



SCOIL ÍOSAF NAOFA BALLINTEMPLE

Le Chéile Is Féidir



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September 2022 Newsletter

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to the school community after the summer break. The children have settled back into school life extremely well. A huge welcome to all of our new students who have started with us this year. We have a total 38 new students starting with us this year, including 28 new junior infants.

Welcome to our new staff members who have joined us this year. Mr. Ross Coleman is teaching 3rd class for the year and Ms. Katie Fitzgerald is a Special Needs Assistant in the senior school.

Admissions 2023/2024

The school's updated Admissions Policy is available to view on our school website. School admissions for junior infants for the 2023/2024 school opened on Monday, 3rd October and will remain open until Monday, 24th October. All of the information is available on the school website. We will be taking in one junior infant class of 30 children for the school year 2023/2024.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our after-school activities are up and running again this year. They are as follows:

- Homework Club for children in 1st to 6th class- Monday through Thursday.
- Football training for children in 4th to 6th class- Every Wednesday.
- Speech & Drama for children in junior infants to 6th class- Every Tuesday.
- Animation Camp for children in 2nd class to 6th class- Hallowe'en mid-term.



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The Sciath na Scol football competition for the boys and girls in 4th, 5th & 6th class is back up and running again. We are in a very tough group against Rathduff, Blarney, GS Peig Sayers and Brooklodge. No doubt the boys and girls will continue to do themselves and the school extremely proud in their efforts.

School Improvement Plan 2022/2023

Literacy

1. Fry List- Sight words and spellings from junior infants to 4th class
2. Spellings for Me Programme from 3rd to 6th class.
3. Continuing with our whole school approach to the teaching of writing genres.

Numeracy

4. Whole school approach to Problem Solving in Maths.
5. Continuing with our whole school approach to the teaching of addition and subtraction mental maths strategies.
6. Continuing with maths station teaching from 1st to 4th class.

Digital Learning Framework (DLF)

7. I-Book Creator (story book creating)
8. Lego Coding.

Curriculum Development

9. Gaeilge and S.E.S.E. (History, Geography & Science)



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Thank you to the Parents' Association for the purchasing of 24 new I-Pads for the school. This now means that we will have a full class set in each school campus. As you will see from our Digital Learning Framework school plan, the I-Pads will be used in each class to support the teaching of story book creating using I-Book Creator and Lego Coding.

New School Update

The six prospective project management teams submitted their proposals as part of the tendering process for the new school to the NDA over the summer period. The NDA have identified their preferred team and contracts are due to be signed within the next month. Once the contracts have been signed, the school will then be informed of the team that will work on the new school. Further information to follow after the signing of contracts.

Important Dates for Your Diary

Mid-Term- School will close @ 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 28th October 2022 and will re-open on Monday, 7th November @ 8.50 a.m.

Parents' Association AGM- Monday, 14th November @ 8p.m.

School Website and Twitter

Keep up-to-date with more regular news on our website at www.ballintemplens.com and our Twitter page @BallintempleS.



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Message from Parents' Association

This is the first newsletter from PA for academic year 2022/23 we would firstly like to welcome all the new children and parents to Ballintemple National School and hope everyone has enjoyed their first month. The parents' association committee is a voluntary committee made up of 14. There are two Co Chairs (Leigh McCarthy and Erica Mahony), a secretary (Una O Reagan) and a treasurer (Honor Moore). These are elected at the AGM each year. This year's AGM will take place Monday 14th November by zoom and all parents are welcome. Mr. McCarthy will send out zoom invite by email closer to the time. Any parent that has ideas or would like to get involved can contact us on the email below.

The role of the PA is to work very closely with staff to identify any additional needs the school may require and use the fund to try to fulfil these needs throughout the year.

This October the PA fund has financed the purchase of 24 new iPads for the school costing €10,000. These are used by children in all years to supplement their learning. We continue to fund buses for Sciath na Scoil matches and blitzes. We are hoping to organise a trip to the cinema for all children in the run up to Christmas with buses and a goody bag for all.

Your support as parents has been vital in accumulating these funds to make school life even more exciting for children. Sincere thank you to those families that have contributed and it's never too late to sign up for as little as €10 per month per family or a once off €120 annually. Every penny is used to enhance your children's experience at school. All details of PA Fund Bank account are available under parents' association tab on school website.



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Many thanks to the committee, school parent community, and staff for making the first few weeks back a happy and safe time for all.

Erica Mahony & Leigh McCarthy.

PA Co- Chairpersons.

Email : pa@ballintemplens.com