



### **Family Note 3 (9<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

Dear parents & guardians, below are some items for your attention;

<b><i>Dates for your diaries!</i></b>	
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	<b><i>USED CLOTHES COLLECTION Fundraiser</i></b> Please support this collection as a fundraiser for our school. All used clothing, footwear & bed linen can be bagged and left at school prior to 9:30am. (No duvets or cushions please).
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	<b><i>October Midterm Break</i></b> All pupils return to school on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November.

1. ***Support Teaching:*** Our Support Teaching timetable is up and running after much planning and organisation in early September. We look forward to holding our support meetings with parents before the October Midterm Break. Support teaching in schools can take on many different forms whereby pupils' needs are supported through a variety of approaches and methodologies e.g. Team Teaching, group work and one to one teaching. Throughout the school year, all pupils may be involved in such approaches thus promoting inclusion and integration of all pupils and the diverse needs and abilities in our school.
2. ***Aladdin Connect:*** Thank you for communications via the Aladdin App. This system is working well for home/school communication. Should you wish to contact a Support Teacher that works with your child, this facility has now been activated on the app. If you have a concern or feel you need to inform the class teacher of a more detailed issue please contact the school office to arrange a call-back or meeting with the teacher.

A reminder that all absences should be recorded on the app and an explanation regarding that absence be included on every occasion. Schools are required to submit Student Absence Reports twice each year on those students with serious attendance issues that have been identified during the current academic year i.e. students that have been absent from school for a cumulative total of twenty days or more falling within the following categories:

- Illness
- Urgent Family Reason
- Holiday
- Suspended
- Other
- Unexplained



Thank you for your cooperation with this.



3. **Halloween Dress Up:** All pupils are welcome to don their finest fiendish costumes on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October when we will have our annual ‘costume-catwalk’ and celebrate Halloween in our school! Please avoid sending any costume props/ accessories e.g. swords, broomsticks etc. if possible.
4. **Guide Dogs for the Blind:** We look forward to welcoming ‘Marcel’ who is a guide dog with the Tralee branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind to our school in early November. He was awarded ‘Guide Dog of the Year’ for his therapy work. We plan to support this worthwhile cause by donating €2 to Guide Dogs Ireland on the day of our Halloween Dress Up (27<sup>th</sup> October).

***Updates on some extra activities that are going on in our school:***

- ✓ **Football:** Well done to our school football team who competed in the Cumann na mBunscol East Kerry 3-teacher competition recently. All pupils displayed wonderful skill and dedication on the field, narrowly missing out on the win to Knockaderry NS on the day.
- ✓ **GAA Skills development:** continues every second Monday for all classes with Mr Cooper.
- ✓ **ISL:** We continue to learn ISL throughout the school each week – please keep an eye out for homework throughout the year so we can continue to develop this language in our school. Our **ISL Classes for Adults** continue each Thursday in October for anyone who may be interested.
- ✓ **Yard Buddies:** Pupils from our Senior Class room take on the role of Yard Buddies with our Junior Pupils at lunchtime. This involves organising simple yard games, playing with yard equipment and encouraging pupil involvement and participation amongst the younger classes.
- ✓ **Chess** continues weekly in the Senior Classroom with Mr O Connor. We are registered to participate in the Ficheall Chess Inter Schools Competition again this year which will take place later this term. We look forward to training each week for this.
- ✓ **Music with Henry:** lessons commenced this week and continue each Monday for this term. Well done to all pupils for their participation. Please remember your instrument and music copies each week. (Music copies from last year can be kept for this year if still available).
- ✓ **Library visits:** Pupils from 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Class will travel to Killarney Library for ‘*Let’s Go on an Adventure*’ with Gerry Daly, as part of Children’s Book Festival on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> October next. (Please see Aladdin from Ms O Connor with details). A group of pupils from the Senior Classes will attend ‘*Twin Power*’ with Emma Larkin on Friday next also.
- ✓ **Maths Week 2023:** takes place next week from Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to many activities throughout the week including a *Maths Week Workshop* for Infant Classes with Nutty Scientists Kerry on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>.



***Sssh! Can we mention Christmas!?!***

It’s our year to attend the PANTO! All pupils and staff will travel by bus to The Everyman Theatre in Cork on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December to enjoy the wonderful production of Beauty & The Beast. Details regarding ticket prices and cost of bussing will be finalised after midterm break. We cannot wait!! 😊

Kind regards,

Lucy O’ Sullivan,

Principal.