



CUSHINSTOWN
NATIONAL SCHOOL

Newsletter September 2021

Welcome everyone back after the holidays. We hope that the children have had a great first week with their new teachers. A special welcome to our 20 new Junior Infants.

Staffing Updates: We welcome our new and returning staff members Ms. Mary Kirwan (5th), Ms. Anna-Lucia Bracken (3rd), Ms. Mairéad Sutton (Second Class), Ms. Clodagh Whelan (1st), Ms. Emma Walsh (Senior Infants), Ms. Sabrina Nolan (Junior Infants), Ms. Anne Breen (SEN), Ms. Amy Flynn (SEN), Ms Regina Carroll (SEN) and Ms. Kate Kneafsey (SEN). We wish all our staff the best in the year ahead and to those who are taking leave.

Parent Teacher Communication: If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher or the principal, please call the school office (9.15am-2.45pm) to request a call back. If you have a query or concern, please always speak to the class teacher first.

Covid-19-Parents are asked to read the following information regarding symptoms of Covid-19 very carefully.

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/symptoms/overview/> Please ensure that children are not sent to school if they are unwell or displaying any of the symptoms listed.

Morning Supervision and Assembly-There is no supervision on yard before 9.10 am. As usual the school doors will open at 9.10am. Pupils can come in through their designated pupil door once opened and proceed into their classrooms.

Book Rental Scheme-Please send in payment for schoolbooks, contributions, art and photocopying by 24th September. We continue to operate the online payments system via Aladdin. Please ensure that all money sent to school is in an envelope, clearly marked with your child's name, the amount and what it is for.

School Uniform-Thank you for ensuring all children were in full school uniform on their return to school. Please ensure that your child's name is clearly printed on their jumpers and jackets. Teachers will let their classes know about tracksuit days. These days may change as the school year goes on.

GAA Skills: GAA Skills will recommence for all classes with Adam Ryan next Monday 13th September 2021. Children should wear their PE tracksuit and runners.

School Policies- Please familiarise yourselves with the Healthy Eating Policy and Communication Policy on our school website.(www.cushinstownns.com) Please follow link <https://www.safefood.net/family-health/school-lunchboxguide> in providing a healthy and nutritious lunch for your children.

Health and Safety-We are currently reviewing our Supervision Policy, Medical Policy and Administration of Medicines policy. These will be communicated to parents shortly.

First Aid Training-Our school will be providing First Aid Training to all staff by Early Years First Aid next Wednesday.

Absences-Please send a note into school in your child's journal to explain any absences from school. e.g., illness etc.

Allergies-Our school has a very dedicated team working on medical conditions. Please be aware that there is a pupil in sixth class who has peanut allergies. A more detailed letter will follow for this class. Please keep the school informed regarding changes in your child's health that we need to be aware of. An updated Healthcare plan is currently being circulated for all pupils with medical conditions.

Sacraments: Third class and their teachers Ms. O'Leary and Ms. Bracken are busy preparing for their First Holy Communion which will take place on Saturday 18th September 2021 at 2pm in Cushinstown church.

Morning Club and Irish Club-With the recent easing of restrictions Morning Club and Irish Club will reopen shortly in accordance with government guidelines and school management approval. For further information and to reserve a space please contact Carol Stacey at 087 6644314.

Contact Details-If your contact details or address should change throughout the school year, please inform Jenny of this in the office.

Best of Luck-Best wishes to our past pupil and substitute teacher Ms. Kate Devereux who will play in the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Final next Sunday. Children are invited to wear their county colours this Wednesday to wish her well.

We look forward to a great year ahead in Cushinstown National School.

Yours Sincerely,

Carol O'Reilly

Note from School Manager:

I commenced my role as a single manager at the end of June. The single manager effectively replaces the Board for a period of time and takes over all of the duties assigned to the Board. It has been a very busy summer with appointments of staff, preparation for the school reopening and working through many other issues associated with the school. Like you, I want each and every pupil in the school to achieve their fullest potential in a safe, caring and stimulating setting. I will be working with a very talented and committed staff to achieve that. Should you need to contact me, my details are as follows:

Email: managercushinstownschool@gmail.com

Phone: 087-7381317

I will however be following procedures. I very much value transparency but also confidentiality. So if you have an issue, my first question to you will be – Have you spoken to the class teacher? My second question will be, have you spoken to the principal? I am fortunate that I still enjoy working, I am on the NCSE Council and I am Chairperson of another school for a number of years, so I may not be in a position to reply to you straight away.

I wish you and all in Cushinstown NS the very best.

Kind Regards,

Pat Goff