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- **Athoscailt na Scoile / School Reopening:** At this point in time we assume that we will be returning to school for the new school year on Tuesday 31st August, as per our School Closures Calendar. However, we await further information and guidance from the Department of Education (DE) during the summer as to how exactly this will happen and what measures may have to be put / remain in place in order to welcome our pupils and staff back. It is possible that similar measures will be in place as there were throughout this year but I will update you regarding this nearer to reopening and when we have received clarification from the DE.
- **Liostaí Leabhar / Book Lists:** Book Lists for books to be purchased by parents are accompanying this Newsletter and Book *Rental* Lists will issue in September.
- **Bailiú na Leabhar / Collection of Rental Books :** Please **return all rented** books to your child's class teacher **by this Wednesday 23rd June, at the latest.** **Please ensure that all books are in good condition on return.** We would appreciate if you would **repair any books in need of repair before returning please.** Any books lost or damaged must be paid for.
Go raibh míle maith agaibh for your cooperation.
- **Tuairiscí Scoile:** We hope that all parents have accessed your child's End-of-Year Report(s) on Aladdin Connect at this stage, (i.e. both your child's class teacher's report and also a support teacher's report, if applicable). Anybody experiencing difficulty in accessing either should contact either Aladdin or the school.
- **Slán le Rang 6:** We say "Slán" to all the pupils in this year's Rang 6 who will be moving on from Castlelyons NS to their respective secondary schools. It has been a turbulent year for them as well as for all other pupils but we are glad that at least they got to finish out the final term in school this year. We will hold a Graduation Ceremony for them tomorrow but their parents will not be present due to ongoing restrictions on gatherings. However, we will record the proceedings and make the recordings available to parents after the event.
We sincerely hope that they all enjoyed their primary school days in Castlelyons and will have happy memories. We wish them the very best of luck as they move on to the next stage in their education. Go n-éirí go geal libh, a pháistí.
- **Staying in Touch with Education:** We suggest to parents to encourage your child to **read each day** and keep a **daily diary** during the holidays along with any other suggestions from teachers in your child's End-of-Year Reports.
Underneath are suggested websites that you also might find helpful.
www.helpmykidlearn.ie
www.ncca.ie

- **Supervised Classes** - We hope that Supervised Classes will be back operating again in September. However, this will be dependent on Covid restrictions closer to the time. More information will be provided in due course.
- **Tuairisc Covid-19:** The Department of Education (DE) has published our school's Covid-19 Inspection Report on its website. You can find the report by going to "School Inspection Reports" under "Popular Topics" on the DE homepage and go to "Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling (SSPS)" in the list of "Type of Inspection".
- **An Chéad Fhaoistin / Chomaoineach – Rang 2:** We congratulate our pupils in Rang 2 who celebrated their First Confession recently. Due to Covid -19 restrictions, parents were not present for the ceremony which took place in the church during school hours but we provided a photograph to each family of the celebration. We'd like to express our sincere thanks to Miss Forde, class teacher for all the preparatory work she did with the children, to Fr Coleman and Fr Marek for making the occasion such a special one for the children and to the parents and families for all your support. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.
Rang 2 will receive First Holy Communion on Saturday 18th September. Go n-éirí go geal libh.
- **An Cóineartú / Confirmation – Rang 6 :** Pupils in Rang 6 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 10th July 2021. Again, we wish them, their families, Mr Cremin their teacher and all involved, all the best on the day. Gach ádh libh go léir.
- **Sábháilteacht Fheirme - Uisce / Farm – Water Safety:** It is important for all adults to be extra vigilant with children on farms / near water over the summer. Teachers have taught lessons on these topics in school in recent weeks. Be Safe!
- **Fun Activity Day:** We had a very successful Fun Activity Day in the school last Tuesday. It was based on the format of our annual Sports Day but adhering strictly to Covid-19 protocols in the process. All classes remained in their class "Bubbles" on the day and all thoroughly enjoyed the fun activities. Míle buíochas to Miss Corcoran and Miss Forde (both Acting Assistant Principals in Ms Ó Tuama and Ms Fox's absence) for organising the day. Maith sibh, a chailíní!
Míle buíochas also to all other members of staff for your support and cooperation to make the day such an enjoyable one for all our pupils and a special word of thanks to Lourde and Tom Bryan of Toss Bryan's, Fermoy who sponsored the medals for the race winners as well as an ice-cream for each child from the ice-cream van. Your generosity is much appreciated. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.
- **Community Gardaí / Zoom Call** – Rang 5 & 6 enjoyed a Zoom call recently from the local community Gardaí on the topic of Internet Safety . Go raibh maith agaibh,

- **Bia Sláintiúil / Healthy Eating Initiative:** We held a healthy lunch initiative in the school recently which was a huge success. All pupils, with encouragement from their parents and teachers, made a special effort to bring healthy lunches, with a particular focus on fruit and veg, over a two week period. This initiative was part of being a Health Promoting School. Míle buíochas to all our pupils who made a huge effort and a special word of thanks to Miss Corcoran and Miss Forde who organised and coordinated the initiative. Maith sibh! Remember, BÍ sláintiúil le bia sláintiúil.
- **Le Chéile & Sonas take a trip to Leahy's Open Farm:** The pupils in our two special classes, Sonas and Le Chéile were taken to Leahy's Open Farm last week, accompanied by their teachers, SNAs and by Garda Conor Gately in the Garda Community Mini-bus. They all had a fabulous day and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. A huge "Thank You" to Garda Gately, their teachers and SNAs, the staff of Leahy's Open Farm and also to Mrs Mary O'Sullivan, parent, for making the suggestion and putting us in touch with Garda Gately to make the necessary arrangements. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.
- **DE Circular 0008/2011 - Polasaithe Nua/Athbhreithnithe:** Some school policies, both curricular and administrative, have been either formulated or reviewed by the school staff as part of our 'Croke Park' hours over the past year. Officers of the Parents' Association were also consulted regarding certain policies before going to the Board of Management for review / ratification. Underneath is a list of those policies which were either newly formulated or reviewed during the current school year.

