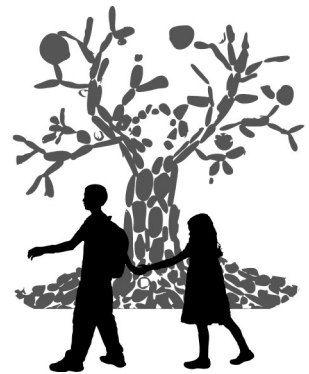


Gorey Educate Together National School

Scoil Náisiúnta Foghlaim le Chéile, Guaire



Principal's Newsletter

7th October 2014

Tel: 053 94 89662

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Tuesday 7th October: Sewing classes for parents continue, 9.00-10.00am.

Tuesday 7th October: Chess Club continues, 2.30-3.30pm every Tuesday. For pupils in 2nd-6th classes.

Tuesday 7th October: Open Night at **Gorey Community School**, 7.00-9.00pm. Children in 5th and 6th classes, accompanied by their parents or guardians, are especially welcome.

Thursday 9th October: After-school science sessions continue — '**Junior Einsteins.**' For 8 Thursdays. This week please collect the children from Louise's junior infant classroom.

Friday 10th October, 1pm-1.25pm: Parents and Guardians of the new **Junior Infants** are invited to attend a short information meeting with Louise and Deirdre (daily routine in the infant classroom, lunches, clothing & footwear, homework.) *The Junior Infants will be supervised by other staff during this meeting.*

Tuesday 14th October: Trip for Junior Infants to **Courtown Woods.**

Wednesday 22nd October: '**Breakfast Together**' event. Details to follow.

Friday 24th October: **Mid-term break** begins. Classes finish at the usual times, 1.30 and 2.30pm.

Friday 24th October: School disco. See below.

Monday 3rd November: School reopens to pupils.



Friday 24th October: The children on our School Council invite you to attend our School Disco. Optional dress-up theme: to be confirmed, (the children will vote this week.)

Times: Infants & 1st class: 6pm-7.30pm; older classes 7.30pm-9pm. (Families with siblings: come at the time that will work best for you, but get older children to sit out for the younger section and vice versa.)

Entry: €2 per child; pre-schoolers free; maximum family charge €5. Also, tuck shop open on the night.

Please note that this event is for current Gorey Educate Together families only - we wouldn't have room for cousins, neighbours, past pupils, etc.

For safety: no long, dangling jewellery; no toy 'weapons' - guns, swords, lasers, pitch-forks, etc.

As usual, many parents will stay with their children. However, we also need specific parents to join a rota of hall & door supervisors and shopkeepers.

Parent Supervisors & Shopkeepers needed: please return this slip to the school office.

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Preferred time (please circle)

6-7pm

7-8pm

8-9pm



Junior Assembly: 'An Tonnapa Mór'

The PTA AGM will take place at the school on Tuesday 14th October at 7.30pm. All parents/guardians and staff are invited to attend. The AGM involves a review of our year's activities and the presentation of our financial report. There are also a number of vacancies on the PTA committee - if anyone is interested in getting more involved, please come along to the AGM or contact me on 086 822 5785.

The Parents' Association in Gaelscoil Moshiolog are hosting a talk entitled "**Anti-Bullying Training for Parents in Primary Schools**". The talk is being delivered by the National Parents' Council www.npc.ie. It will take place on Tuesday, 21st October at 8p.m. in Gaelscoil Moshiolog. All parents/guardians are invited to attend. An outline of the talk is available on the PTA notice board near the infant classrooms.

Siobhan Smyth, Chairperson, PTA

Board of Management news: There is currently one vacancy on the school's Board of Management. **Nominations and election will take place immediately after the Parent Teacher Association's AGM (see above), i.e. at 8pm on Tuesday 14th October at the school.** All parents & guardians are invited to attend.

Given the current vacancy, and as per the *Constitution of Boards and Rules of Procedure* (2011), to ensure the widest possible representation, if practicable, the person elected should be the mother of a child/children enrolled in the school. Term of the current Board runs to November 2015. Meetings generally take place once a month.

