

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Developments at school: New bike shelters have been installed with the support of An Taisce. Children are encouraged to cycle to school. Please note that all bikes should be locked and all scooters should have identifiable markings. The school accepts no responsibility for missing bikes and scooters.

First Confession, Holy Communion and Confirmation Dates for 2024

First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 20th, 2024

Confirmation on Saturday, May 18th, 2024

Coats/Jackets: Pupils should bring a coat/jacket to school every day. Please ensure that their names are clearly marked on their jackets so that they can be returned to their proper owner.

Lunches: Please remember to send your child to school with a small break, a lunch, and a drink. The school has a policy of promoting healthy eating and appropriate lunches. The Lunch Bag is a company that provides packed lunches to the pupils in the school. Parents may wish to use this service and more information is available from the office.

Absences: All absences **must** be explained by parents/guardians. This may be done on Aladdin Connect or by email/telephone message to the school.

Nut allergies: Please remember that we have several pupils with severe nut allergies in the school and nuts or products containing nuts must **never** be sent in with lunches.

Parking/Traffic: **Do not** enter the staff car parks at the front and rear of the school at drop-off/collection times as these areas must always be kept clear. We would encourage as many parents as possible to walk their children to school. We also encourage parents to use the car park at the GAA club and to allow their children to walk in the back gate of the school.

Dates to note:

October 26th, 2023: St. Conaire's NS close early at 12:30 pm to facilitate staff medical training and a teachers' meeting.

October 27th, 2022: St. Conaire's will be holding its annual Halloween Dress Up Day today.

Wednesday, November 8th, 2023: Meeting to elect two parent nominees for the new Board of Management – school hall.

Dance Masters School of Dance: Shelley Naughton's dance classes for children takes place in the GAA club hall after school. Contact Shelley on 086 1703053 for more.

Shannon Family Resource Centre: Shannon Family Resource Centre offers a wide range of support services and activities for families in the Shannon area. More information is available from www.shannonfrc.com or (061) 707600. Opening hours are Monday – Thursday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and Friday 9:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Agreed Report of the Board of Management from its meeting on October 10th, 2023

The Board of Management discussed the following items:

- St. Conaire's NS has a Meeting with Minister Anne Rabbitte on October 25th, 2023.
- Donation from Irish Express Cargo for SEN equipment
- Fire Drills have been conducted successfully in the school in September.
- SNA Review – a review of the school's SNA allocation has taken place.
- Incidental Inspection from the Department of Education in relation to support for children who are displaced from their home countries.
- STEAM initiative in 6th class will be taking place after Halloween.
- Sacramental dates have been announced.
- Chess club has been approved.
- Commencement of extension and appointment of Custy Construction Ltd as contractor
- Information to residents in relation to construction work

School Improvement Plan for 2023/2024 – Fundamental Movement Skills: In consultation with pupils and staff the school will be focusing on Fundamental Movement Skills for the coming school year. The plan is to encourage every single pupil to understand and develop basic skills to improve their enjoyment of physical literacy. This is critical for the development of lifelong learning for basic fitness and enjoyment. We had a school walk in late September and the children really enjoyed the outing.

Cash for Clobber: Our Parents Association will be continuing the Cash for Clobber Collection in the coming weeks and, as always, your support is greatly appreciated. More details will be sent out on Aladdin Connect.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Walsh
Principal Teacher