

Newsletter September 2019

Fáilte

Welcome back to everyone and a very special welcome to our new Junior Infants and all the pupils who have joined throughout the school. We extend a warm welcome to staff members who were appointed over the summer: Barry Gleeson and Rhinagh Stanford. We hope everyone settles in well and will be very happy in Gort National School.

School Contact Numbers

If you wish to contact the school the phone number is 091 631627. Please leave a message if your call is not answered and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Contact Numbers & Addresses

We are updating our contact numbers, postal addresses and email addresses. If you have changed any of these details please inform the teacher.

Pupil's Safety – Tubber Rd School Site

The safety of your children is of primary concern to us so the Board of Management would like to draw your attention to the following: School begins at 8:50am and ends at 2.30pm each day. The school will open to receive pupils from **8.40a.m.** No responsibility can be accepted for pupils arriving before this time. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that children are collected safely from school at 2.30pm. Pupils are not permitted onto the school grounds after 2.30pm or at weekends. Pupils on the Tubber Road site who are collected by car must walk to the car park and those pupils walking home leave the grounds via the Ballyhugh exit. Your co-operation is much appreciated. Please also note if a child is to be collected from school by someone other than the person who usually collects the child, you must inform the class teacher. If you are collecting your child before the end of the school day you are requested to sign a signing out sheet. This is a requirement for School Insurance and ensures the safety of your child is maintained at all times.

Pupil's Safety – Convent School Site

The safety of your children is of primary concern to us so the Board of Management would like to draw your attention to the following: School begins at 9:00 a.m. School ends at 1:40pm (Junior Infants & Senior Infants) and 2.40pm (1st Class & 2nd Class) each day. The school will open to receive pupils from **8.50am**. No responsibility can be accepted for pupils arriving before this time. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure children are collected safely from school at 1.40pm/2.40pm. Pupils are not permitted onto the school grounds after 2.40pm or at weekends. Your co-operation is much appreciated. Please also note if a child is to be collected from school by someone other than the person who usually collects the child, you must inform the class teacher. If you are collecting your child before the end of the school day you are requested to sign a signing out sheet. This is a requirement for School Insurance and ensures the safety of your child is maintained at all times.

Access System

Access systems are in operation in both school buildings. Please press the buzzer if you wish to gain entry to the school.

School Uniform

Parents are requested to ensure that their children comply with the school uniform policy. Please put your child's name on school jumpers.

School Absences

The legislation requires all schools to inform the National Education Welfare Board in writing when a pupil is absent for 20 days in a school year. If your child is absent from school you should provide a note to the class teacher, giving the date(s) on which your child was absent and the reason for the absence. Please also ensure your child is on time for school each day.

We encourage all children to be in school every day. However we understand there will be times when your child is sick or unable to attend school. It is important your child does not come to school when he/she is sick. For this reason the staff of Gort National School have taken a decision not to reward full attendance at the end of the year as it is unfair on children who could not attend every day.

Healthy Lunches

Please ensure your child has a healthy lunch coming to school.

School Insurance

Pupil Accident Insurance forms are available from the class teacher. Please return the form together with the fee to the school by Monday the 23rd of September if you wish to avail of this insurance.

Beginning of Year School Mass

Mass will take place in St Colman's Church Gort at 11am on this Friday the 13th of September at 11am (weather permitting).

Parent Teacher Meetings

3rd, 4th 5th & 6th Class - Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of November

Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st & 2nd Class – Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st of November

Further details of Parent Teacher Meetings will be sent to parents closer to the time. If you wish to meet a teacher during the year outside of this meeting please put a note in your child's diary to arrange a suitable time with the teacher. Meetings are by appointment only. Please do not disturb a class. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sacraments

First Confession takes place on the 12th of March at 1:15pm. Confirmation takes place on the 28th of April at 11am. First Holy Communion is on the 9th of May at 11am. All of the above sacraments take place in St. Colman's Church, Gort.

If there are children in 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Class who wish to make their First Holy Communion this school year please inform the class teacher before the 20th of September.

Irish Dancing

Irish Dancing resumes on Tuesday 17th of September for Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st Class and 2nd Class. It will run for ten weeks at a cost of €20. Please send this money to the class teacher by Tuesday 17th of September if you wish your child to do Irish Dancing.

Sponsored Walk

Gort National School will hold their annual Sponsored Walk on the 1st of October weather permitting. If it is wet we will postpone it until the 2nd of October. Sponsorship cards will be distributed to the pupils on the 23rd of September and it would be greatly appreciated if everyone did their best to help raise money to buy resources for the school.

Medical needs

We are currently updating our pupil records. If there are any allergies or medical concerns you may have with regard to your child please inform the class teacher as soon as possible. Children are not allowed to bring medicines to school.

School Closures

Gort National School will close early for pupils on Thursday 19th of September to facilitate a staff meeting. Tubber Road Building will close at 12:20pm and Convent Building will close at 12:30pm.

School is closed for a week for Mid-term break from 29th October to 2nd of November inclusive.