



## Newsletter

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# September 2024

Welcome Back to School!



## WELCOME BACK!

After the lovely, long summer holidays everyone has settled back into school really well. The weather has been great and has made for a super start to the year. Here's to a great year ahead!

A reminder that school opens for all pupils at 8.20 a.m. Please note that children/parents should not be on the school grounds prior to 8.20 a.m.

School ends for Infants at 1.05 p.m. and 2.05 p.m. for all other classes.

All children need to be in school prior to 8.40 a.m. This is an important part of the school day when homework is checked, and the class prepares for the day ahead. It is embarrassing for children to arrive late when the school day has started as well as being disruptive to the class.

Children who are late need to be signed in at the office by parents. Children who are being collected early need to be collected from the reception and signed out.

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# School Information

## Cycling and Scooting

It is fantastic to see so many children being active and cycling or scooting to school - the bike rack is full every morning! A reminder to all children (and adults!) that cycling and scooting is not allowed in the school lane. We ask that all children walk scooters and bikes up and down the lane.



## Voluntary Donations

The link for voluntary donations is open on Aladdin. The Board of Management is very grateful to parents who help financially through the voluntary donation. Since the school is a registered charity we can also claim tax back from Revenue through the CHY scheme. School finances are under pressure as a result of rising costs and the Board of Management is hugely thankful to those of you who have already contributed.

## Enrolment

We are now accepting applications for enrolment into Junior Infants in September 2025. All applications must be received before 11th November 2024. Applications forms and further details are available in the enrolment section on the school website [www.rpns.ie](http://www.rpns.ie).



## Garda Vetting

We encourage parents to get involved in the life of the school in many ways. However, to do this, parents need to be Garda vetted. This is a very straightforward process and simply involves filling in a form. If you haven't been garda vetted through the school and would like to do so, please contact Nikki at [secretary@rpns.ie](mailto:secretary@rpns.ie).

## The Lunch Bag

A reminder that the Lunch Bag continues to offer lunches to children in school, which can be ordered through the Lunch Bag App. They are delivered fresh to school every day!





# In September...

## New Pupils!

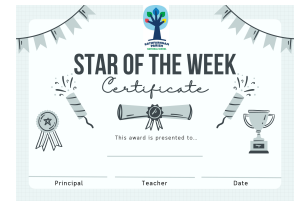
We welcomed 28 new Junior Infant pupils this month. Some already have siblings in the school and there are also many new families who are joining us. Please take the time to introduce yourself to new parents - a friendly face makes all the difference!

## Class meetings

Our class meetings were really well attended this September - thank you to those of you who were able to come and meet your child's new teacher.

## Star of the Week!

This year we are doing our "Star of the Week" a bit different. Each week, two students in each class are celebrated for the week. They receive special treats and recognition from their classmates, and the Star of the Week certificate in Friday's assembly at the end of the week. This has been a great success so far - make sure to check out the Wonder Wall in the hall with some samples of this week's 'Stars' work!



## After-School Activities

Our After-School Activities are now up and running. Infants are enjoying Active Sports and Lego Brickx, while some of the activities offered to older classes include hockey, chess, swimming, Active Sports, homework club, and our new STEAM Club pictured below!



## Cycle Safety

5th Class have been taking part in Cycle Safety this term and have really enjoyed the classes so far. In the coming weeks, 5th class will have the chance to learn all about road signs, cycling on the main road and much more.



# In October...

## Book Week and Sponsored Walk (30th Sept - 4th Oct)

We are really looking forward to Book Week and the Sponsored Walk this week! Our Sponsored Walk is on Tuesday, 1st, and we are asking all children to dress up as their favourite book character for our walk to Rathfarnham Castle. The Book Fair will run in the school hall from Wednesday, 2nd - Friday 4th. Thank you to Debbie Murphy for organising this.



## Maths Week (14th - 18th October)

Maths Week will run from 14th - 18th October, with maths puzzles, games and activities taking place throughout the school this week. Thank you to Deirdre Connolly for her hard work putting these together. **A reminder that school will be closed on Wednesday, 16th October** for a teacher training day about the new Primary Maths Curriculum. You can find out more about maths week and events in our area at [www.mathsweek.ie/2024](http://www.mathsweek.ie/2024)



## Say Yes to Languages!

After a hugely successful launch last year, we have again been accepted to run the "Say Yes to Languages" programme in school. Children in 3rd and 6th Class will learn Spanish as part of this programme, which will run from 30th September - 7th February. A big thank you to Tara Byrne who will again tutor the classes this term.



## PTA AGM (Tuesday, 15th October)

The PTA AGM takes place on Tuesday, 15th October at 7.15pm. The evening will include a talk from Cybersafe Kids, which is particularly relevant as our new Voluntary Smartphone Code is launched. It would be great to see a big crowd there!



## Halloween Costume Swap (Friday, 18th October)

Our Halloween Costume Swap will be in 4th class on Friday, 18th October. This is a great way to recycle old costumes and pick up something new for this Halloween. We will be accepting costumes to reception from Monday, 14th!

## Movie Night (Monday, 21st October)

Movie night is on Monday, 21st October here in school from 6-7.30pm. Children are invited to dress up and watch a movie with their classmates! Thank you to the PTA for organising this evening, and the school staff who help supervise the classes that evening.



## Flu Jab

We will be offering the flu jab to all children in October through Ballyboden Medical. Please keep an eye out for Nikki's message to confirm the date and for more information.

## Grandparents' Day (Friday, 25th October)

We're already planning for our Grandparents' Day which will take place on Friday 25th October. This is a hugely popular and joyous day and we love having the children's grandparents or older friends visiting the school. We will be asking some of the children to bake so that we can treat our guests to something lovely to have with their tea and coffee, and the children will show the visitors around. If your child's grandparent can't attend, please feel free to invite another older relative or friend instead.



## Other Dates for your Diary!

*Clothing Collection - 5th November*

*4th Class Trip to Newgrange - 11th November*

*Science Week - 11th - 15th November*

*Parent Teacher Meetings - 20th - 22nd November*

*PTA Quiz Night - 22nd November*

*Christmas Fair - 6th December*

*Junior and Senior Infant Play - 18th December*

*1st and 2nd Class Play - 18th December*

