**September 2022**

Well done to everyone in our school community here at St. Joseph’s, Mulhussey on a very enjoyable and educational first month for this new academic year!

**School Contribution**

Thank you to the parents who have already paid the contribution of €100. We rely heavily on this contribution to assist with the day to day running of the school. The funding from the Department has been cut to such a level that there is a shortfall each year with income versus expenditure. Our bank details are as follows should you wish to contribute.

IBAN: IE57AIBK93317114618081

BIC no: AIBKIE 2D

**Communication via Class Dojo**

All teachers are using Class Dojo again this year as a whole school digital communication platform. Teachers will only reply to messages between the hours of 9am and 3:30pm. Please ring the school if you have an urgent message as teachers do not always have time to check Class Dojo when teaching. Homework will be given via this app also.

**Morning Supervision**

Please be advised that children are supervised from 9:10am when school staff enter the yard. The Board of Management is not responsible for any supervision prior to 9:10am.

**Collecting Children Early**

Please send a message to the class teacher via Class Dojo and give the **exact time** you will be collecting your child from school at. The class teacher will walk your child to the **front door** of the school and will meet you there.

Please park **outside the school gates** as the school carpark gates are locked during the day. Thanking you as always for your co-operation on this matter.

**Collection at Home Time**

Please inform your child’s class teacher if your child’s collection arrangements change on any day. You can send a message via Class Dojo or contact the school office. In the interest of safety, children cannot cross the car park unaccompanied. Please meet you child on the footpath and walk them to your vehicle. If your child is cycling or walking home unaccompanied, please ensure you have signed the parental consent form and returned it to your child’s class teacher.

**Good Hygiene Habits**

Please continue to remind and encourage your child to sneeze into a tissue or their arm if they do not have time find a tissue and to cough into their hand to prevent spreading of germs. Encourage thorough washing of hands after the bathroom. Please ensure that your child has enough personal hand sanitizer and refill before empty.

**Illnesses**

We ask parents to please keep children who are sick at home to avoid the spreading of illnesses to other children and staff. We also ask that any child with gastroenteritis symptoms to remain at home until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

**Confirmation**

The Confirmation date has been set for Friday 24th March. Time will be confirmed at a later date.

**First Holy Communion**

The First Holy Communion for St Joseph’s Mulhussey will take place on Saturday 6th May.

**Cycling Safety**

Well done to 5th and 6th Class who are partaking in cycle safety lessons every Friday in school.

**Library Visits**

We are delighted to offer 3rd & 4th class the opportunity to visit Dunboyne Library twice each semester this school year. We know the children will enjoy this very worthwhile experience.

**Disabled Parking Space**

We ask the school community to please keep the disabled parking spaces free for the families that need to access them.

**School Museum**

We are always looking to update and refresh our history museum in our school library. If you have any artefacts that you think would be interesting for the children to view, please let your child’s class teacher know and we can arrange a collection time.

**Transition Year Work Experience**

We are delighted to welcome back past pupils who are doing their work experience placement with us. We currently have one of our past pupils back with us helping out in the junior end of the school every Wednesday.

**Spare clothes**

Children in all classes will need a spare pair of tracksuit bottoms and underwear in the event of a toilet accident, fall or getting wet due to playing on the grass.

**Allergies**

Please be reminded we are a nut free zone. We have children in the school with allergies. Please check cereal bars for traces of nuts. We ask parents for their support and cooperation with this matter.

**Healthy Lunches**

We promote a healthy eating policy here at St Joseph’s. We remind parents to be mindful of foods that are common causes of choking and ensure these foods are cut carefully to avoid any incidents of choking (grapes, sausages etc.)

**Fire Drill**

We had a whole school fire drill on Wednesday 7th September.

**First Aid**

All staff attended a First Aid course on Tuesday 30th August.

**Monthly Whole School Assembly**

We held our first whole school assembly on the 15th of September with a focus on Anti-Bullying. Well done to all of the students who made posters or completed art work to display on the boards in the school raising awareness of anti-bullying in our school.

**Medical Information**

All teachers have now updated the medical information of children in their class. It is the responsibility of parents to inform the school if any of this information changes. It is also the responsibility of parents to maintain and keep up-to-date medical supplies for their children in the school medicine cabinet.

**Child Protection**

All staff have recently updated their Children’s First Child Protection Certificate.

**Teacher Substitution**

There is a significant shortage of substitute teachers available at present. If you know anyone who is qualified to teach and available for substitution cover, please contact the school office.

**Parents Association**

The Parents Association AGM took place on Tuesday 27th. Our sincere thanks to the out-going committee who worked very hard fundraising for various projects in the school and organising a range of events for the whole school community to be partake in. Your work is very much appreciated!

We have a new committee for this year. Joining the committee are Malachy Ryan, Maria Foley as Chairperson, Deborah Maguire as Treasurer and Ellen McEvoy continuing as Secretary.

**Spooky Walk**

Our Spooky Walk will take place at the end of October. A date is to be confirmed.

**Dates for Your Diary**

Catechist Visit Friday 14th October

Maths Week 17th-21st October

Spooky Walk TBC

Midterm Break: 31st October- 4th November

PT Meetings 21st – 25th November

First Holy Communion 6th May

Confirmation 24th March

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