

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

To end to an unprecedented school year has finally come to an end. I would like to thank the pupils, their parents, the staff and the Board of Management for the tremendous work that everyone has done over the past few months. A huge thank you is due to the Parents association who delivered a lovely surprise goodie bag to every pupil at the end of the school year. The P.A. also bought lovely personalized mugs for the outgoing 6th class. We had a socially distanced graduation in the basketball court for our 6th class this year as we couldn't pass up the opportunity to say goodbye to them for the final time. Good luck in secondary school Dylan O Connor, Dylan O Brien, Declan, Jamie, Mikey, Oisín, Ethan, Scott, Shauna, Emma, Lily, Ella, Chloe, Leanne and Joanne. Don't forget to call back and let us know how you are getting on in secondary school. Our incoming Junior Infants came to visit us individually so they could see their new school and classroom before their "big day" on August 31st.

I have uploaded the booklists to the school website. We are conscious of parents financial situations and the changes that may have occurred over the past few months. We have added more books to our book rental scheme to try to reduce the cost of returning to school in September. For books that cannot be purchased second hand Easons have 10% off at the moment as do schoolbooks.ie once you have registered with them. We have a new English curriculum from 3rd to 6th class. These books have proven to be very expensive we have added them to the book rental scheme to order to save families money. The Board of Management and the Parents Association have subsidised the cost of the school books to reduce the overall cost to parents.

School Uniform- the school uniform is mainly generic items that can be purchased at any department store. The only crested item is the school jumper. If parents want to use the crest from an old school jumper it can be sewn on to any generic jumper or the crested jumper can be purchased from the Washbasket in Rathmore. If purchasing a new uniform my advice would be to hold off until August in the off chance of a further school closure. Hopefully, this will not be the case. If any parents have old school uniforms that are in good condition we can take them in the school.

Art and photocopying- The usual fee of €30 per child and capped at €50 per family still applies. We are offering a facility this year that the payment can be made in two instalments one in September and the other instalment in January 2021.

DES Guidelines- Over the course of the summer the Department of Education will publish guidelines on the safe return to school in September. These guidelines can change regularly depending on how Covid cases are developing. Once we receive guidelines from the Department of Education we will pass this information onto

parents. We will be strictly adhering to the guidelines that will be communicated to us and our main priority is to have everyone back in the classrooms on August 31st .

Finally, we wish everyone a happy, safe and healthy summer. Stay safe and we will be reunited on August 31st. Feel free to email me on gnsgerardine@gmail.com if you have any queries or concerns over the holidays.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Gerardine Shanahan

Principal