Sarah Anderson, Patron's Representative, Board of Management

Healthy Lunches

The children need balanced, healthy lunches each day. (Look out for the overall sugar and fat levels!) They need to be able to open, close and/or peel the lunch by themselves. (Please choose suitable containers and practise at home.) They need to provide their own spoons.

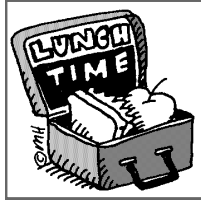
The children are asked not to share their lunches, and to take uneaten lunch home with them (so that parents are kept informed of their child's eating.) They also take all food packaging home with them each day.

Chewing gum, sticky sweets, fizzy drinks, high-sugar drinks, chips and crisps are not allowed.

(If you need to agree a treat with your child, please choose one of the following: scone, plain bun/cake (no icing,) brack, plain biscuits, one small bar.)

The children need to be able to talk about their food allergies. Nuts are not allowed in the infant classes.

Ref: School Guide for Parents & Guardians



Music Committee News: 'Sing Out Loud.' 4th, 5th and 6th classes are all practising hard for the Sing Out Loud concert on November 21st. To avail of cheaper priced tickets, and to guarantee a seat, booking forms must be returned to the school office by **Wednesday, October 15th**. If parents of pupils in these classes have not received a booking form or the information about the concert, please contact the office and we will forward the information to you. The concert is an evening event. Participating students will be bussed to the Opera House after school. Students can either come back on school bus or with their parents. Although the suggested dress code is jeans and a plain t-shirt (not black), any darker coloured trousers and a plain t-shirt will suffice. Further details to follow. Remember, there is no pressure for parents to attend the event. There will be further opportunities for you to hear your children perform this music at other events during the school year. Thanks

Ros Leonard

The music committee will meet in PTA room on Friday 10th October at 1.30pm. The committee welcomes anybody who would like to be involved in the development of the music within the school. Please either join us at the meeting or contact Ros Leonard 087 6854242. Thanks.

School Afternoons



Parking spaces for disabled drivers & passengers: please keep well clear of these spaces. Don't block access.

13.30: The teachers escort our infant classes to the front of the building, for handover to parents. (On wet days junior & senior infants can be collected at their classroom door.)

14.15: The area along the front of the building is reserved for School Buses. Don't block access - buses need plenty of space when turning.

14.30: Staff escort the children to the front of the building. Waiting parents are asked not to block exits or footpaths. Drivers using the grounds of the Gaelscoil: remember that classes there are in session until 3pm. (Move along very promptly, before traffic for that school beings to arrive.)

**08.30 - 09.00
Set down
only**

**14.15 - 14.45
School buses
only**



Safety First

**Drive slowly.
Mind that child!**

**Pedestrians: use the footpaths and crossings.
Remember the Safe Cross Code!**

Head Lice: please see the attached information from the Public Health Nurse.

ePayments

The school is now rolling out an *ePayments* system. This will give parents/guardians the option of paying for school books, trips, after-school supervision, etc. through their PC, smartphone or tablet using a debit/credit card.

When money is due for a trip, etc. participating parents would receive an email from the school containing a **payment access link**.

'Click the link to make the payment to the school - and an electronic reference number and receipt will be generated.'

The system will be managed by the 'Aladdin Schools' software service. Gorey Educate Together NS has used many other aspects of 'Aladdin' over the past two years and we have found it to be a secure and reliable resource. See www.aladdin.ie

We will continue to accept cash and cheque payments at the school office. (Card payments will not be possible at the office (or over the telephone,) i.e. we won't have a card reader.)

Return this slip to the school, or email the details to epayments@goreyeducatetogether.ie

I would like to have the option of paying for school books, trips, etc. online.

Your name: _____

The email address to which the ePayments link should be sent (**please print clearly**)

Child/children's names and classes: _____

