

Gorey Educate Together National School

Scoil Náisiúnta Foghlaim le Chéile, Guaire

Principal's Newsletter 27th January 2015 Tel: 053 94 89662

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Monday 26th January: The opportunity to participate in our lunchtime Multi-Sports League moves to pupils in 3rd class.

Tuesday 27th January: Vikings workshop for 3rd and 4th classes. ('Heritage in Schools' scheme.)

Tuesday 27th January: After-school Kung Fu begins.

Wednesday 28th January: Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) seminar for GETNS staff. **Classes finish at 12.15 (infants) and 12.30 (1st-6th.)** No after-school supervision session.

Friday 30th January: Table Quiz by Gorey Credit Union. The school will enter two teams in this competition.

Friday 6th February: Parent Coffee morning, 9am. 'The first calendar Friday of every month.' All parents/guardians are welcome. No charge.

PTA: The school's **Community Noticeboards** are available for anyone who may wish to promote their business or obtain sponsorship for charitable causes. Parents are kindly asked not to canvass at school based events.

The **Stay Safe** child abuse prevention programme will be taught this term. (This programme forms part of the school's Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum — the Stay Safe programme is taught every second school year.) See www.staysafe.ie for more information.

Department of Education's '**Primary Online Database**' (POD.) Please see information note on www.education.ie

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



10th Anniversary Expo

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th February. 'Our School — Gorey Educate Together NS 2005-2015' - a showcase of class projects and artwork in our PE hall. Some videos and singing too!

This event will be held during the school day and will include times for parents, grandparents, past pupils and other guests to visit. Guests of honour include Paul Rowe, Chief Executive, Educate Together National Office. Details to follow...

Parent volunteers will be needed on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th to help display the work. (Names will be gathered closer to the date.) In the meantime, volunteers are also needed in some classrooms to help with project work. Please check with your child's teacher or your Parent Class Rep.

The following week there will be a celebratory fun and friendship day for current pupils and staff: activities and entertainment throughout the day!

10th Anniversary Fun & Friendship Day

Hello Parents/Guardians,

We are the Green Schools Committee. This year we hope to get our third Green Flag for saving water. We are working on lots of different projects and ways of saving water. Check out our two notice boards by the Senior Infants' classrooms and some of our other posters around the school. We think that you could also save water at home.

Here are some of our water saving tips for home:

Instead of letting the tap run when waiting for cold water, fill a jug of water and keep it in the fridge. Use a basin to rinse/clean your fruit and vegetables. And you can use the leftover water to give your potted plants a drink.

Always use a bucket and sponge to clean windows or wash your car instead of a hose.

Fix any dripping taps, cisterns or pipes.

A washing machine on full cycle uses up to 65 litres of water and dishwashers use 20 litres. Only use your appliances when they are full. You'll save water and reduce your energy bill.

Turning the tap off when brushing your teeth can save over 7,000 litres of water per year.

Shorten the time you spend in the shower. A regular shower will use about 35 litres of water in 5 mins. But beware a power shower will use over 125 litres in the same time.

Fill the kettle with enough water for what you need. You will save energy too!

Have fun saving water at home,

The Green Schools Committee.



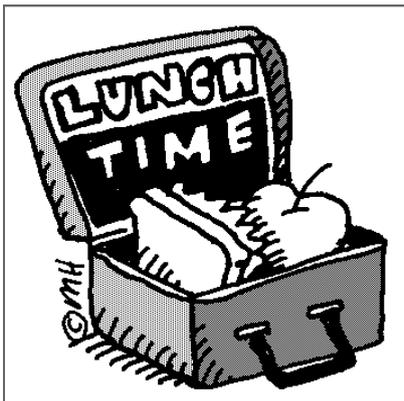
Healthy Lunches

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.

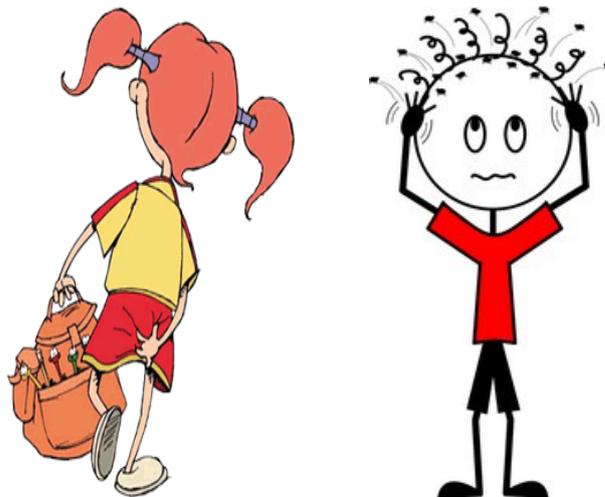
The children are asked not to share their lunches, and to take uneaten lunch home with them (so that parents are kept informed of their child's eating.) They also take all food packaging home with them each day.

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.



Head Lice and Threadworms are relatively common amongst young children. Parents are asked to help minimise the spread - please make **regular checks** and seek advice from your chemist, GP or other healthcare practitioner. Encourage hand washing.



Safety First

Drive slowly.

Mind that child!

Pedestrians: use the footpaths and crossings.

Remember the Safe Cross Code!