



## e-ZINE October 2017

Please refer to the School Holiday Calendar section of this e-Zine for all school closure dates

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### Set Down Area/Parking/Access

Please be reminded that the set down area **MUST** be kept clear at all times for the safety of all children and other pedestrians. We strongly advise that the **NO PARKING** signs are strictly adhered at all times please. It is an area meant only for vehicles to pull up for a minute or two whilst collecting or dropping off children. If you will be in the set down area for more than a minute or two, then you must wait in the car park provided. Vehicles **MUST NOT** be parked in the set down area; drivers must not leave their vehicle at any time. We would be obliged if parents could relay this information to all family members, friends, childminders etc who drop off and collect children from the school.

Please also be reminded that the school lane must be kept clear at all times; this is an area for staff parking only and access to the private farm/land; other vehicles are strictly prohibited from using the lane under any circumstances.

Please also be informed that the gates at the front school entrance (the set down area) must be kept closed at all times, again in the interests of the Health & Safety of all children. Please ensure they are closed behind you on entry and exit.

We would also request that you do not walk on the grass areas around the school grounds.

#### Infants Home Time

In the interests of the Health and Safety of all children, please note the new procedure for collecting children from Ms Sarsfield's Junior and Senior Infants and Ms Coyle's Senior Infants classes:

- At 2pm/home time all Infant children will be brought to the PE Hall; where they will wait to be collected
- All parents/guardians etc should proceed to the double exit doors at the side of the PE Hall – entry from the car park diagonally across the school yard - (parents/guardians should not proceed to the shelter as previously)
- Parents/guardians should park in the car park and not park in the set down area
- Parents/guardians should not enter the hall, please wait at the doors for the teacher to call the child/ren to the exit

Anyone who may be late collecting the children, or for any changes to the person who normally collects the children, are asked to ring the school office prior to these changes and the secretary will inform the class teacher accordingly. People should not arrive at the school to collect Infant children unless the school has been previously advised.

#### Payments

Our new e-payments system has now gone live. When there are payments due to the school you will receive an email message with the details of what is due and how to pay. **Wherever possible we ask parents to pay online as per the instructions in the payment messages and not to send payment in to the school;** this is for a more streamlined and effective payment system, in turn reducing the amount of money held in the school, number of trips required to lodge at the bank etc. Going forward, the school will be holding less and less cash, which in turn means it will become more difficult to produce change for future cash payments. The following payments are now overdue to the school: Supplementary Resources: €20 per child in the school. Athletics: €8 per child in 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes. Thank you to those who have already paid.

All queries regarding payments should be directed to the school secretary and not the class teachers.

#### School Start Time

School start time is 9.20am. Please be reminded that children should not be dropped at school before 9.10am for the safety of your children as there is no staff supervision before this time. There will be adult supervision on the front yard from 9.10-9.20am each morning for health and safety reasons. There are children being dropped off from as early as 8.30am, we cannot take responsibility for children from such an early time and strongly advise that this practice is discontinued.

#### Mobile Phones and other Electronic Devices Incl Cameras

If a mobile phone or other device is brought to school it must be handed up to the class teacher in the morning upon entry to class. The class teacher will store the phone/device in a locked cabinet. The teacher will return the phone/device to the child at the end of the day.

Students **DO NOT** have permission to use mobile phones or other device during social times e.g. breaks. They may take phones on school outings if they have specific permission from the teacher(s) in charge of the outing.

# Knock National School



## Uniforms

Reminder that uniforms should be worn by all children from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class everyday throughout the year, other than PE days, when school tracksuits should be worn.



## Sacraments



Please note the Parish Church will be closed for refurbishment from October 2017 to April 2018.  
Information evening for parents of all First Communion children: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in St John's Rest and Care Centre.

First Communion enrolment mass: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Basilica.

Do this in Memory of Me masses at 7.30pm : 25<sup>th</sup> November; 10<sup>th</sup> February; 24<sup>th</sup> March in the Basilica.

First Confessions: Tuesday 6<sup>h</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Reconciliation Chapel.

First Holy Communion Retreat: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

First Holy Communion: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 11am in the Parish Church.

Confirmation: No Confirmation in the Parish this year.

## Parent Teacher Meetings



The parent teacher meetings will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October; appointments will be sent out shortly. It is vital that parents attend these very important meetings.



## School Photos

School photographers will be in school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

## Music



Music lessons for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils continue on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, on alternate weeks, until 30<sup>th</sup> November.



## Swimming

Swimming lessons will resume as follows:

4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes: Tuesdays 9<sup>th</sup> January to 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018; 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> classes: Mondays 19<sup>th</sup> February to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Details of costs will be issued shortly.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

**Grupa Cheoil:** each Monday from 3-3.45pm, for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

**Irish Dancing:** each Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm, starting from 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017. €3 per child please, payable directly to the dancing teacher.

## Fundraising



## Hallowe'en Fancy Dress Sponsored Walk

Our annual sponsored walk will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October in order to raise funds for our school; all children should dress up in their favourite Hallowe'en costume; sponsorship cards will be issued shortly. As always, your continued support in our school fundraising efforts is very much appreciated.



## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Once again the school is participating in this appeal for children less fortunate than ours. Leaflets have been issued to the children. The shoeboxes must be sent in to the school no later than 8<sup>th</sup> November.



## Calendars

2018 calendars commemorating the school's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary are still available for sale in school at €5 each. One of the photos on the calendar is of all the school children in the formation of a 50. Please contact the school secretary.



## Miscellaneous

### School Office Opening Hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays: 10am to 3pm; Wednesdays: 11.30am-3pm.  
Closed for lunch 12.30pm to 1.30pm.



### School Calendar 2017-2018:

October Mid-Term: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

Christmas: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018. School closes at 12noon Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and re-opens at 9.20am Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

St Patrick's Day: School closed Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Easter: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April. School closes at 3pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and re-opens at 9.20am on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

**In Service Training: School closed Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 to facilitate Teacher training.**

May Bank Holiday: School closed Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. (First Holy Communion is Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May). School re-opens at 9.20am on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

June Bank Holiday: School closed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Summer Holidays: School closes at 12noon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

As always, we would invite you all to refer to the school website, [www.knockns.ie](http://www.knockns.ie), for news and regular updates from the school, including pictures, videos etc from our various events and class activities. Email queries should be directed to [admin@knockns.ie](mailto:admin@knockns.ie)