

Saint Catherine's National School

Ballyhack, Arthurstown, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

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28th October 2022

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: Tuesday and Friday
Ms. Connick's Room: Tuesday and Friday
Ms. Cooley's Room: Tuesday and Friday

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. We appreciate your co-operation with this matter.

Morning Drop-Off

Since the beginning of the term we began morning supervision from 9:15am, this proved a success and has stopped congestion of traffic on the road outside the school in the mornings. We will continue with this supervision until the end of term and review thereafter.

Board of Management Meetings

A Board of Management meeting took place on Wednesday 19th October. We would like to welcome our new teacher representative Ms. Doyle and parent representatives Ms. Eileen Foley and Mr. John Kinsella, we would also like to sincerely thank our outgoing teacher representative Ms. Foley and parents representatives Ms. Anne Keating and Mr. Marty Murphy for all their help and support on our board of management. All policies reviewed and ratified at this meeting are available on the school website.

Parents' Association AGM

The AGM of the Parents' Association took place on Tuesday 27th September. We would like to thank our outgoing secretary Ms. Veronica Murphy for all her hard work we would also like to welcome our new incoming secretary Suzanne Roche. We look forward to collaborating over the school year.

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.

Jersey Day

On Friday 23rd September all the students dressed in their favourite jersey to was to raise funds for the charity Goal. Well done to all who took part.

Friendship Week

Friendship Week took place from Monday 26th to Friday 30th September. The students took part in a range of friendship activities, games, mindfulness and art. On Friday the 30th September the students had a social morning where they enjoyed hot chocolate or tea with marshmallows. Friendship Week is one of the goals we are using to work towards achieving the Amber flag from Pieta House.

Kennedy Park Trip

On Tuesday 27th September the whole school went on an educational trip to Kennedy Park. The students in Ms. Doyle's and Ms. Connick's room went on a tour of the grounds and learned some very interesting facts about the trees in the arboretum, while Ms. Cooley's room went on a nature walk looking for different trees and features in the arboretum. To finish the students both a picnic and teddy bear's picnic together. A wonderful day was had by all.

Planting Bulbs

On Friday 7th October the whole school took part in planting tulip bulbs around the school grounds. Keep an eye out in spring for our new flowers.

Maths Week

The students took part in Maths Week which ran from Monday 18th October to Friday 22nd October. The students took part in a range of both online activities and practical activities such as Maths Trails. This allowed the students to experience Maths in a range of different scenarios not just in their book or classroom. A big thank you to Ms. Doyle who organised this wonderful learning experience.

Team Hope - Shoebox Appeal

This year we are taking part in the Shoebox Appeal, all shoeboxes needed to be returned by Thursday 27th October. If you still have a shoebox that you would like to send as part of the Shoebox Appeal please contact us as soon as possible.

Student Council

In the last week of September the students prepared speeches and voted for their representatives in Ballyhack National School's Student Council. I am looking forward to working with the students over the coming year.

Halloween Dress Up Day

All the students has the opportunity to show us their amazing Halloween costumes on Friday 28th October. Don't forget to check our classdojo and website for some spooky pictures.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on Wednesday 30th November and Thursday 1st December. You will receive your date and time by the end of the day.

Dancing with Declan

Declan Flanagan, as seen on 'Dancing with Declan', will be visiting our school for 6 weeks for November and December. The students will have an opportunity to brush up on their dancing skills and line dancing. We hope that all of the students will perform a dance that they have learned at the Christmas Concert.

Christmas Concert

This year's Christmas Concert will take place on Tuesday 13th Decembers at 6:30pm in Ramsgrange Community School hall. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Sing Out Loud

On Thursday 24th November all students from 3rd-6th class will take part in the Sing Out Loud performance, held in the Opera House. Transportation from the school to the Opera House will be provided on the day of the performance. This is such an amazing night for all the family; we are solely looking forward to this event after all of our preparations.

GAA Coaches

The Wexford GAA coaches will return to our school each Friday until the end of term. It is wonderful to welcome back these coaches to assist with our gaelic football skills.

Christmas Mass

All the schools in the parish will be coming together for the Christmas Mass on Friday 16th December in St. James Church, Ramsgrange. Our school choir will be performing some songs throughout the mass.

Choir

Our class teacher Ms. Connick is preparing our school choir each Thursday from 2-3pm. Lots of fantastic singing to be heard around the school each Thursday.

Parents Association Christmas Fundraiser

Our wonderful Parents Association have organised a table quiz fundraiser, which will take place at 8pm on Friday 11th November in Byrnes. A great night ahead, please come and support our school.

We hope you all have an enjoyable and safe mid-term break.

