

St. Michael's & St. Patrick's N.S. (Roll No. 19720P)

Cootehall

Boyle

F52TV26

www.cootehallns.com

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071-9667264

8th April 2021

Dear Parents,

The school will be reopening for the third term this Monday April 12th. We hope that everybody has had a pleasant break and are looking forward to coming back to school for a new term of fun and learning.

Again, to minimise the numbers gathering at the start and the end of school we will continue with the timetable of staggered drop off and collection times.

The timetable is as follows:

	Families A-L	Families M- Z	School Bus	Breakfast Club/After school
Arrival Time	9.15 a.m.	9.20 a.m.	9.25 a.m.	9.15 a.m.
Dismissal Time	3.10 p.m.	3.15 p.m.	3.10 p.m.	3.15 p.m.

To ensure the smooth running of this arrangement, supervision will start at 9:15 a.m., and finish at 3:20p.m. The Board of Management cannot accept responsibility for any pupils on the school premises outside of these hours.

Breakfast Club, Small Afterschool (from 2.10pm -3.10pm) or Afterschool (3.10pm-6pm) services are being operated by Ardcarne Community Childcare services as per normal.

The Junior Infant and Senior Infant students finish at 2.10 p.m. The infant teacher uses the remaining hour for class preparation and organisation. The school buses are operating as per their normal schedule.

We ask that people refrain from parking in the area in front of the school gate as this area is reserved for the school bus to safely drop off and collect their passengers.

In anticipation of better weather, we ask drivers to be mindful that there will be an increase of cyclists and pedestrians on the approaches to school in the morning and evening. For those children cycling or walking to school they are welcome to arrive at school at any time from official supervision time of 9.15am. For safety purposes at the end of the school day all those pupils walking, and cycling will be dismissed from the school yard at 3.20pm when the main volume of traffic has left the school.

We ask that all students arrive and are collected at agreed times please. **We ask that students do not leave their vehicle and enter the school grounds until a staff member opens and is**

present at the main school gate. This is to ensure that all students on the school grounds are appropriately supervised.

When pupils arrive at the school at their designated time, they must proceed unaccompanied through the open main gate directly to their classroom and are not permitted to congregate/play in the school yard on arrival or on collection from school.

Parents must ensure that appropriate arrangements are put in place for assembly and dismissal of pupils. We ask that all parents adhere to Public Health Guidelines and please do not congregate at or near the school.

In order to minimise the risk of Introduction of COVID-19 into Schools:

Staff and Pupils are not to return to school or attend school in the event of the following:

- **if they display any signs or symptoms of COVID 19**
- **If they are identified by the HSE as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19**
- **If they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus**
- **If they have travelled outside of Ireland: in such instances they are advised to consult and follow the latest Government Advice in relation to foreign travel.**
- **Staff and pupils must cooperate with any public health officials and the school for contract tracing purposes and follow any public health advice in the event of a case or outbreak in the school.**

Pupils and staff will perform hand hygiene:

- **On leaving and entering vehicles.**
- **On arrival and leaving the school.**
- **Before eating or drinking.**
- **After using the toilet.**
- **After playing outdoors.**
- **When their hands are physically dirty.**
- **When they cough or sneeze.**

Please ensure that all of your child's equipment/books/copies are labelled with the child's name as equipment/books cannot and will not be shared. Homework will be assigned this term and as always, we would strongly encourage each pupil to read as extensively as possible.

We ask that any schoolbooks or computers that are being returned from your home are put in a separate bag please. These will then be put in quarantine/storage for the recommended period and sanitised.

Staff members will wear recommended face coverings. All adult visitors to school grounds **MUST WEAR** suitable face coverings. There is no requirement for pupils to wear face coverings.

Communication between home and school will be by e mail, text, Aladdin and through our school website at the moment. Face to face meetings will only be used in exceptional circumstances. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please email the teacher, or leave a message on the school phone (071-9667264). Please note that our school secretary is unavailable at the moment so phone messages may not be checked every day. We will endeavour to return your email or call as soon as possible. Teachers can be contacted directly by email at the following email addresses:

Class	Teacher	Email address
Junior Infants	Ms. Brennan	deirdrebrennanschool@gmail.com
Senior Infants & 1 st Class	Ms. Conroy/Ms. Brennan	lconroydbrennan@gmail.com
1 st & 2 nd Class	Mr. Conboy	lccootehall@gmail.com
3 rd & 4 th Class	Ms. Tansey	tanya.tansey3@gmail.com
5 th & 6 th Class	Mr. Duffy	cootehallns@gmail.com
S.E.T.	Ms. Martin	camartin053@gmail.com
S.E.T.	Ms. Gilhooly	agilhoolyschool@gmail.com

All parents/guardians are asked to complete a Return to Education Form in respect of all children class returning to school this Monday April 12th.

Please click [here](#) to fill the Return to Education Form.

All parents/guardians must complete an Absence Form in respect of all children after any absence from school. Please click [here](#) for an Absence Form.

Ms Christine McLoughlin will be teaching 3rd and 4th class for the next 3 weeks in Ms. Tansey's absence.

We thank you all for your continued support. If you have any further questions or queries, please contact us at the school.

Kind regards and take care,

Cian Duffy
Principal.