



Introduction

As we come to the end of this academic year, I would like to thank you all - parents, staff and pupils for working so hard during the school year. I also wish to sincerely thank you for your continued support of our school.

Over the summer months, we will be in touch via Aladdin if there are any necessary updates to communicate.

I would also like to wish our two sixth classes the very best of luck as they move on to secondary school. The class of 2021 will be remembered with fondness and each one of them will be missed greatly in our school.

Father John

We were all very upset to hear that Father John will be moving on to a new parish in July. As chairperson of our board of management, Father John has led our school through many changes over last decade and a half. He has worked tirelessly for the whole school community and we are eternally grateful for all the work and time he has committed to all of us. His warmth, kindness and professionalism will be missed by us all here in Duleek GNS.

We look forward to meeting Father Mark English who will be joining our community shortly too.

Croke Park Hours

Our school used Croke Park hours (under the Public Service Agreement) for the following purposes during the school year. Staff meetings, extra supervision before school, collaborative subject and policy planning in a wide variety of areas, personal planning, and engaging with continuous professional development talks/courses throughout the year.

Thanks to all staff for working together and updating a range of school policies and plans during the school year. This is an ongoing process and I thank them all for their positive contributions and professionalism throughout the year.

School Book Fees

For the second year in a row, we will be collecting one flat fee for each pupil in the school. This fee will cover the cost of all the workbooks, book rental, arts and crafts, copies, photocopying, folders and 24 hour pupil insurance. All of this will be purchased directly by the school. Copies and workbooks will be sent home during the first weeks of September for labelling and covering.

If anybody has any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact duleekgirls2009@gmail.com.

Junior and Senior Infant Fees for 2020/2021: 100 euro
1st - 6th Class Fees for 2020/2021: 120 euro

This fee will be available to pay via Aladdin during the week of the 14th June. Could you please make your best effort to pay this fee before July 14th. The books will need to be purchased and funds will need to be available before the payment can be processed with the book supplier. Thank you all in advance for your co-operation.

Class Notifications for Next Year

You will be notified of your daughter's class teacher for next year via Aladdin during the week of the 14th June.

Report Cards/Standardised Test Results

Report Cards will be available to view on Aladdin during the week of the 14th June. The report cards will include standardised results for some classes. Standardised tests were not completed last year due to the school closures. The Department of Education informed all schools that standardised tests should be administered this year.

It is two years since the last standardised tests were completed in all primary schools. Since then, we have moved to the new format Drumcondra Tests. These tests are more challenging than the previous tests that were completed back in 2019. Even in normal circumstances, it would be natural to expect a lower result based upon the test alone.

However, the impact of school closures over the last two years has also massively reduced the level of face to face teaching time. Standardised test results are not a reflection of all the progress your daughter has made over the last two years. It is also important to note that these tests are limited to numeracy and literacy and do not consider all the other many talents and strengths your daughter has. On this note, I would urge you to put the results in context and not consider them as a very small piece of the overall picture of your child's strengths and areas for improvement.

Science Showcase

We will be having a whole school Science Showcase on June 18th at 10am via Zoom. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend on the day to witness some of the lovely experiences that takes place in our school. Zoom login details are below and registration is required before joining. Registration details are below.

When: Jun 18, 2021 10:00 AM Dublin

Topic: Science Showcase Webinar

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_o0jN7aAXSNeLSNYEA7U35Q

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



Ice Cream Van

As a little treat for working so hard during the year, an ice cream van will visit the school on Monday next the 14th June. Please notify your daughter's class teacher if she is unable to eat ice cream and is not old enough to pass this information on herself. Popcorn will be provided as an alternative.



School Crests for Jumpers

School Crests for Jumpers can be purchased via Aladdin at a cost of five euros. These crests can be ironed on or stitched into a plain navy jumper. This will be another way to reduce the costs relating to purchasing crested school jumpers.

The crests will be available to purchase on Aladdin from 14th June onwards. When you have purchased on Aladdin, you can collect the crest from the office or we can send it home with your daughter. The crests will be available to purchase throughout the next academic year. Pictured below is one of the crests. If you purchase a crest during the summer, it can be collected on Thursday the 26th August.



Duleek GNS School Calendar 2021/2022

First Day Back: Pupils Return: Monday 30th of August at 9:20 AM

Mid-Term Break: Closed from Friday 22nd October at 3:00 PM until Monday 1st November at 9:20 AM

Christmas Break: Closing Wednesday December 22nd at 12 noon until Thursday 6th January at 9:20 AM

Mid-Term Break: Closed Thursday 24th and Friday 25th of February

St. Patrick's Day: Closed Thursday 17th and Friday 18th March

Easter Break: Closed Friday April 8th at 12 noon until Monday April 25th at 9:20 AM

Summer Holidays: Closing Wednesday 22nd of June at 12 noon

Meath GAA Visit

A big thank you to Orla, Monica and Kate for visiting our school during Active Week with the All Ireland Intermediate Championship Cup. All pupils were delighted to see the ladies with the cup and join them in their celebrations. They're great local role models for the pupils and they really enjoyed their visit.



Summer Sports Camp

Here are some pictures of our fun summer camp that took place over the course of three days last week. Everybody had lots of fun and enjoyed the experience.



Active Week Fun

A big thank you to Ms Heavey, Ms O'Brien and all staff who were involved in organising this year's Active Week. It is taking place this week and the pupils are having great fun playing a variety of sports and activities. Here are some pictures from the fun week so far.



Mobile Pet Farm

A big thanks to Farmer Pat from Agriaware for visiting our school two weeks ago. It was a great opportunity to learn about the farm animals in a fun way. Here are some pictures of the animals enjoying our company!

