

Beginning of School Year Letter 2009 - 2010

Welcome our new pupils, *Jason Mullen, Darragh Duffy, Holly Gibbons, Rebecca Twomey, Dion Hopkins, Cillian Dawson Fadden, Dylan Walsh, Kellie Grimes, Lucy Fitzgerald, Caelia Noonan Byrne, Emma Kelly, Aoife Reilly, Shane Gavin.*

Best wishes also to last years 6th class as they start secondary school.

School Uniform: All children are expected to wear their **full school uniform** everyday. Days allotted to P.E. are, as follows (**school tracksuit must be worn on the following days**):

Ms Griers Class: Mondays and Thursdays

Mr.Gormleys Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Ms. Kelly's Class: Mondays and Thursdays

(Please put your child's name on his/her school uniform to avoid them being misplaced.)

First Holy Communion will take place on **Sunday 16th of May 2010.**

Confirmation will take place on **Saturday 23rd May 2010.**

Swimming Lessons for children from 3rd to 6th class, will commence in **January 2010** for a block of ten weeks (Further details will be given at a later date)

Dancing classes for children from junior infants – sixth class will **commence on Monday the 28th September** in the school hall with the Campbell-Deere School of Dance. The cost for each class is €2 which is collected by the dancing teacher at the beginning of class each week.

Music lessons for children from 2nd to 6th class will continue each Thursday with Mr. Tom Lyons. The cost is €2 per child (Tin Whistles can be purchased from the class teacher at the cost of €5)

Photographer: The school photographer will visit the school during the **2nd term** to arrange a date for individual and class photographs to be taken. Parents will be notified in advance.

Gaelic football: Mr.Gormley will continue to provide football training for the middle and upper classes of our school during lunch break.

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place only Monday 18th October 2009. Each parent/guardian(s) will be allotted a specific time to meet with the class teacher to discuss their child's progress. It is very important that parent/guardian(s) attend these meetings.

Calendars: The children from 6th class will produce individual family calendars for each family for 2010 under the guidance of their teacher.

Homework Journals: Children from 1st to 6th class are asked to have a home work journal which should be signed each night by their parent/guardian. If a child has any difficulty with his/her homework, please note it in the homework journal as the class teacher checks it daily.

Healthy Lunches: Children are encouraged to eat a healthy and wholesome lunch each day. Crisps, big bars, fizzy drinks and chewing gum are not allowed.

Ballyheane After School Care: A daily bus service from the school to Ballyheane After School Care is now in operation. Children who finish school at 1.50pm or 2.50p.m. (1st to 6th class) can avail of this service.

An Post Saving Scheme: Saving stamps valued at €1 can be purchased from Mr. Gormley on Monday and Wednesday mornings. After saving €20 the child can lodge the €20 directly into their own post office savings account.

School Trips: Class outings will be arranged on various dates as the school year unfolds (Details regarding these trips will be given to you prior to the events). Pictures are posted on our website www.ballyheanens.com.

School Mass:

End of year school mass will take place in the school hall in the last term. Music/choir for the mass will be provided by the children. All parents grandparents etc are welcome attend.

School Absences: As a parent or guardian you must let the school know if your child is absent from school and the reason why. It is school policy that reasons must be given in writing. The school is obliged to notify the National Education Welfare Board if a child is absent for 20 days or more, or where the absences give rise to concern.