

# Gorey Educate Together National School

*Scoil Náisiúnta Foghlaim le Chéile, Guaire*



Principal's Newsletter

9th February 2016

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**February, for 5 days:** 'Heritage in Schools' workshop for every class. Presenter: Eric Dempsey of *Birds Ireland*.

**Wednesday 10th February: Staff training. Classes finish at 12.15 (infants) and 12.30 (1st-6th.)**

No after-school supervision session. School buses depart at 12.30 - infants using buses and infants with older siblings will be supervised until 12.30.

**Monday 15th February, 1pm:** Workshop for Parents of children with substantial special needs. *'This will be a 'make and do' workshop during which the teachers of our Special Classes will demonstrate how we make our visual resources and, more importantly, how we use them in school. There will also be an opportunity for parents to make their own resources to bring home. Following the workshop, there will be an opportunity for tea/coffee and a chat with other parents and staff. If you are interested in attending this workshop, please contact the school office.'* - Mairéad Jordan, Assistant Principal

**Thursday 18th and Friday 19th February:** Mid-Term Break. No classes. (Classes finish at normal times, 1.30 and 2.30pm on Wednesday 17th.)

**Monday 22nd February:** Optional after-school swimming for 4 Mondays.

**February 25th and 29th:** Percussion workshop for every class, (African drumming.)

**February 29th—March 2nd:** Optional school photos. Details to follow...

**Friday 4th March:** School Disco.

**Board of Management news:** The school's financial accounts are certified annually by Eugene T. Doyle Accountants, Enniscorthy. An inspection copy of the most recent accounts can now be found on the Community Noticeboard by the Junior Infant classrooms.

**Friday 4th March:** The children on our School Council invite you to attend our School Disco. Optional dress-up theme: to be confirmed, (the older children will vote later this month.)

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 or text Siobhán Smyth (Parent Volunteer) 086 8225785. (Event can only go ahead if we have enough volunteers.)

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred time (please circle)

6-7pm

7-8pm

8-9pm



## Optional swimming lessons from February 22nd for 4 Mondays, open to all classes

Swimming bus departs school: 2.25pm. A teacher will accompany the children. Lesson: 3pm-3.45pm. Bus departs Forest Park Leisure Centre, Courtown: 4pm. Arrive back at school: 4.15pm. **The children who need help with dressing/undressing must be met at the pool by a parent or guardian.**

Bookings: first-come-first-served for both the **main pool** and the **learner pool**. Pay-in-advance only. No refunds for illness, change of mind, etc. (The school still needs to pay the full cost of pool hire/bus/swimming instructors.)

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one:

Main pool

Learner pool

Parent/guardian signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_



In an emergency, I give consent to the school to authorise treatment for my child, as recommended by medical personnel. I enclose €30 (bus and entrance for the 4 Mondays.) **Book and pay by Tuesday February 16th.**

**Remember to take swimwear, towel and swimming hat!** No shopping for food or drink at the pool. Pack some extra lunch, if desired.

Junior and Senior Infant swimmers can also avail of the 1.30-2.30pm supervised activity session at the school ('after-school club,') subject to availability of places. Cost: €14 for 4 Mondays. Book and pay in advance only.



**Safety First!** The children should always wear **sturdy, non-slip footwear** to school. Footwear should be suitable for the full range of daily school activities (playground games, PE, etc.)

**Be careful!**

Once it's said,  
the web is fed.

Say **NO** to cyberbullying.

**Parents:**  
*please continue to supervise your child's mobile phone and internet usage.*



**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 GP, chemist or other healthcare practitioner. Encourage hand washing.



### Healthy Lunches

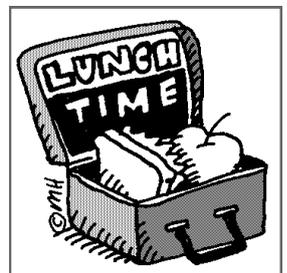
The children need balanced, healthy lunches each day. (Look out for the overall sugar and fat levels!) They need to be able to open, close and/or peel the lunch by themselves. (Please choose suitable containers and practise at home.) They need to provide their own spoons.

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 (and *Nutella*) are not allowed in the infant classes.

*Ref: School Guide for Parents & Guardians*



*Photos: Whole-school assembly, (Chinese New Year.) Our Green Schools Committee (along with a rep. from Wexford County Council) recently undertook a 'Walkability Audit' on the roads near the school. Report to follow...*

*More photos on school website.*