

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Newsletter September 2023



Welcome to all our returning families and to our new families who have joined us for this 2023/24 school year. We are looking forward to a wonderful academic year ahead, full of learning, fun and exciting activities for all of our pupils! Welcome to our many new staff members who have joined our staff this year. We hope that our monthly newsletters will keep you updated and informed of what is happening in our school each month. This newsletter also includes an update from your Parent's Association.

Best regards, Martine Doherty (Principal)

School Times

School Doors open @ 9:10am. The BOM will not be responsible for children on the premises before 9:10am. Doors will be closed at 9:30am. If your child arrives after 9:30am please escort them to entry door and ring buzzer to be admitted. Junior and Senior classes finish at 1:50pm each day. All other classes are dismissed at 2:50pm sharp. Children should leave their respective buildings ASAP and go to their designated collection points.

School Absences

In accordance with the School Welfare Act '98 schools are obliged to inform the relevant authorities of absences of 20 days or more.

Parent/Guardians will be alerted via email if their child has missed 15 days or more.

All absences should be notified to the class teacher in writing, stating the reason for absence. (Please fill in Absence Slip)

If parents are taking their child from school during break/lunchtime, please inform class teacher or school secretary.

Parents are asked not to take their child/children from school early except it is absolutely necessary.

Friendship Week

Our school celebrates Friendship Week in September (26th – 29th) with a week full of wonderful strategies to promote friendship and positive mental health. All the initiatives we introduce in relation to friendship help to build confidence and self-esteem in young children. Children who are included and respected are happy children, and the skills they learn around friendship and inclusion stay with them as they grow up through the school. Positive mental health initiatives will continue to be a big priority at Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala.

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Jersey Day



On Friday, September 29th all students and staff are asked to wear a Jersey of their choice, you can wear a jersey from any sport (a variety of sports and colours wanted). We would be very grateful if each child/teacher could donate €2 euro, or €4 for a family. All monies raised will support our school's academic and extra-curricular activities.

School Mass

Mass for the beginning of the school year will take place on the 22nd of September at 11.45am celebrated by Fr. Gillespie. All parents, grandparents, guardians and other family members are invited to attend. Refreshments after the mass for Parents/ Guardians/ family in the Parish Centre.

Book Fair

The annual Book Fair will take place in our school on the 17th October at 7pm in the Nuala Building Hall. We encourage you to come along and support this event. All books sold results in books for our school library. Looking forward to welcoming you on the evening.

School Photographer

We will have the photographer here to take annual school photos for all pupils/ families on Wednesday 27th September. Please ensure full school uniform for this day.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Our annual Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Thursday 23rd November 2023. More details closer to the time.

School Visit AVS/ / Open Night AVS

Visit to our 6th Class pupils on Thursday 5th October at 11.15am

Open Night is on 26th October

Maths Week

13-21 October, Maths, maths and more maths.....

Using the Pedestrian Crossing

The Pedestrian Crossings are an area of concern for our pupils. We are asking parents to escort younger children across the crossing and to remind older children to be very careful and not to cross until the green light appears for crossing and also that the traffic has stopped. Please cross on the designated area between the lines.



Safe Routes to School

School management has arranged a meeting with authorities to discuss what improvements can be made. We look forward to communicating the 'Safe Routes to School Plan' as soon as it becomes available to us. We will continue to work hard on this matter in the time ahead.

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Inter-Schools Gaelic Football League

The league is due to start shortly. The school will organise for pupils to take part and will inform the relevant children's parents/guardians of the arrangements in place, for training etc.

Dogs (Pets)

In the interest of health and safety parents / guardians are asked not to take dogs (pets) leashed or unleashed inside the school gates.

Cross Country Athletics

Will take place on the 21st September.

Parent's Association Message

Your Parents Association began the school year with a coffee morning for the parents of new junior infants. This is a welcome cuppa on what can be a stressful morning!

On Sunday, September 17 we hope to see as many parents and children as possible for our fun walk. This will be a chance for parents to catch up after the summer recess and for kids to enjoy some fresh Autumn air. Meeting at the Parish Centre at 12.30pm, subject to weather conditions.

On Tuesday, September 19 the Parents Association will hold its AGM. This is your association and needs your input to continue its important work. Let your voice be heard and make a real contribution to the life of the school. Everyone is welcome.

Principal's Message: As the newly appointed Principal of Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala, I would welcome your support and involvement with our

Parents Association. I look forward to seeing you on the evening of the AGM. Mrs. Doherty

The AGM Takes Place on September 19th at 8pm in Nuala building (Junior Campus)

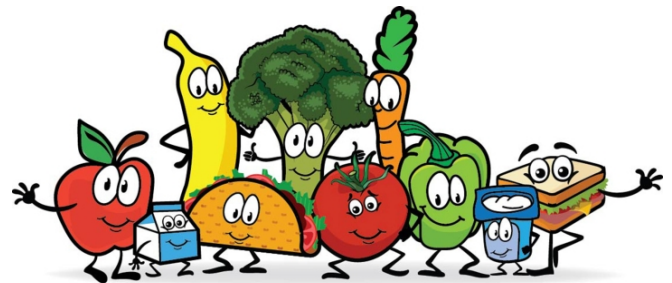
Communicating with parents

Text-a-parent and emails are our main system of communicating. If you have recently changed either your telephone number or email address, please inform the school secretary immediately.

Birthday Invitations

Children are not allowed to distribute birthday and other invitations in the classroom.

