



Gaelscoil Eoghain Uí Thuairisc

NUACHTLITIR NA GAELSCOILE (1) 2021

04/10/2021

- DIA DAOIBH GO LÉIR!** A huge welcome back to school to all. We have just finished our first month back to school and I trust everyone is well settled in at this stage. I would like to take a moment to thank you all, parents, múinteoirí and páistí for the wonderful and warm welcome you have given me here to Gaelscoil Eoghain Uí Thuairisc. I honestly could not have asked for a better Cead Míle Fáilte! I am delighted to be here as your new principal and am excited for the journey we shall all undertake together. I am certain that the school year ahead will be a very happy and successful one for everyone with lots of fun and new learning opportunities for all!
- LÁ GEANSAÍ / GOAL JERSEY DAY:** Friday, October 8th is **GOAL Jersey Day**. As always, we encourage the children to wear whichever sports jersey they choose and to make a contribution to GOAL, the very worthwhile charity which does so much good work in poorer countries. If your child does not own a football jersey or is not in a position to borrow one, the school tracksuit will do fine on the day. A donation of €2 is suggested but whatever suits your circumstances will be welcome. You can make this donation via the Aladdin Connect App or alternatively put in an envelope marked **GOAL** – there is no need to include the child's name as it is an anonymous contribution. **Go raibh maith agaibh.**
- AG TEACHT AGUS AG IMEACHT:** The staggered start and finishing times for the classes are working well and we thank you for your ongoing help and support with this. Below is a reminder of your child's start and finish time:

The following classes are to arrive between 8.40am - 8.50am

Grúpa A

Naíonáin Bheaga S.2 An M. Emma
Naíonáin Mhóra S.4 An M. Máiread
Naíonáin Mhóra S.6 An M. Jill
Rang 1 S.8 An M. Brían
Rang 2 S.22 An M. Noirín
Rang 3 S.10 An M. Art
Rang 4 S. 12 An M. Cian
Rang 5 S.14 An M. Eithne
Rang 6 S.16 An M. Mícheál

These classes are to be collected at 2.20pm with the exception of Naíonáin who will be going home at 1.30pm every day.

The following classes are to arrive between 8.50am-9.00am

Grúpa B

Naíonáin Bheaga S.1 An M. Meaghan
Naíonáin Bheaga S.3 An M. Áine
Naíonáin Mhóra S.5 An M. Aisling/An M. Andrea
Rang 1 S.7 An M. Aisling
Rang 2 S.21 An M. Danielle
Rang 3 S.9 An M. Aoife
Rang 4 S.11 An MaryRose
Rang 5 S.13 An M. Clár
Rang 6 S.15 An M. Majella

These classes are to be collected at 2.30pm (1.30pm for the Naíonáin).

If you have children in both groups, feel free to choose the ten minute slot which best suits your family i.e. 8.40 and 2.20 or 8.50 and 2.30.

Please ensure that children are in time for school each morning and collected promptly at going home time as delays can lead to upset. As we are obliged to report school absences to Túsla, the Child Protection Agency, it is very important to inform your child's teacher why your child was absent or late for school. The easiest and quickest way to do this is via the Aladdin Connect App under Attendance & Notes where you can enter an absence reason or send a note. Alternatively, you may send a note in with your child.

