. Consequently the Board of Management has banned all peanuts and peanut products from the school. We ask you to be particularly vigilant in avoiding these products in your son's lunch.

Adults near School Playground

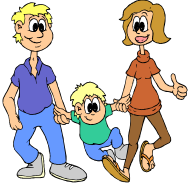
At the beginning of the school year, there can be a temptation for some parents to come to the playground, or its perimeter, at breaktimes, with a view to observing their child during the break. We strongly request that this is not done as it can have an unsettling effect on their own child and can cause upset to other children who may be concerned about 'strangers' (to them) watching them. You may rest assured that the boys are well supervised with 7/8 adults on duty at each break.

Letters from the School



We regularly receive requests for letters confirming attendance at the school. As the office can be extremely busy, we require **a week's notice** for such requests.

Morning Lines



Last year, due to increasing difficulty in monitoring and supervising children at morning time, we designated the Junior Yard/ lining-up area as a children only area.

Adults accompanying children to the school are asked to remain on the senior yard (i.e. the far side of the white line).

This allows space for the children to play and assemble and to line up safely when the bell goes, while at the same time giving a clear line of vision to the school staff who are supervising them.

Your co-cooperation and continuing support in successfully implementing this child friendly routine is appreciated.

Dogs

“Dogs are a man’s (boy’s) best friend!” However true this may be, unfortunately,



the school playground is not the best place to bring a dog. While most of the children love to see them and most are extremely friendly, there is always a chance that excited or exuberant children may frighten a dog with undesirable consequences. We have to err on the side of caution, so we must ask that *dogs are not brought onto the playground*. (If you do take the opportunity to bring the family pet for his ‘constitutional’, perhaps you might tie him securely at the extremities of the premises.)

Parking outside the school

This autumn there will be significant changes in relation to the lay-by area and parking. This area was originally created as a drop-off/pick up point for school children and was never intended as a parking area. Changes this autumn include:

- Disabled Parking Space - An absolute necessity for families who have a child with a physical disability.
- Double Yellow Lines at entrance gate areas (due to be in place shortly). Essential to ensure access to the school grounds by Medical & Emergency Services.

- Bus Bay area to be re-lined.

While we understand the pressures on parents dropping and collecting children from school, there can be no excuse for drivers parking in the above mentioned areas. The Gardaí have stated that regulations will be strictly enforced in these spaces.

Please remember that up to 2 hours free parking are available at both Manor Mills and Aldi.

Sick Children

If your child is unwell, please do not send them in to school, they will not be up to the usual school day activities. Under Child Protection and Health and Safety guidelines we cannot oblige requests to allow pupils stay in the building during the breaks. In particular, as all staff are either having their lunch or supervising on the playground, there is no supervision available.

CTY IRELAND

The Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland at DCU provides specified courses for young people with exceptional academic ability. Their guidelines suggest that students who achieved a 90th percentile or above in the standardised school tests, are likely to make good candidates for assessment. The assessment fee is €45.00. More information on CTYI can be found at www.dcu.ie/ctyi.

Children's Ballet Classes

Classes recommence Tuesdays, September to May in BNS. Enrolling Tuesday 4th September in the P.E. Hall 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Contact Sadhbh Ó Dúnlain (087) 287 2532 or (01) 4908 521.

Milk

We have just received details of this year's milk scheme. The cost for the entire year will be €36.00. Application form is listed below. Please send this back as soon as possible, but **no later than Thursday 6th September.**



Child's Name _____ Class _____

Class Teacher's Name _____

I wish my son to participate in the school milk programme and enclose the sum of **€36.**

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____