

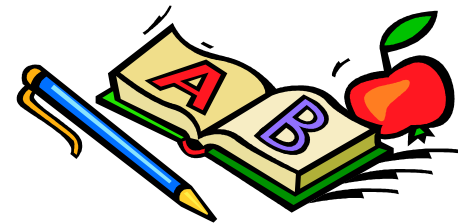


St. Mary's Junior Boys' N.S.

'Mol an Óige agus tiocfaidh sí '

Welcome Booklet

2020/2021



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Welcome

We hope your child will be very happy with us and we look forward to working with your child and helping him to achieve his full potential.

In September your child will reach an important milestone in his life - his first day in the Boys' School. You and your child may meet this day with excitement or apprehension (or a little of both). We hope this booklet will help you to become familiar with some of our school policies and help your child settle in as quickly as possible.

SCHOOL STAFF

Principal	:	John Gunnell
Deputy Principal	:	Bríd Walshe
Teachers	:	Deirdre Gavin Michelle McNulty Patricia Harte Kevin Prout Michelle Madden Ciara Harrington Orla Galvin Marc O'Meara Anna Bradshaw Nikki MacLoone Patrica Moloney Shay O'Dwyer
Special Needs Assistants	:	Noreen Coffey Margaret Cleary Jennifer Devlin Kathleen Madden Christine Cummins Jean Flynn

6. We are a Health Promoting School fostering
 - * Physical activity and exercise.
 - * Healthy eating and lunches. Give your child a healthy snack i.e. fruit or an extra sandwich instead of a chocolate bar.
 - * Anti Bullying Policy in place.

7. Birthday Invitations / Christmas cards.
Children are not allowed distribute party invitations or Christmas cards in school. In the past we have found that children can become very upset if they do not receive an invitation or Christmas card.

8. We have a very active Parents Council, which is very supportive of all the work done in the school. They have organised Easter Raffles, Street / Church collections and other fund raising activities for the school which in turn help to subsidise the costs of various activities e.g.: tennis, school tours. They also help with catering duties on Open Night / Junior Infant Night etc.

New members are always welcome !

We encourage you to join the Parents Council and as far as possible participate in their activities.

CURRICULUM

All subjects are taught very well in our school and have been adapted to fulfil the requirements of the revised curriculum. English, Irish, Maths are the core curriculum subjects in conjunction with Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE), Social Environmental and Scientific Education (Geography, History, Science), Visual Arts, (Art and Craft, Music and Drama) and Physical Education. Each classroom is equipped with a whiteboard which greatly enhances learning in the classroom environment.

Sports

We consider sports a very important aspect of our pupils' schooling. Hurling coaching is provided all year round for Senior Infants and First classes. The children also participate in a hurling blitz annually. Tennis coaching is available for all pupils during the month of May. Yoga, Dance and Gymnastics are also taught in our recently refurbished G.P. room.

The Astro Turf playground can be used all year round and is a great asset for the school.

Active Flag

Our school is very proud to have been awarded the Active Flag (June 2017). Some of the ongoing

HOMEWORK

Your child will have homework every day except Fridays. A homework routine should be established early in the school year.

1. Set aside a quiet regular time.
2. Homework time should include time for oral work as well as written work.

Encourage your child to keep books and copies clean and tidy.

3. When your child is working independently, be available to help and show an interest in what is being done.
4. If your child is having problems with homework or if he takes a long time, please discuss this with the teacher.
5. If for any reason, homework cannot be done, let the teacher know.

HOMEWORK SHEET

This should be checked and signed each night, when parents are satisfied that both learning and written work is completed to the best of the child's ability.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Chewing gum, any type of popcorn, crisps and glass bottles are not allowed in the school.
2. The wearing of jewellery including earrings is not permitted.
3. Accidents & Illness
If a child is injured or becomes ill in school, parents will be contacted by telephone. It is essential that the school has your home and work telephone numbers, as well as that of a responsible person chosen by you to act on your behalf in an emergency. If it is possible to make contact, we presume the parents' permission to have the injury treated by a doctor.
4. Labels
It can save trouble to put labels on **all** of your child's belongings e.g. lunch box, coat, school jumper.
5. Give your child the habit of checking his bag every morning to see they have pencils.
Children need to have pencils in class every day, as not having them causes the most disruption in the class.