4. **ÉADAÍ SCOILE:** By now your child will know which days s/he will be doing sport in school. We would remind you that the sports uniform should only be worn on these days. A gentle reminder that **plain** black tracksuit bottoms are to be worn, thus avoiding competition regarding logos/stripes of some more expensive styles, as well as runners which are safe for sports class. Tight leggings are not permitted. On other days, the full brown uniform should be worn, including school tie and **dark footwear**. *Please ensure that all school jumpers/coats etc. are clearly labelled with the child's name (as Gaeilge) and Seomra number.* We already have a number of uniform items looking for their owners - we are very aware of the cost involved with school uniforms – please encourage your child to be responsible for their school jumpers etc. and to check that they have all items going home every evening. The Cairde Committee hope to be able to arrange a sale of unwanted uniforms in the near future and will update you when this is arranged. A reminder also that hairstyles and hair colour are to be **appropriate for primary school and to be kept natural** – this avoids distraction and pressure on others to compete with the latest fashion.
5. **GEATAÍ SCOILE:** In the interest of safety, the pedestrian school gates will closed but not locked during break times. Should you need to use the gates during these times, please ensure that you close them after you.
6. **PÁIRCEÁIL:** Your co-operation regarding using the **unofficial one way system** is hugely appreciated. A reminder that residents' **driveways are never to be blocked**, even for a minute or two. Please avoid parking on **footpaths or on grassed areas** in our local housing area also. With such a large volume of children being dropped and collected each day, a little patience from all helps to ensure safety for everyone. Bus bays are **strictly for buses only** and are never to be used, even for a **'quick drop-off'**. This also applies during the school day as we regularly have buses collecting and dropping children for sporting and other activities. With 10 buses bringing children to the Gaelscoil, it is absolutely vital that this area is reserved exclusively for them. **Please inform child minders or others who may be dropping/collecting your child of this.** Parking a bit away from the school e.g. at Éire Óg and walking the short distance to the school, is an excellent way to help reduce traffic congestion at the school and an ideal way to get a little fresh air before the school day begins.
7. **LEABHAIR SCOILE:** As always, we are continuing with our book rental scheme, helping to keep the cost of book bills to a minimum and also helping the environment, as part of our **Scoil Ghlas/ Green School**. Most books have already been supplied to the children, with the remainder being made available during the year as required. New copies of books have been purchased again this year, replacing some which had become somewhat shabby from use. With such an enormous volume of books in the system for almost 500 children, it is possible that one or two no longer fit for use may have slipped through. If your child has received one of these, please feel free to return it and a better copy will be supplied. Please encourage your child to take good care of the books during the school year – the success of our Book Rental Scheme depends on the books being kept in good condition and fit to be passed on for another child's use. **Lost or damaged books are to be replaced.** **Buíochas mór** to all who have paid their book bills by now, and to those who continue to pay in instalments, as arranged. Co-operation by all ensures that we can continue with this very worthwhile system, helping to reduce the bills significantly, especially in the senior classes.
8. **GRUAIG:** To avoid unnecessary problems associated with headlice, we are asking that you **check and fine comb** your child's hair every Monday as part of the Obair Bhaile.
9. **LÓN:** A reminder of our **Healthy Lunch Policy** – drinks of milk, water or diluted juice and healthy options such as sandwiches, rolls, wraps, fruit or yogurt (provided that the child can manage independently). Lots of suggestions for school lunches can be found as an appendix to our Healthy Lunch Policy, available on our school website. Any items including chocolate and popcorn are to be avoided please. The children will bring home any uneaten lunch as well as wrappers in their **Bosca Lóin** – then you will know what exactly has been eaten. As we now have quite a number of children with nut allergies, we will continue with a **complete ban on nuts, foods with nut traces and nut-**

based products such as *peanut butter and Nutella*. Lip balms and other such items are also not permitted as many contain coconut oil. Some of our pupils have **Cystic Fibrosis** and can be at risk if exposed to many common illnesses. Please let us know if your child has contracted a virus such as flu so that these children can be protected as much as possible. Some pupils who suffer from asthma need access to inhalers while in school. Please ensure that these are kept in date, with a spare in the oifig if possible. Your co-operation in this matter is hugely appreciated – the health and wellbeing of all the children remains our priority.

