

Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh – Senior Primary



Principal's message

It has been an extremely hectic start to our new school year. We are still unpacking a very busy end of school year last year, with our school move, and the summer holidays were also busy with remedial works in our school building, following a major leak. It is taking us all a while to adjust to our new much larger surroundings and facilities. However, now staff and children can finally enjoy the fantastic new space and facilities that enable us to deliver a state of the art education and learning environment for our children - as well as an excellent new gym and playing facilities. Our skilled and committed staff have been planning and preparing for your child's continued progress. We welcome new teachers Ms Mallon to 5th class and Ms Kelly to 6th class. Ms Pawlak will also be one of our 6th class teachers this year. We are lucky to have such wonderful staff join our school. I am so pleased to have you all as part of our amazing school community and I look forward to working with you and your children. A special welcome to all our new children and their families, who we hope will have a positive experience in our school.

School Attendance Campaign, which was launched by Minister for Education last year, promotes the importance of regular school attendance. We work co-operatively with parents to ensure that your child's well-being is at the heart of school life and that their attendance is optimised.

Several **PE activities** are underway, with **GAA coaching**, **Dance**, **Basketball Coaching**, and several field trips (when weather permitted). Pictured is basketball coach Darren putting 3rd class children through their paces. We are also pleased to be resuming **Swimming lessons** at Aura



swimming pool. There is also a fantastic array of **After School Clubs** underway; **Drama Club**, **Homework Club**, **Life Skills**, **Guitar Lessons**, **Violin Lessons** and **Art Lessons**. **Cycle safety** lessons for 3rd class children will be undertaken later in the year. We value your child's input into their own education and so we also provide your child with a voice through our **Student Council**. Members of the Student Council comprise of children from each year group (*new 3rd class representatives will be chosen in the coming weeks*).

Our first **Parent Information sessions** of the year were held by each class teachers, and we appreciated your attendance and the wonderful positive feedback from parents. Home and school collaborating together will ensure the very best educational opportunities and outcomes for your child. The **Parents Association** is another valuable way that parents can contribute to school life, and any parents interested please contact the school or our Parents

Association through their facebook page. As a Principal, I value the Parent's Association's contribution to the school life hugely, to include their dedication to fundraising to ensure we can provide the necessary resources to deliver a full curriculum.

We have a significant number of international students in our school and our **EAL classes** for children who need additional language supports are working very well, we are fortunate to have Ms Zaleshchuk providing valuable support to these children. We are indeed a very caring community with common goals of nurturing responsible, caring pupils and promoting high-level learning. Together, we can make this school year one of growth and achievement for all of our children.

Blaithin Maguire, Principal

Upcoming Calendar dates:

- **9th October – Staff Meeting – early closing 1.40pm.**
- **October Mid Term Break – School closed 28th Oct until 1st Nov incl.**
- **Christmas Holidays – school is closed 23rd December until 3rd January, incl.**
- **School re-opens on 6th January 2025.**

School Enrolment 2025 will open for applications on 1st October.

The school will accept applications for admission to mainstream from 1st October 2024. Please apply on-line by visiting www.databizsolutions.ie and clicking on OnLine Admission Form. Application forms may also be downloaded from our school website and are also available by email request from the School Office. The school will commence accepting applications for admission to the special classes on 10th February 2025.

Garda Liaison Team – class talks: We are expecting Garda Deirdre Semple to pay us a return visit to classes in October, to deliver a suite of talks to all classes on **Social Media and behaviour on-line and Responsible Citizenship**. We thank Garda Semple for sharing her time and expertise with the children, who are always highly engaged during the sessions. It is so important that children are aware of the implications of their behaviour while on social media platforms, and ways to stay safe while on-line. We strongly urge parents to reinforce the content of these talks with your children at home.



Laytown Races Art Competition Winners! Our school is pleased to continue it's association with the local Laytown Race Committee. Children were delighted to participate in their recent art competition, and also had a fun day down at the racecourse. where all sorts of fun activities were enjoyed by pupils and staff alike!