

Saint Catherine's National School

Ballyhack, Arthurstown, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

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25th October 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: Thursday 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 through Aladdin Connect. 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.

Aladdin Connect

We are now fully up and running on Aladdin Connect. We would appreciate if you have not downloaded this application please do so immediately. Aladdin Connect will be used for the following; Parent Teacher Meetings, Announcements, Permission Slips, Attendance and many more features as we use the application more and more. We appreciate your patience in setting up this application.

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.

Parents' Association AGM

The AGM of the Parents' Association took place on Tuesday 1st October . We would like to thank all outgoing members of the Parents Association, welcome any incoming members and thank all members for their continued support.

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.

Friendship Week

Friendship Week took place from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th September. The students took part in a range of friendship activities, games, mindfulness and art. On Friday the 27th September the students had a social morning where they enjoyed hot chocolate or milk with marshmallows. Friendship Week is one of the goals we are using to work towards achieving the Amber flag from Pieta House.

Jersey Day

On Friday 11th October all the students dressed in their favourite jersey. All donated funds will go towards school related activities.

Rackard League/Mini 7s

Unfortunately this year we did not have enough numbers in the parish to fill a girls Rackard League Gaelic Football Team, the boys did enter a team but unfortunately were unsuccessful in both of their matches. Additionally, our school entered both a

girls team in the Mini 7s Gaelic Football competition, they played some brilliant games in Horeswood at the beginning of October but unfortunately did not progress to the next round. We are so happy that so many boys and girls take part in these team events and we do our best to encourage this participation.

Nutty Scientist

On Tuesday 10th September all students were visited by the Nutty Scientist'. This day involved lots of science experiments and science activities which were enjoyed by all.

'Meaningful Muinteoir'

Ms. Cooley's class will be visited by the 'Meaningful Muinteoir' on a weekly basis after October mid-term break. This is a wonderful programme catering for the wellbeing needs of our students and also training our teachers in new methodologies for mindfulness and wellbeing.

Halloween Dress Up Day

All the students have the opportunity to show us their amazing Halloween costumes on Friday 25th October. Don't forget to check our classdojo and website for some spooky pictures.

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2pm in St James' Church, Rasmgrange.

Team Hope - Shoebox Appeal

This year we are taking part in the Shoebox Appeal, all shoeboxes needed to be returned by Monday 4th November. 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.

Sing Out Loud

The boys and girls in 3rd-6th class are busy practising for their performance in the Opera House for Sing Out Loud, which will take place on Monday 18th November. There will be a bus leaving the school at 3:30pm to bring the students into the Opera House. All students will need to be picked up by their parents after their performance.

Student Council

After the mid-term break we will be electing our new Student Council for the school year 2024/25. Every class from 1st- 6th class will have two representatives. The students who wish to be elected to the student council will have to prepare a council representative speech to be in with a chance to be nominated. All students will have the chance to vote for who they wish to represent them on the student council. This is a very important part of our school as we value our student voice.

Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th November. You will be able to book your time and day on Aladdin Connect.

Christmas Jumper Day (Non-Uniform Day) will take place on Friday 6th December. We are asking for a €2 donation per child towards this event. All funds raised will go towards funding the Christmas Festivities Day.

Our Christmas Concert will take place in Ramsgrange Community School on Wednesday 11th December at 7pm.

This year Christmas Festivities Day will take place on 19th of December. This wonderful has become an annual event where the students get to do lots of Christmas themes activities throughout the day, as well as dress festive.

A festive Halloween-themed graphic with the text "HAPPY HALLOWEEN" in colorful, stylized letters. The letters are decorated with various Halloween motifs: a jack-o'-lantern, bats, stars, a candy corn, a spider, a ghost, and a mummy. The background is orange.