10. **SNÁMH:** Children in Rang 2 (M. Nóirín) and Rang 4 (M. MaryRose) started swimming lessons on the 6th September and will continue for eight Mondays in total. This is heavily subsidised by the Parents' Voluntary Contribution, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn to swim while in school with us.
11. **FOIRMEACHA EOLAIS:** All contact numbers etc. need to be kept **up to date** for school records. This is especially vital if a child should be ill or have an accident. You can update your details via the Aladdin Connect App or contact Paula in the school office to do so. In the case where family circumstances may have changed, please let us know in confidence, as such situations can affect children hugely and we would like to help and support them where possible.
12. **SACRAIMINTÍ:** Recently the páistí in Ranganna 4 An M. Cian & An M. MaryRose and Ranganna 3 An M. Art & An M. Aoife received their Céad Chomaoineach Naofa. The children were fantastic on the day and their patience in waiting for their special day is to be admired and commended. ***Maith sibh a phaistí!*** A special word of thanks to the múinteoirí who helped to prepare the children so well, the whole parish team for facilitating the ceremonies and in particular to An tAthair Conn who made each of the four ceremonies so special for the children. ***Buíochas ó chroí.***
Comhneartú / Confirmation: A date has been agreed for the Confirmation of last year's Rang 6. This date is Saturday 20th November 2021 at 11am and will take place in The Holy Family Church in Askea. We look forward to welcoming back the now 1st year páistí for the celebration of their confirmation ceremony.
13. **CRUINNITHE TUISMITHEOIRÍ:** We are currently awaiting updated guidelines regarding Parent / Teacher meetings, which we hope to have before the end of November. These will include all classes, with the exception of Naíonáin Bheaga / Junior Infants, which will be held before the Spring midterm break.
14. **OÍCHE SHAMHNA:** Our tradition of dress up for Halloween will go ahead as always on Friday 22nd October 2021 – we look forward to seeing very creative outfits from staff and children alike! It's now time to get working on those costumes!
15. **SLÁN & FÁILTE:** As you all know An M. Emer, who has been teaching here with us in the Gaelscoil since 1997, retired on Friday last. The páistí gave her a fantastic farewell with a rousing rendition of Meanma na Gaelscoile! We wish M. Emer every happiness in this next phase of her life. Bain súp as a Emer! With An M. Emer's retirement, we also welcome our newest member of staff to the Gaelscoil. I know you will join me in wishing An M. Neasa a big Céad Míle Fáilte chuig foireann na Gaelscoile.

GLÓR CHEATHARLACH – Nuacht an Fhómhair / Autumn News 2021

NAÍONRA Áras na nÓg: Our Naíonra Áras na nÓg based in the Éire Óg complex offers 2 free years of ECCE Preschool 'as Gaeilge'. We have 33 children, 2 rooms and staff of 5. Full details and to book a place for the coming years contact Eliz 085 1668341 or arasnanog@gmail.com

IARSCOIL Áras na nÓg: Our Afterschool Service for Gaelscoil pupils at Áras na nÓg up to 6pm daily is at full capacity. We collect Naíonáin from the Gaelscoil at 1.30pm and the older pupils at 2.20 & 2.30pm. Details from Emma on 085 1340047 or arasnanog@gmail.com

'BRUSH UP YOUR IRISH' for adults: Carlow College & Glór Cheatharlach are delighted to announce that in-person Irish language evening classes for adults will be held in the College this autumn. Commencing in November and running for six weeks, classes from 6.30pm-8.30pm on one evening each week. The emphasis will be on conversation Irish and the course is suitable for participants who may not have used their *cúpla focal* for some time but who have some basic knowledge of the language from school. Course fee is €125 payable to Carlow College.

CAINT & COMHRÁ: Our informal Irish Conversation are still held via zoom with the next session on Thursday, 30th Sept at 8pm. Feel free to join the link <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71515222750?pwd=TnRvcnpJV05pNStXd3lMRFFFTREYvZz09> We hope to resume gathering in-person later in October.

GLÓR CHEATHARLACH: Details on Glór Cheatharlach events, courses and all things Irish in Carlow available from Bríde 087 2857048, Emma 085 1340047 or emma@glorcheatharlach.ie

"Glór ar KCLR" - an exciting Irish language project on **KCLR LIVE** and online from 11-22 Oct. Duaiseanna móra le buachaint! €1,000 in prizes! Some Gaelscoil families and businesses featuring. Bígí ag éisteacht!

Nuacht Áitiúil

Brownies / Guides in Carlow: Brownies is 7-10 year olds, they meet on Fridays in Green road, contact Zoey 0851596059. Guides is 10-14 year olds, they meet on Tuesdays in the Gairdin Beo, contact Róisín 0868700747

Slán go fóill,

Ruth Ní Chearbhalláin (Príomhoide)