Curriculum

Tír Eolas / Geography Plan

SPHE Policy

RSE Policy

Ceol / Music Plan

English Oral Lang. Plan

Corp Oid. / PE Plan

Administration

Child Protection Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Administration of Medication Policy

Critical Incident Policy

Data Protection Policy

Job sharing Policy

Assessment Policy

Dignity at Work Policy

SEN Provision Policy

Homework Policy

Home Use of Assistive Technology Policy

School Placement / Work Experience Policy

Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Logistics Plan for Reopening of the School

- Buíochas / Slán:** As pupil numbers are falling in the school over the past few years, due to a reduction in population growth both locally and nationally, we are losing a teacher in September as a direct result of those falling numbers. I'd like to express my thanks, on behalf of the entire school community, to Miss Róisín McLaughlin (support teacher) who will be finishing with us on Friday. Miss McLaughlin was appointed from the Diocesan Panel last October, replacing Mrs Foley who retired, and has recently secured a teaching position in Churchtown North N.S. for September. We say "Go raibh míle maith agat" to Miss McLaughlin and wish her all the best in her future teaching career. Go n-éirí go geal leat, a Róisín. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Rebecca Baker (Rang 1) and Miss Trish O'Sullivan (Rang 5), who were covering maternity leave positions since before Christmas for Ms Ó Tuama and Ms Fox respectively and to Mr Neville who has acted as long-term substitute in Ms Cummins' absence since the end of May. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir and we wish you all the best in your future teaching careers also. Go n-éirí go geal libh. We welcome Ms Ó Tuama back from maternity leave to Rang 1 today. Fáilte ar ais, Aisling.

- Eagrú na Ranganna / Organisation of Classes 2021-2022:**

As already stated, we are losing a teacher in September due to falling numbers in the school over the past number of years. This means we will have two mixed class combinations, (Rang 2 / 3 and Rang 3 / 4) in the new school year.

Also, Ms Ó Tuama will be in a job sharing arrangement with Mr John Barry who is currently teaching in Ardfinnan NS, Co Tipperary but who will teach on a shared basis with Ms Ó Tuama in Castlelyons NS next year.

The following is an outline of the class arrangements for the 2021-2022 school year.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Sonas (Special Class) | Mr Baragry |
| • Le Chéile (Special Class) | Miss Cahill |
| • Junior Infants | Miss Barry |
| • Senior Infants | Miss Corcoran |
| • Rang 1 | Ms Ó Tuama / Mr Barry (Job sharing) |
| • Rang 2/3 | Miss Forde |
| • Rang 3/4 | Ms O'Connor |
| • Rang 5 | Ms Fox |
| • Rang 6 | Mr Cremin |
| • Special Education | Ms Murphy |
| • Special Education | Ms Feeney |
| • Special Education | Ms Cummins |
| • Special Education | Miss McGrath |

- Buíochas:** Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making the past year, although a difficult one for all, such a successful one also. 'Buíochas ó chroí' to our dedicated teachers, Ms O'Connor, Ms Murphy, Ms Ó Tuama, Ms Fox,

Ms Feeney, Miss Corcoran, Miss Forde, Miss Barry, Ms Cummins, Miss McGrath, Mr Cremin, Mr Baragry, Miss Cahill, Miss McLaughlin, Miss Baker, Miss O'Sullivan & Mr Neville. Also, to Elaine Millar, Lynda Presta, Máiréad Shanahan, Miriam O'Donoghue, Audrey Sheehan and Phil McGrath, our SNAs, Carmel Ryan our secretary, John McCarthy our caretaker, Fiona Curley (Miss Mop) and her team of cleaners, members of the Board of Management and Parents' Association and to each and every one of you, parents and your children, a huge, **“Thank You”**.

I'd like to say a special word of thanks to Ms O'Connor - deputy principal, Ms Ó Tuama and Ms Fox - assistant principals, Miss Corcoran and Miss Forde (acting assistant principals in Ms Ó Tuama and Ms Fox's roles while on maternity leave) and Carmel Ryan – secretary, for their support with the administrative work in the school during the course of the past year. It is a privilege to work with such a supportive and dedicated group of people as there is in Castlelyons NS. Gach ádh i gcónaí!

- **Dúnadh Scoile an tSamhraidh / School Summer Closure:** The school closes this Friday, 25th June for the summer holidays, with finishing times as follows:

- * **11.45 am** Family Surnames from A – L (All classes)
- * **12.00** Family Surnames from M - Z (All classes)
- * **11.45 am** Taxi / Bus

- We ask if parents would please move off from the car-park without delay when you have collected your child so as to make space for the next group of parents. Go raibh maith agaibh.
- **School re-opens for all pupils on Tuesday 31st August 2021 (Subject to further clarification from the DE in due course)**

Bainigí taitneamh as na laethanta saoire. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Nelius de Róiste (Príomhoide)