School Lunches



The healthy eating message is very important for primary school children. Parents are reminded that sweets and chocolate are a Friday treat. Fizzy drinks are discouraged. Chewing gum and crisps are not allowed at any time.

Music

Music will begin for our pupils in our special education classes. Recorder Lessons for pupils 3rd-6th class will begin in October.

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Swimming Lessons

Swimming Lessons have begun shortly an update will be sent to parents.

Head Lice

Please check for head lice regularly. Early detection and treatment prevents an outbreak.

Payments to School

We will be using e-payments for most payments if you wish to pay by cheque please make cheques payable to Scoil Aodh Rua & Nuala. This is at the request of the bank. If any parent/guardian hasn't already paid for books etc. and are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact the class teacher/principal to arrange payment in instalments.

Roll Call

To accommodate our Electronic Roll Call system, rolls will be called @ 10.20am. Pupils must be present at the time of roll call, otherwise they are marked absent. However, if pupils arrive later than 10.20am or leave school early the explanation received from parents will be documented.

Children returning to class after visit to the Doctor /Dentist etc.

Parents are asked to escort their child to the front door and use the buzzer. In the unlikely event that the classroom is vacant (class engaging in activity elsewhere) please leave your child with the nearest teacher.

Request for Pupils to remain in-doors during Break/Lunch Time.

Request for children to remain in-doors for breaks should only be made in exceptional circumstances. The request must be made in writing. The child will be requested to sit in the corridor opposite the staff room where they can be supervised. If your child is too sick to go to the play-ground he/she is too sick to be at school. Otherwise all children are expected to go to the yard as it is a vital part of social interaction. However, the Board of Management has made a firm decision that a pupil is not allowed to the playground if they are on crutches or have limbs in casts. This is in the interest of health and safety for all pupils and staff.

If your child has any Covid-19 symptoms it is expected that they don't attend school in order to mitigate the risk of spreading the virus within the school

Children completing Sacraments this year

Fr. Gillespie will meet the Parents/ Guardians of children receiving sacraments to discuss arrangements for the year ahead in October.

Custody Arrangements.

Where legal arrangements are in place with regard to custody/access rights for children please inform the school Principal if not already noted on school enrolment application form. It is necessary for a copy of the legal document to be filed in school's records. In the absence of this, both parents will be treated as equal partners in terms of parenting rights and responsibilities. The school cannot be asked to withhold a child from either parent in the absence of Custody Arrangement/Court Order document. School reports will be sent to both parents on request.

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Separate parent/teacher meeting may be convened to suit both parents if requested. The Board of Management and staff will endeavour at all times to deal sensitively and caringly with children experiencing parental separation.

School Uniform

We are asking all parents to co-operate with us in ensuring that all pupils wear the proper school uniform –

On PE Days –

- Pupils should be wearing their school tracksuit and polo shirt.
- Leggings are not permitted.
- Designer tracksuit bottoms or striped bottoms are not permitted.
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms only.

On all other days' full school uniform is to be worn:

- Blue Shirt.
- Red Tie.
- Navy Jumper/Guardian.
- Navy trousers (not tracksuit bottoms).
- Girls can wear trousers/skirts/pinafore.

Full school uniform promotes equality, fairness and discipline within the school and we ask parents to co-operate fully with the school in this matter. Suitable footwear is necessary in the interest of safety. Shoes/runners should have low heels. Wedges or high heels are not suitable for playground activities. Pupils who persist in wearing unsuitable footwear may have to be kept in during break times. All items of clothing should be clearly marked with Child's name. Some parents donated school uniforms which are in

perfect condition and are available from the Nuala Building for any parent who wishes to avail of this offer.

Jewellery

Watches are not necessary. Earrings, if worn, should be studs only. Dangling earrings could get caught and pulled accidentally causing injury. If pupils wear Fit-bits to school, the school will not be responsible for loss or damage to same.

School Bags



The weight of school bags is an area of concern for all. Our policy is that children bring home only the books needed to do their homework on any given night. Parents please

check school bags for books that are not needed for class. The teachers have safety concerns with regard to the pull along (trolley) school bags. They are a safety issue in the classroom as children are tripping over them etc.

Mobile Phones

The BOM does not permit pupils to have mobile phones at school. We ask all parents to support this decision. Parents who wish to contact their child during school hours may do so via the school secretary. If for any reason a pupil needs to contact a parent the school phone will be available to them.

Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala

NEWS



Pupils are always supervised by a teacher or SNA when using these devices.

Standardised Testing

Will take place in our school from 21st – 23rd May 2024. We would appreciate if at all possible that pupils are in attendance during these dates to complete testing.

Social Media and Prevention Strategies for Cyber Bullying

Cyber Bullying is an area of concern for us all in today's world. Here in Scoil Aodh Rua agus Nuala, we endeavour to educate the pupils on the proper use of online communication. We incorporate the lessons from Webwise into our SPHE programme. We also receive support from PDST to support us as educators in this area.

We arrange for the Garda Schools Respectful Online Communication Programme to be delivered by our local community Garda to our 5th and 6th class pupils. It covers a range of topics including cyber bullying and general online safety and security.

We are all aware of the dangers of pupils accessing Social Media Sites. Parents/Guardians are continually being reminded of their Duty of Care to their children in this area. In school all our iPads and laptops are password protected.

Stand
TALL
and be
PROUD.
Be
YOURSELF
you are
AMAZING.