

MILFORD NATIONAL SCHOOL : 8th September 2015

Dear Parents,

Fáilte is fiche roimh gach duine. You are all very welcome back to Milford after the long summer holidays, and a special welcome to you if it is your first journey through the school. Here are a few notices as we start the new school year:

SAFETY ISSUES:

Opening and Closing Times: The school is open to receive pupils from 8.45a.m. The yard will be supervised from 8.50 a.m. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before 8.50 a.m. Classes will commence each day at 9.00 a.m. No pupil should arrive later than 8.55 a.m. Classes for the children in Junior Infants and Senior Infants end at 1.40 p.m. Parents of these children are aware of their meeting point for collecting their child from the teacher. Classes will end each day at 2.40 p.m. for children in classes from First to Sixth. Parents who wish to collect their children should make arrangements to have them met at the end of the school path or car-park and the person to escort them should be at the school no later than 2.40 p.m. as the school cannot accept responsibility for children after that time.

Church Car-Park: Please advise the person collecting your child in the evenings to use only designated car-park spaces. The problem with parking has been largely alleviated due to the enforcing of rules re unauthorised personnel etc. Unauthorised cars will be clamped.

School Car-Park: Parents, please be advised that children need to follow the path around by the fence when entering and exiting the school. Please cross the car-park at the safety crossing only. Even when accompanying your child into or out of the school do please observe this important safety requirement to encourage good safety habits in your child. We would appreciate your co-operation with this important safety issue.

Medication: Parents, please advise the school if your child has any medical issues about which you need to alert the school and for which indemnity and information forms will need to be filled out. I would also remind parents that medication already in the office may be out-of-date and may need to be replaced.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES: The autumn sporting season has commenced and football training started last week. Many thanks to our very dedicated teachers who give voluntarily of their time and expertise to coach and organise teams, and accompany children to matches at this very busy time of the year.

Organisation of the teams is as follows:

u/10 Boys: Denis O'Connor Aaron Gallagher

u/11 Boys: Diarmaid Moore Siobhan Fenton

u/13 Boys: Brian Kelly Gemma Ryan

u/10 Girls: Micheál Roseingrave Claire Quinlan Maggie Moloney

u/13 Girls: John Nelligan Yvonne Newman

Basketball training will take place in Milford School Gym from November, day to be decided.

The 3rd/4th class league started on Monday September 7th and will continue on Mondays September 21st and October 5th respectively.

After-School Activities: There will be a wide variety of extra-curricular activities available after school, too numerous to list here. The teachers who are involved in these activities will communicate with children regarding days, times, venues etc.

Enrolments: There is a large number of applications on file for the Junior Infant classes for Sept 2016 and there will be only 60 places available. Priority will be given to siblings of children already in Milford. Please notify the school, immediately, if your child qualifies under the sibling rule to make sure he/she is on the list for 2016.

Gym Bookings : Many activities are available for children and adults in the school gym and also in the school hall . Pregnancy Pilates, Yoga, Tai-Chi, Taek-Wan-Do, Gymnastics, Irish Dancing, Frontline Stage school, are all on offer, to name but a few. Check out the available activities on our school web-site. Contact details for the various activities may be found on www.milfordns.ie

Lotto : The lotto draw will re-commence shortly. Many thanks for your loyal support of this vital fund-raising activity. The Lotto is a valuable contribution to the financings of the new gymnasium which will give your children endless hours of pleasure over the coming years. Thank you, parents, who have contributed so generously over the past year. A very special thanks also to the parents who give so generously to the gym fund through the voluntary contribution.

School Closures 2015/2016: Information on school closures for the coming year has already been sent home in the school-bag. This information is also posted on the web-site.

Swimming: Swimming has commenced for classes from Senior Infants to 6th, depending on the 8-week timetable rota. Please refer to the Swimming Policy available on www.milfordns.ie for more information on arrangements, procedures etc.

School Self-Evaluation and School Improvement Plan: Last year the Board of Management of Milford NS commended the school on its progress towards the achievement of Action Plan targets on the Numeracy SIP- the provision of a Maths information booklet on the school web-site and also the provision of a Maths methodology and Maths Language Booklet to each family in September (also available on school web-site) for which many parents have expressed appreciation. This Maths information booklet will be provided again this year. Many thanks to Olive Doody, Maths co-ordinator.

Lost Property: There is a huge amount of left-over tops, jackets and various other items of clothing in the Lost Property press at the back of the school (near Room 9). Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity if not claimed by Friday September 18th.

Other news: Welcome to Joe , our new caretaker. Welcome also to our new SNAs, Keira and Louise. We wish Mark every good wish in his new job in UL and hope he will be very happy. Congratulations to Ms Noelle Hogan on her recent engagement and to Ms Orla Murray on the recent birth of a beautiful baby boy.

Gearóid Hegarty, our past-pupil, will be playing in the u/21 All-Ireland Hurling Final against Wexford in Thurles on Saturday. We wish Gearóid every good wish for the match and great success for the Limerick team.

Parents, please refer to the school web-site for most school information - www.milfordns.ie.

As we all look forward to the new school year I want to once again thank you for your continued support, co-operation and dedication.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Kathryn O'Mahony

Principal