

Saint Catherine's National School

Ballyhack, Arthurstown, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

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14th February 2024

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. McPhillip's Room: Wednesday and Friday

Ms. Cooley's Room: Wednesday and Friday

All students in Ms. Cooley's room are permitted to wear their school tracksuit on any of the five school days.

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 by email or written. 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

Morning drop-off from 9:15am will continue and staff will be outside to supervise from that time. Please ensure your child uses the footpath provided when exiting your car.

Cyril Squirrel Savings Scheme

The Cyril Squirrel Savings Scheme is underway every Friday in school and will begin again in the New Year. 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.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons have commenced in our school for all students in 2nd-6th class and will last for 8 weeks. All students will be brought to and from the Apex swimming pool by bus and will be accompanied by members of staff.

Yoga/Mindfulness Lessons

Our Yoga teacher is once again back with us for 6 weeks. This wonderful activity takes place on Wednesday for 6 when she visits Junior and Senior Infants and 1st class for a Yoga/Mindfulness session. These classes help benefit the students movements and exercises, particularly in the colder months of the year.

Féile Fichille Chess Tournament

We have entered two teams in the Féile Fichille Chess Tournament which will take place Tuesday 5th March 2024. There will be one team from 3rd and 4th class, consisting of 8 students and another team from 5th and 6th class, again consisting of 8 students. The chess trials have been running for the last number of weeks and we have selected the winners from the trials to represent the school in this tournament.

Music Teacher in Residence

Ms. McPhillip's 1st, 2nd and 3rd class have been visited by a music teacher. She is coming every Friday for 6 weeks. The teacher is teaching tin whistle lessons, notation reading and music theory.

Mini 7's

We have joined once more with Shielbaggan National School for hurling and camogie mini 7's. This competition will commence in the next few weeks.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week took place at the end of January, however we decided to delay Grandparent's Day to a day in the summer term. On this day we would like to invite all members of our local community; grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, family friends, cousins, neighbours etc. We want to make this day as inclusive as possible and invite in members of the local and extended community. We announce this day for this event at a later date in the school year.

Open Evening

Our annual Open Evening will take place this term on Thursday 21st March 2024 from 7-8pm. Please come and see what our wonderful school has to offer. We are extending our invitation to past, present and prospectus students and parents.

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