



Newsletter

18.09.2020

We have now finished our third full week back at school and although some things are different the children have been really busy in their classrooms and around the school.

Junior Infants have been busy making new friends while enjoying their playtimes and this week they started to play on the school playground!

Senior Infants have been doing some lovely sponge painting and had a lovely walk around our walking path at the back of the school.

First Class have been working really hard with their adding in maths and are really enjoying their playtimes in the afternoon.

Second Class have been learning all about mini-beasts and they will be going on a mini-beast hunt next week.

Third Class are producing beautiful self-portraits in art based on the style of the Mexican artist Freda Kahlo.

Fourth Class are using lots of creativity while they write their acrostic poems.

Fifth Class are learning all about archaeology and how archaeologists excavate sites.

Sixth Class are learning all about Europe and European capital cities. They are using the tablets to research and display what they have learned.

Rainbow Rooms are busy talking about their families, learning about the lifecycle of the owl and the story of the three little pigs.

New Procedures

Again, thank you to all the staff, parents and children for making such an effort with our new procedures. Just a reminder that at drop off and collection times, children remain in cars and get out onto the footpath near to the main entrance. If we stop to let children out onto the footpath next to the car park we run the risk of cars backing up towards the gate.

Also, can we ask parents collecting children from Junior Infants and Senior Infants at 1.40pm to stay in their cars in order to keep the traffic moving. Once you are at the footpath near to the main entrance you can help your child into the car.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Supervision

With the new drop off procedures some children start at 8.40am. Staff will not be available before this time to supervise children.

Treat Day

Next Friday (25th September) should be our first Tuck Shop of the year. Unfortunately, with the new situation we all find ourselves in we are unable to run the Tuck Shop at the moment. We will keep this under review and will hopefully be able to begin our Tuck Shops soon. For now, the last Friday of the month will be a Treat Day. On Friday 25th September the children can bring in a small treat in their lunch boxes to enjoy.

Attendance at school

Please see below for the most recent information from the HSE (updated 17th September).

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND PHONE YOUR GP

Children who are close contacts of someone who has coronavirus

If your child has symptoms, follow the advice above - isolate your child, phone your GP, and restrict your movements.

If your child has no symptoms but has been in close contact with someone who has coronavirus, they should:

- *restrict their movements for 14 days - this includes not going to school*
- *get tested for coronavirus - your GP can arrange this*

They should do this even if they feel well. Household members, such as siblings, do not need to restrict their movements as long as the child has no symptoms.

Children who have no symptoms but have had close contact with a case will have 2 tests for coronavirus. This is because it can take up to 14 days for the virus to show up in your system after you have been exposed to it.

The second test will be 7 days after their last contact with the person who has coronavirus. If this is close to when they had their first test, they will only have 1 test.

WHEN IT'S OKAY TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL OR CHILDCARE

As long as your child has not been in close contact with someone who has the virus, it's usually okay to send them to school or childcare if they:

- *only have nasal symptoms, such as a runny nose or a sneeze*
- *do not have a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more (as long as their temperature has not been lowered by taking any form of paracetamol or ibuprofen)*
- *do not have a new cough*
- *do not live with anyone who is unwell and may have coronavirus*
- *have been told by a GP that their illness is caused by something else, that is not coronavirus. Your GP will tell you when they can return to school or childcare.*
- *have got a negative ('not detected') coronavirus test result and have not had symptoms for 48 hours*
- *have not had diarrhoea for 48 hours*

Children who are close contacts of someone who has coronavirus should follow the advice to restrict their movements.

Your child does not need a GP medical certification or a note from a GP to return to school. But their school may ask you to sign a form to say that your child is well enough to attend. This is called a Return To Educational Facility Parental Declaration Form (PDF, 1 page, 95KB).

Runny nose or sneezing

You do not need to restrict your child's movements if the only symptoms they have are:

- *a runny nose*
- *sneezing*

They can continue to go to school or childcare if these are the only symptoms they have.

If your child also has a high temperature (38 degrees Celsius or over) or has any other common symptoms of coronavirus - isolate your child, phone your GP and restrict your movements.

Most of the time, you do not need to phone your GP if a runny nose or sneezing are your child's only symptoms. Talk to your pharmacist instead.

A runny nose or sneezing on their own are more likely to be symptoms of a cold or other viral infection.