

# September Newsletter

SCOIL NAISIUNTA PHÁDRAIG NAOFA  
LOUISBURGH NS MÍ MÉAN FÓMHAIR 2022

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Mol an  
Óige agus

Tiocfaidh

Sí...

Tús  
Maith ,Le  
ath ns h-  
Oibre

Dia Dhuit

Dia 's  
Muire  
Dhuit



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are well and truly settled back into school life here in Louisburgh NS. The term has gotten off to a busy start with teaching and learning central to our days here. The 14 junior infants are now attending for a full day and are enjoying their first term. We are delighted to welcome Jack and Hannah who have joined us from Dublin and Arystarkh and his sister Eva from Ukraine. We have been blessed with good weather and all classes are enjoying the outdoors on a daily basis. While we are delighted to be in a mostly Covid free environment, hand-washing continues in all classes and hand sanitising in the junior room is being practiced. We continue to follow HSE guidelines as the term progresses.

**At playtime** we are continuing with 2x20 minute breaks for both the junior and senior classes. This is allowing more space and freedom to play for all. On the last Tuesday of the month we will reintroduce **Talk –To –Me Tuesday** where the whole school will come together giving all classes a chance to mix and play together. Our first day will be Tuesday next, 27th September. As a staff we made the decision to limit the amount of soccer being played on the senior yard due to an unhealthy atmosphere which had developed. Our aim is to promote a more diverse level of play where all children feel included. We have made a wide range of Sports equipment available to the children and are encouraging games such as basketball, tennis, rounders and hockey as alternatives. This is working well for the most part and will be reviewed on a regular basis.

**Gaeilge** is very much part of our school day and we endeavour to promote a love for our language. We are practicing a new phrase throughout the school with all children as we meet and greet throughout the day. We started with Dia Dhuit , a simple hello ,and we will introduce Conas atá tú? How are you? \_from Monday next . It's great to hear a cupla focail being spoken on the yard. Maith sibh!

**School Uniforms** must be worn in all classes and it is great to see the blue and navy every morning. There are already a number of school jumpers in Lost and Found in the GP room. The easiest way to avoid misplacement of jumpers and jackets is to write your child's name or initials with bold marker on the label of the item.

**Book Bills** will be sent by email shortly. Included in the bill is the cost of all books, workbook and book rental. We have also included 24 hr insurance @8 euro per child. We are not including any contribution towards photocopying etc as in other years. You may pay directly online in instalments if you wish. If you any difficulty with the book bill please let us know.

**County Photos** visited the school on Tuesday and both class and family photos were taken. We will send the photos home when they arrive and payment details will be included.

**Our Parent's Association** has been quiet now for a number of years and I am hope that this might be a good time for a revival. The Parent's Association is inclusive of all of you who are parents or guardians to the children who are enrolled in Louisburgh NS. I hope that a number of interested parties might be interested in forming a new parent's committee this term. A parent's committee is not just about fundraising but can be a very useful link between school and home. We will have an open meeting to ascertain levels of interest and take it from there. Parents/guardians from all classes are invited to attend on Monday October 3rd at 8pm in the GP room at school. I look forward to meeting you.

**Communion and Confirmation** will be celebrated in St Patrick's Church in the second and third terms. Thanks to Sandra Mc Cluskey who is co-ordinating the Do This in Memory of Me programme for 2nd class and to Elaine Duffy who will be looking after the You Shall be My Witness programme for pupils in 5th and 6th classes. The school greatly welcomes the community involvement .

**Music** will play a huge roll at school this year. We are very excited to have been chosen to partake in the Music Generation for junior classes this year. This is a brand new initiative that brings music to the infants and first classes throughout Mayo. We begin next Tuesday morning with Catherine Mc Glinchy and will run every Tuesday for the school year. The children in 2nd & 3rd will begin Tinwhistle classes with Mary Finn on Thursday mornings from October 6th and all children in 4th, 5th and 6th are registered with the National Children's Choir this year. Practicing has begun in earnest and we look forward to a wonderful year ahead as we work towards our May concert in the Theatre Royal in Castlebar.

**GAA skills** have begun on the Astro Turf with thanks to Philip Mc Kiernan and some TY students and we are lucky to have Claire Coughlan from Connaught Rugby working with us this term also.

**Swimming is** part of PE curriculum in all primary schools. This year we will offer swimming lessons to all pupils form 2nd to 6th.in Westport Leisure Centre beginning on Thursday October 6th.This year we strongly urge all children to take part as it is a very enjoyable and worthwhile few weeks for all.

Ms Gaughan's 6th class are getting involved in the VEX Robotics project for the second year. This is a terrific opportunity for 6th class pupils and we hope they learn a lot from the experience.

Finally ,we are missing a number of PM readers and we ask that you might have a look at home in case they have got mixed up with other school items etc. These readers are used mainly in infants/first and second class and will have PM clearly printed on the back.

Thank you for your cooperation , your continued support as we look forward to a productive and rewarding year.

Beir Bua  
Emer Askin  
Principal.

