



**CUSHINSTOWN  
NATIONAL SCHOOL**

**End of Year Letter 2021**

**Dear Parents,**

As we draw close to the end of another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your engagement and support of our school this year. It has been a very challenging year for all of us in terms of Covid Restrictions and well done to you all for the role you have played in helping to keep everyone safe in our school community.

**School Reports:** School reports are included with this letter. Can I commend all the pupils on their great work and resilience despite the challenges that they have faced. All our pupils should be very proud of their achievements this school year. Booklists and the school calendar 2021/2022 is included with this letter also.

**Test Scores:** Our pupils have worked really hard this year during remote and face to face learning. Parents, teachers and SNA's have also worked tirelessly over the past two academic years. For those who did not do as well as they hoped we are here to support them, and we are carrying out analysis on gaps in learning and identifying children who will need extra support ahead of next year. If anyone has any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school, and speak to the teacher or myself.

**SEN:** SEN Teachers are currently completing reviews of their students with Students Support Plans in preparation for Special Educational Needs provisions for next year. Please contact the teacher assigned to your child if you have any concerns or queries.

**Return to School:** We have been informed that currently it is planned to return to school on the 31<sup>st</sup> August under the current Covid 19 guidelines. Parents will be informed of any updated information regarding the return to school before school reopening.

**Recruitment:** Interviews for vacant positions are expected to take place in early July. Parents will be informed thereafter of the selected candidates for the vacant posts. We have had many applications for these positions.

**Parent/School Communication:** Our school adheres to the nationally agreed procedures regarding parent/school communication. If parents have a concern or query the first port of call is always the class teacher. Subsequently if the matter has not been resolved you can arrange a meeting with the principal. Finally, when both stages are exhausted, and the matter has not been resolved the matter can be referred to the Board of Management. If the first two stages are not completed prior to contacting the Board of Management, the matter will be referred to the first or second stage.

**Health and Safety:** The Board of Management recently ratified our Health and Safety Statement. The Health and Safety Statement includes a section on Dignity in the Workplace and Anti-Bullying. We will be updating this Statement early next year should parents wish to offer feedback on this, or any other policy please do not hesitate in contacting me. This will be available on our website shortly.

**Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment:** The Board of Management recently updated our Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. Copies have been distributed to the Parents Association and will be also available on our website in the near future.

**Health and Safety School Swing After School Hours:** It has come to our attention that children are using the school swings after school hours. Please note that the swings are only for use under supervision during school hours.

**Drumming Workshop:** The children all enjoyed a drum workshop in school yesterday which was organised by Ms. Lisa Fielding. It was lovely to hear the wonderful drumming sounds coming from each classroom.

**Ice-Cream Van:** Thank you to the Parents Association who provided us with an ice-cream cone for all the children on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. This was a very kind and thoughtful gesture.

**Confirmation and Communion Celebrations:** Confirmation and Communion preparations are currently underway. We hope the children have a wonderful day when it arrives.

**Activity Roadshow-**The Activity Roadshow will take place on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June. A separate communication has been sent regarding this.

**Collections on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 12 noon:** Children from Junior Infants to Second Class may be collected from 11.45am on Wednesday. The buses will leave at 11.50am. Pupils from Second to Sixth class may be collected at 12noon.

As we approach the end of another strange year, I would like to thank all in our school community who have supported our school during this academic year. I would like to wish our sixth class all the very best as they move to post-primary school. We are very proud of all they have achieved.

I am aware that our school has had challenges and difficulties this year. I have an open-door policy where anyone who has a concern or query can contact me or the school and we can work together to find a solution in the best interests of the children and all in our school community.

On behalf of all the staff and the Board of Management I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Summer.

Yours Sincerely,

---

Carol O'Reilly