

COGAR!

Friday 25th September 2020

Assembly

From next week Áine will be holding her weekly assembly via zoom. Each class teacher will be sent a link that will allow the classes to join. This link will be secure and will only be shared with class teachers.

We hope that this will allow our pupils to come together on a weekly basis and see each other. Each class will take turns at recording a short video clip of their learning from that week that can be played at the virtual assembly.

We'll let you know how our first virtual assembly goes next week!

Principal's Book

For those of you who are not familiar with this important book the Principal's book is kept in Áine's office. During the week, the teachers select children who have been working hard to follow our 'High 5' rules and children who have shown kindness, empathy and understanding to others.

Prior to this year, the children would have come to Áine's office to sign the special book, get a slip to take home and choose a prize. Their names are then read out at assembly where we can celebrate their achievements.

The Principal's book is an important way for Áine to connect with the children, spend some time with them and acknowledge their efforts in school.

This year, the book will be going on tour! Áine will bring the book to each classroom door and the children who have been selected will come

out individually to meet Áine and sign the book. We will then call out their names at the virtual assembly. This will allow us to continue with a tradition that is very important to Áine and the children while keeping everyone safe.

So if your child arrives home with a piece of paper that says 'I signed the Principal's book' you'll know why!

Enrolment

The procedures for enrolling children in primary schools has changed.

We are no longer allowed to operate continuous enrolment. Instead, we have to allocate a specific period of time where applications for enrolment can be made to the school.

Letterkenny Educate Together NS will be accepting enrolments for the school year 2021/2022 during the month of November. In October, a notice will be placed in the local paper and on our school website outlining the process and timeframes.

Our new Admissions Policy is available on our school website, www.letterkennyetns.ie and we would encourage everyone to read it.

Well Done:

Thank you for your continued cooperation at arrival and dismissal times. In light of the new restrictions imposed, we will be continuing with the same procedures for the coming weeks. The system is working well and is ensuring a calm, safe start to the school day.

We would also ask that parents continue to observe social distancing at pick up and drop off times. We understand that it is tempting to stay and chat with other parents in the mornings/evenings but we will politely be asking adults to drop & drive and discouraging any gatherings no matter how small.

Book Rental

Thank you to all families who have contacted us to arrange payment of book rental for the coming year. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the Book Rental scheme please contact Áine.

Coats

The children go outside every day at school. This is important for them to get some exercise, fresh air and a change of scenery from the classroom. Please make sure that your child has a warm coat in school each day and is dressed appropriately for outdoor learning.

Contact Details

If you have changed any of your contact details please let Edwina know ASAP. It is important that we are able to contact a parent/guardians in case of an emergency.

National Parents Council

Dr. Colman Noctor, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, in a series of four sessions, which will be held each Wednesday in October, will provide support for parents looking at the following:

- Let's talk about connecting with your child - 7th October
- Let's talk about helping anxious children - 14th October
- Let's talk about your child's online life - 21st October
- Let's talk about building your child's social savvy - 28th October

Each of the four sessions will last for 40 minutes beginning at **8pm** and they will be interactive giving parents an opportunity to ask questions.

All sessions will be online and FREE of charge.

You can register to attend one or all of these sessions by clicking this link

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lets_talk_a_series_of_conversations_with_Dr_Colman_Noctor
or

by calling 01-8874034.

Booking in advance is essential, as places are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis.

PS: Please circulate this email as it may be of interest to all parents of children up to the end of primary school, all are welcome to attend.

FYI

For the next while Cogar will only issue fortnightly.