

COGAR!

Friday 11th October 2019

School Starts At 9, Be On Time!

Mid-Term Break

School will close on Friday 25th of October at the usual times of 1.40 and 2.40pm

School will re-open Monday 4th of November at 9am. Bus drivers know about this.

Special visitors!

What a wonderful morning. Thank you to all the special visitors who arrived at school today. We had such a busy morning!

The purpose of today was simply to acknowledge all the grandparents, extended family members, friends, childminders etc. that play a big part in the lives of the children. It was a way of showing our appreciation of the support that these special people give the pupils in our school from school drop offs and collections to helping with homework!

As the saying goes 'it takes a village to raise a child' and this morning certainly proved that! Thank you to the wonderful volunteers from the parent staff association who provided the refreshments this morning.

Áine and the staff really appreciate all the support that we receive from the school community and we love having the craic with all the adults in the school community too!

Fun Friday

Fun Friday for next week is 'bring your favourite book'.

HSCL

School events:

Home School community Liaison (HSCL)

Happy Friday everyone!

Home visits:

These visits are continuing until I've had a chance to have a talk with all the new adults in our school! I'll be giving you a wee ring to arrange a time that suits you. Looking forward to meeting you all!☺

Thank you to everyone who came to visit us for Grandparents and Grandfriends day. It was lovely to see you all today. We hope you had a nice time, I know the children loved having their special visitors in school. A **massive thank you to the PSA** for serving the refreshments in the hall this morning your support is **always appreciated!** ☺

School Disco: We will have 2 school discos this year as our school is growing in numbers and we want to keep everyone safe.

Senior Disco: 2nd - 6th class only will be held in our school hall on **Thursday the 24th** of October from **6:00pm to 7:00pm.**

Juice/water will be provided for the children. Feel free to dress up in your favourite costume! **All children must be accompanied/supervised by an adult. If children do not have an adult with them, unfortunately we cannot let them in.**

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Junior Disco: Junior Infants - 1st class only will be held in the school hall on **Friday the 25th** of October from **1:00-1:40pm.** Juice/water will be provided for the children. Feel free to dress up in your favourite costume! All family members are welcome to join their children for the disco.

Family Friday: there will be **no Family Friday this month** as we have our school disco and the children will be getting their holidays on Friday 25th of October. The next Family Friday will be held on Friday 29th of November.

If you have any queries or questions you can contact me at hscl@letterkennyetns.ie
Lisa ☺

New Zebra Crossing

A new zebra crossing has been painted at the top of the drop off zone. We will be asking all children and adults to use this zebra crossing at drop off and pick up times. It will keep the children safer at these busy times and stop people from walking out in between buses. Please talk to your children at home about the new crossing and encourage them to use it.

School Building Update

The Department of Education have been working in the school over evenings and weekends since the beginning of term. Over the next couple of weeks we will see the removal of some of the green fencing around the school building. As the work is completed on each area of the school the fencing can be removed. We thank you all for your patience and understanding as these works takes place. A special thank you to the children and staff for working so hard to keep things running smoothly in school every day (especially when we all have to share the play space).

Board Of Management Elections

November will see the constitution of a new Board of Management at all schools across the country. Each Board lasts for a term of 4 years and plays such an important function in the running of the school.

The purpose of the Board of Management is to oversee the running of the school and to ensure that all decisions made are in line with the Educate Together ethos. They also confirm the appointment of staff members and ensure that

the teaching and learning in the school is of the highest standard.

There are 2 parent representatives on the Board of Management. There must be a male and female representative (with a child currently at the school) and they need to be elected by the parent body.

In the coming weeks Áine and the PSA will be holding a meeting to seek nominations for the role of parent rep. Anyone who is interested can either nominate themselves at this meeting or bring along another person who can nominate them. If there is more than 1 person nominated for each position a vote will be sent home to each parents in order to establish who will be elected.

If you would like to know more about the role or are interested in making a nomination please pop in to chat to Áine who can give you more information regarding the process and what is involved.

Green team:

Hi everyone,
Next week 14th -20th of October is Climate Action Week. We have arranged different activities each day to promote climate change, raise awareness and help work towards our Biodiversity Green Flag.

Movie Monday → The children will watch a movie/short clip related to climate change.

Tidy Up Tuesday → We as a school will make a conscious effort to tidy up our classrooms at the end of the day and pick up litter on the school grounds.

Walk on Wednesday → We are hoping as many of the school community will WOW, walk to school on Wednesday. Mr Price have been amazing in the past for allowing parents to park and walk their child/ren to school from there. Children need to be supervised by an adult on their walk to school.

Thermo Thursday → We are encouraging the children to check their thermometer in each room to remember '20 is plenty'. If their thermometer is under 20 we need to turn it up

the heating and if it is over we are wasting energy.

Flick the Switch Friday → We as a school will try to use as little electricity during the day.

We are also giving the children the option of making a board game under the following themes next week instead of their usual homework e.g. instead of Snakes and Ladders 'Hoses and Ladders' or 'Recycle Race'.

1) Recycling 2) Energy 3) Water
4) Biodiversity.

We would hope to play as many of these board games in class on 'Flick the Switch Friday'.

Teachers will share examples of these in class to give the children some inspiration.

Thank you,
Mairéad

Parent Staff Association

The next meeting of the Parent-Staff Association (PSA) will be on Friday the 25th of October from 9- 10am in Lisa's room. All parents/guardians of children in the school are members of the PSA and are very welcome to attend and we would love to see some new faces.

Mission Statement of the Parent-Staff Association

We the parents and guardians of children attending Letterkenny Educate Together National School are committed to upholding the equality-based ethos of the school. All parents or guardians are an integral part of the school community. The purpose of the Parent-Staff Association is to further build that community and as such, we are committed to a collaborative process of contributing. All parents and guardians are welcome at any stage of their child's education here. Through social, fundraising and educational activities we aim to reflect and respect the diverse membership of our school community.

'Anti-bullying Training for Parents/Guardians'



All parents/guardians are welcome.

**When: Tuesday the 22nd October
7pm – 9pm.**

Location: Lisa's room.

Kids homework passes will be given to all parents who attend & tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided.

Please note that the training has been developed specifically for a parent/guardian audience and is **not suitable** for children.

Trainer: Edel Mc Brearty from the NPC.

