

Clooney National School



Carrahan, Tulla, Co, Clare Tel: 065 6835806 Roll No.152791

1st of September 2023

Good afternoon,

It is wonderful to have all the boys and girls back at school and I would like to welcome you all back to school after the summer holidays. I've no doubt that we're going to have a great year filled with lots of fun and learning in our school. I would like to bring the following announcements to your attention:



Enrolment

Wednesday, the 30th of August was a very exciting day for Killian Costelloe, Lillian Harrison, Mike Kelly Murphy, Liam Lawless, Jack Moran, Seán Murphy and Mark Whelan who joined Mrs. Gleeson's class in junior infants. We hope that they will all be very happy with us here in Clooney N.S. We are delighted to welcome them to our school community.



Office Hours

Pamela will continue her role as part time secretary for this school year.

The secretary hours are as follows;

- Monday – 9 am – 10.30 am and 3.00 – 4.30pm
- Tuesday – 9 am – 10.30 am and 3.00 – 4.30pm
- Thursday - 9 am – 10.30am
- Friday – 9 am – 10.30am

The office will be unattended outside of these hours. The school phone will be placed in the principal's classroom outside of the above office hours. I respectfully ask that phone calls outside of the above secretary hours be kept at a minimum to reduce the interruption to the teaching and learning of the fifth and sixth class pupils. In the case of an emergency please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Swimming

Swimming is resuming for all classes on **Friday the 8th of September** for fourteen weeks (8th of Sept – 27th of Oct and after Mid Term we will continue swimming from 10th Nov – 15th of Dec).

Swimming lessons are mandatory for all children as part of the Primary Schools Physical Education Curriculum except those with a Medical Cert. The children will be transported by bus to and from the pool in Ennis. The total cost for the 14 weeks of swimming lessons and transportation is €90. A payment request will be made via Aladdin next week and can be paid in instalments if you wish.

Once again, any help from parents in the changing rooms especially with the Juniors would be most welcome. Sessions are from 12 noon to 12.45. Please ensure your child/children have a swimsuit, towel, swimming cap, goggles, armbands if needed and plastic bag for wet clothes (armbands blown up please). If you have spare hats or goggles at home, it would be great if you would consider donating them to the school as spares in case a child forgets their hat or goggles during the term. Thank you.



Forest Schools

We are delighted to have been awarded funding from the Heritage in Schools for a 6 week programme of Forest Schools in Lee's Road for pupils from junior infants to 4th class. The programme will begin next **Thursday, 7th of September**. A consent form and information sheet has been sent home in pupils bags this evening. I have attached a digital copy of the sheet to this email.

In order to get to Lee's Road the pupils will travel by bus from the school. Mrs. Gleeson's class will participate in the morning session so pupils in the junior room will need to be at school for 9am to ensure we can depart at 9.05 am. They will be collected at 12 noon and return to the school on a bus that will bring Ms. Lynch's class to Lee's Road for their afternoon session. The bus for the 6-week programme will be €30 per child. A payment request will be made via Aladdin next week and can be paid in instalments if you wish.

Please see the information sheet attached for further details.

Appointments

Maintaining home school links is very important to us here in Clooney NS. If you wish to discuss any matter with a member of the teaching staff, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's class teacher and we will arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss the matter. Please contact the office on 065 6835806 or email the office (clooneyns@gmail.com) with a brief overview of what you wish to discuss to arrange a meeting.



Education Welfare Act

Schools are obliged by law under The Education (Welfare) Act 2000 to submit reports on school attendance to the Educational Welfare Services of The Child and Family Agency (TULSA). As a result, the school is obliged by the above legislation to inform TULSA when a child has been absent for 20 days in a school year.

If your child is absent from school, it is necessary for you to provide the following information **in writing, to the class teacher, the date(s) in which your child was absent and the reason for his/her absence.** If your child has missed 15 days, the school will notify you to remind you of our legal requirement.

School Uniform

Please ensure your child(ren) is/are wearing full uniform every day to school. I would kindly ask that you please **LABEL JUMPERS WITH PUPILS NAMES** as they frequently get mixed up. Also, please ensure other items (e.g., lunch boxes, drinks bottle etc.) are clearly labelled to minimise the amount of lost property that accumulates during the school year. Please contact Pamela in the school office if you wish to purchase a school sweatshirt or t-shirt.



Healthy Lunches

The school continues to promote healthy eating with a Healthy Lunch Policy running in the school. Sweets, chocolate bars, crisps, biscuits, popcorn and fizzy drinks are not permitted. In an effort to reduce school waste we would encourage pupils to use **reusable drinks bottles and to take any lunch packaging home in their lunchboxes.** Thank you.

Homework

Please make sure your child's homework is completed each evening and homework diary signed. It is important to set a time for homework, as this prevents homework from going on all evening. The length of time depends on class level. If your child is experiencing difficulty with homework, please make an appointment and discuss this with the class teacher.

Head Lice

We would be grateful if you would regularly check your child's hair. If you do find headlice in your child's hair, please treat and inform the school so that we may make all parents aware of this. We respectfully ask that all pupils with long hair have their hair tied up in school every day.

Principal Release Cluster

All teaching principals are allocated weekly release days to undertake administrative tasks. Ms. Minogue will be out of the classroom and in the office on Fridays. Ms. Ryan will be teaching the boys and girls of the senior classroom on Friday. She will be following the class plans as devised in collaboration with Ms. Minogue to ensure continuity of teaching and learning.



Addresses and phone numbers

Please let us know if you have changed your email address, postal address or phone contact number. It is essential that we have up to date contact details for all children. This data will be kept secure and for the sole purpose of contacting you in relation to your child(ren).

Swimming lessons, Forest Schools, Allianz Pupil Insurance, contribution to Photocopying costs and Arts & Crafts

Individual pupil bills for the above items will be sent home via email to all families in the coming weeks. As like last year we would greatly appreciate if you could pay these bills online. If you would like to arrange a planned, staged payment plan for swimming & photocopying etc. please contact the school principal in confidence.

Once again, welcome back and thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you in the coming year.

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*Marie Minogue
Príomhoide*