SCHOOL ETHOS

We are a Catholic Primary School under the patronage of the Bishop of Killaloe.

We, as its staff, seek to give a Christian and comprehensive education to our pupils, with due regard to (a) to the beliefs and rights of other denominations and (b) to each child's uniqueness.

1. It is our aim to help each child to reach his/her full potential as an individual. To achieve this we feel that the promotion of mutual respect and self-discipline are vital to full character formation.
2. We aim to provide an orderly, caring, friendly environment which will enable the pupils in our care to accept the rules of the school in a spirit of goodwill and co-operation.
3. We recognise that ultimately parents are responsible for their children's behaviour and that they are partners in the education process.
4. We aim at all times to encourage constructive behaviour and to discourage unacceptable behaviour.

PARENT- TEACHER COMMUNICATION

The school welcomes parents but the days' work must not be interrupted unnecessarily. Each lesson is timetabled and any interruption is therefore a loss to your child.

Telephone calls cause least disruption if made prior to 9.30 a.m., at lunchtime from 11.00a.m. to 11.20a.m. or after 1.35 p.m.

For general information your child will be given a note.

It is important you check your child's bag regularly for notes.

If you do have any cause for concern please do not hesitate to contact the school. Please send the teacher a note and an appointment to meet can be arranged.

Please tell the class teacher about any problems your child may have.

*Illness e.g. asthma, diabetes etc.

*Physical e.g. speech, eye or hearing problems.

*Emotional e.g. accident, death, separation, new baby.

*Other e.g. kidney problems.

A Parent-Teacher meeting is held during the school year to discuss your child's progress, attitudes and

behaviour. It is important that your child sees you are interested in his progress at school.

School plans / policies may be viewed at the school on appointment with the principal.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

8.40 a.m. - School opens

8.55 a.m. - Classes commence

Infants

11.00a.m. - 11.20a.m. - Lunch Time

12.30p.m. - 12.40p.m. - Break

1st Class

11.00a.m. - 11.20a.m. - Lunch Time

1.35 p.m. - Home Time

Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his success. Please see that your child attends everyday except in cases of illness or emergency.

After 20 days absence, The National Education Welfare Board must be notified by The Board of Management. A note of explanation, signed and dated by parent or guardian, will be required for all absences.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Full school uniform is worn daily.

The school uniform consists of:

Grey trousers (preferably with elastic waistband)

Light grey shirt

Royal blue v-neck jumper

All the above can be purchased in Dunnes Stores, Tesco or Jim McLoughney's Kenyon St., Nenagh.

Tie - This must be purchased in the school. Cost €3

Tracksuit - this can be purchased in Sportsman's Dream, Kenyon St.,

Yellow Polo Shirt - (worn inside the tracksuit) can be purchased in Dunnes Stores.

Note Children wear track suits on their P.E. day.

activities include Go Noodle, Tug of War, Crab Soccer and Orienteering. This flag was raised in May 2018.

Music

Our school promotes music, singing, drama and percussion. As well as getting the opportunity to perform in class productions your child will also be involved in at least one whole school production during his time at school with us.

The purchase of the new portable stage in the G.P. room has afforded the children the opportunity to perform to their optimum.

Every Christmas the school links with the wider community when both First classes perform a Nativity Mass in the local Nursing homes and in the Parish Church. This is always our Christmas highlight and a beautiful experience for all.

Green Schools

The Green Schools programme brings the learning outside the walls of the classroom and the school garden is a great opportunity for active first hand experience learning. We were awarded our First Green Flag in May 2011 and our Second Green Flag in 2013. We were successful in achieving our Third Green Flag for water in March 2017. We raised this flag in May 2018.

