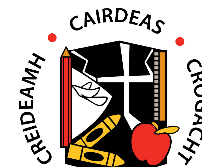


Edmondstown National School
Edmondstown Road
Rathfarnham
Dublin 16



Scoil Náisiúnta
Bhaile Éamonn

Tel: 01 4933255
Email: edmondstownns@hotmail.com
Charity No: 20119720

16th September 2020

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to report that the children have settled back wonderfully and are enjoying being back at school. A huge effort had gone in to getting the school ready over the summer months and this really paid off as everything is operating smoothly so far. I sincerely thank all those involved – it really has been a community effort. I particularly welcome our new Junior Infants – it is incredible to see how independent they are all becoming and I congratulate them on settling in so well – they are a lovely group of children.

For the month of September we are following the Department of Education's advice and concentrating on their motto "Slow down to catch up". They have advised us to concentrate on Numeracy, Literacy, Wellbeing, Physical Education and SPHE for the month of September. I am pleased to report that GAA began today with strict protocols in place and it was terrific to see the children engaging so well. I take this opportunity to thank Wanderers GAA who sponsor our Games Promotion Officer - we are very grateful for this great service. We will be beginning our Stay Safe lessons shortly. Heretofore we used to ask parents to sign that they had discussed each lesson worksheet with their child. In order to minimise paperwork coming to and from school, we will now send home the worksheets, you can sign them at home and simply take a photo and upload it to your child's SeeSaw account.

You will all have received a Pupil Insurance form. I urge you to consider taking out this important insurance for your child. Please note, we will continue to take the forms until Friday 18th September only. After this date, we will not be able to take late applications and you will have to arrange insurance privately.

Many people have returned the Pupil Information Form which is available on the Home page of the website. If you have not yet completed this, please do so immediately and upload it to the school email at edmondstownns@hotmail.com. It is crucial that we have up to date phone numbers in case we are contacted by the HSE regarding a confirmed case of Covid 19 in our school. You will also note that there is a new section for email addresses. Linda is uploading these to our Aladdin communication system because from now on, all notes, letters, and newsletters will be emailed home. If we don't have a correct email address on file, you will miss out on this important information.

I outline some important information about homework and SeeSaw overleaf, as well as email addresses for teachers (page 2 and 3).

The future ahead is still very uncertain, but please rest assured that your children seem very content and happy here in school and we are keeping everything very normal. There is nothing more delightful than to hear their happy shouts and screams as they run around the playground. We are getting through this together and there will come a time when we can look back on this pandemic as a distant memory.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Philomena Cleary

Principal

HOMEWORK AND SEESAW INFORMATION

At the moment, children are getting oral homework – spellings, mental maths and tables. However, we intend to give written homework from now on. Just as we did during the emergency school closure period, we will be using Seesaw (<http://seesaw.me>), a secure online journal, for homework and also as a portal where students can document and reflect on what they are learning. Your child will be able to add the things we work on (including photos, videos, worksheets, drawings and voice recordings) to their Seesaw journal and we can share them privately with you and other family members to view and comment on throughout the school year. Even if you have engaged with SeeSaw during the Emergency Closure, your child will still need a new code, which they will get from their teacher when you email your consent to them at the email addresses below.

In order for your child to use Seesaw, the app needs your child’s name in order to be able to associate work like their photos, videos or voice recordings with their account. Seesaw only uses this information to provide the service and doesn’t advertise in Seesaw, create profiles of students, or share or sell your child’s personal information or journal content. You can read more about their strong privacy promises here: <https://web.seesaw.me/privacy>.

Under an EU law called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), in order for your child to use Seesaw, the school must get your consent. For more information on GDPR, please visit <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rights-citizens>. I hope that your child will enjoy using Seesaw to document and share their learning over the course of the coming year.

When you return the consent form to your child’s teacher, each child will then be assigned a code which they will use to log in to the system. If you have several children, they will each have their own unique code. If your child attends learning support/special education, they will need a separate code for that teacher. This code should be kept safe and treated like a password. I attach an explanation note and web link on how to operate See Saw. Please email your child’s teacher(s) and SET (if applicable), with a copy or photo of the signed consent form – email addresses are outlined below.

Please sign below and upload this permission slip to the relevant teacher’s email so that your child can use SeeSaw.

I give consent for my child, listed below, to use Seesaw for homework, class activities and home schooling, if necessary.

Student Name: _____ Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher's emails:

mtwallnutt@edmondstownns.ie

abrocklebank@edmondstownns.ie

ctighe@edmondstownns.ie

mdunne@edmondstownns.ie

pcleary@edmondstownns.ie

eruddy@edmondstownns.ie

ltallon@edmondstownns.ie