

A thuismitheoirí,

Welcome back to the 2019-20 school year! We invite you to join us in support of your child's educational experience. The start of the new school year is an exciting time for students, parents and teachers alike. It is an opportunity to start afresh, to renew old acquaintances and make new friends, to celebrate past learning and acquire new skills. In order to provide your 3rd class child with an excellent climate which (s)he deserves the class and we will be working to establish a positive class environment. We will respect the rights of others to learn as we conduct ourselves in school. Our personal philosophy of education values a system encompassing respect, responsibility, co-operation, honesty, fairness and friendship.

The curriculum for your child is broad and balanced and follows the Revised National Curriculum. Pupils also receive a planned programme of personal and social awareness (S.P.H.E), including, health, moral, religious and sex education. Sport, drama and music are also well catered for.

School Policies:

September is a good month to reread the policies in our School Journal and on the school website: www.scoiloilibheir.ie . These include a Healthy Lunch Policy, Homework policy, Uniform policy and the School Rules.

Birthday invitations are not to be handed out in school.

Tests/Assessment:

The use of tests (based on the curriculum) will help each child develop to his or her potential and help you the parents understand and track the progress of your child.

Homework

Parents will be encouraged at all times to play an active part in their children's homework. Please ensure your child has an area with sufficient space and which is free of distractions in which to do their homework. Time spent on homework will vary from day to day but it should not take more than 40 minutes. Please check to make sure they have completed their homework and sign their homework journals nightly. In general, it shall not be policy to give work at weekends.

Lunch

We would advise that you give your child a reasonably substantial lunch for their break. As you may be aware, there is a healthy eating policy in the school and each child needs a good lunch to maintain concentration and energy throughout the day.

Tracksuit day:

Tracksuit day is Thursday for Term 1.

Please ensure your child is wearing their tracksuit and suitable footwear that day. Also please label your child's uniform.

Punctuality

Once young people establish habits it is very difficult to change these habits. Good school attendance and good punctuality are, in essence, good habits - and it is important that these habits be established and maintained throughout the year.

Absences

If your child is absent for whatever reason please fill out the note in the back of their journal when they return to school.

Procedure for collection of pupils:

If you are collecting your child during school time please inform Mrs. Quarry at the **office and ensure that you sign them out.**

Website

<https://www.ncca.ie/> This is a very useful website that has a "Resources for parents" section. There is a section dedicated to 3rd and 4th Class and it gives valuable advice on how to help your child at home.

Lastly we want you to know that we would like to see an academically strong and enjoyable year for all students. We consider it of utmost importance that you are an active part in your child's education as nobody knows and understands your child as well as you. Please feel free to set up an appointment to talk; this can be done in two ways. You may choose to send a note via the Homework journal or call our secretary Mrs. Quarry will arrange an appointment. Parental support and involvement are important factors in your child's success.

Remember we are a team when it comes to helping your child reach their fullest potential. Tugamid Buíochas leat roimh ré as do chabhair.