

# *Saint Catherine's National School*

*Ballyhack, Arthurstown, New Ross, Co. Wexford.*

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15<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## **NEWSLETTER**

**This is a newsletter from the principal. I will be sending a school newsletter to all parents/guardians at the end of each half term.**

### **School Uniform**

The wearing of the school uniform is strongly recommended as it establishes a basic standard of acceptable dress, promotes tidiness and also promotes a sense of unity and identity among the children.

These are the details of the school uniform:

#### **Boys:**

Navy Trousers  
White polo t-shirt  
Wine jumper  
Wine/navy socks  
Navy school shorts

#### **Girls:**

Navy Trousers / Pinafore / Skirt  
White polo t-shirt  
Wine jumper  
Wine V-neck cardigan with pinafore only  
Wine/Navy socks or tights  
Navy school shorts

### **The school tracksuit may be worn on PE days:**

Ms. Doyle's Room: Wednesday and Friday  
Ms. Connick's Room: Wednesday and Friday  
Ms. Cooley's Room: Wednesday and Thursday

There may be other days when children will be allowed to wear tracksuits and parents will be notified of these days by the Class Teacher or School Principal in advance.

We are asking you to work with us to enhance the very positive co-operation between the parent body and the school to establish pupil unity.

### **Absent Notes**

Absent notes in accordance with legal requirements, children should attend school regularly. Under section 21 of the Education Welfare Act 2000, the Board of Management is required to submit an Annual Attendance Record with details of students who have been absent for 20 days or more. A note of explanation is required when a child is absent. Please submit an absent note for all full day absences. If for any reason, your child is collected early or brought to school later than normal please send an email to [ballyhackschool@gmail.com](mailto:ballyhackschool@gmail.com). We appreciate your co-operation with this matter.

### **Morning Drop-Off**

We are going to continue morning supervision from 9:15am for the rest of the school year. This proved a success and has stopped congestion of traffic on the road outside the school in the mornings.

### **Board of Management Meetings**

A Board of Management meeting took place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. All reviewed policies are available on the school website or on request from the office.

### **Cyril Squirrel Savings Scheme**

The Cyril Squirrel Savings Scheme is underway every Friday in school. The cost of a stamp is €1, 20 stamps fill a book and the children can cash this book or lodge it in their post office account.

### **Dancing with Declan**

Declan Flanagan, as seen on 'Dancing with Declan', visited our school for one final time last Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. The dancing lessons were enjoyed by all. Thank you to the Parents Association for covering the cost of this wonderful activity.

### **Ash Wednesday**

Ashes will be distributed to any students who wish to take them next Wednesday.

### **Choir**

Our class teacher Ms. Connick will resume our school choir each Thursday from 2-3pm after mid-term. We are looking forward to hearing lots of wonderful singing.

### **Swimming Lessons**

All students from 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class are attending swimming lessons in the Apex every week. This will last for two more Wednesdays.

### **Yoga/ Mindfulness**

All students in Junior and Senior Infants and 1<sup>st</sup> Class took part in 5 yoga lessons. Thank you to the Parents Association for covering the cost of this activity.

### **World Book Day**

We would like to invite all students to dress up as their favourite book character on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March for World Book Day.

### **Pyjamas Day**

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding a Pyjamas Day. The cost is €2 per child. All donations will go towards school funds.

### **Mini 7's**

Mini 7's camogie and hurling training will be starting every Friday in Mersheen pitch after mid-term. We expect the competitions to start the end of February. Ms. Murphy and Mr. Nimmo will manage the teams. All girls and boys from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class are invited to take part.

### **School Tours**

We will be sending out details and prices of school tours in the coming weeks. We are trying to keep the cost down as low as possible and will partially subsidise them. All payments for school tours can be made in full or in instalments.

### **Confession and Communion Dates**

The First Confession will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in St. James Church. The First Communion will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm in St. James Church.

### **Parents Association**

Thank you to the Parents Association for organising the clothes collection last Monday. All donations were greatly appreciated and the funds go towards the school.

**We hope you all have an enjoyable and safe Mid-term Break**