



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope you are all keeping well. We were delighted to welcome your daughter back to school with us yesterday. As we begin another school year, this note is being sent to outline the different communication tools that we will use for the year ahead along with the purpose for each of them. The note will also communicate our school's homework policy for the term ahead too.

It is hoped that this message will bring clarity for everyone on how all members of the school community can effectively communicate with one another over the course of this academic year.

- **Face to Face Meetings:** Unfortunately, with Covid restrictions and Department guidelines, we are limiting face to face meetings as much as possible. In limited circumstances, this may be necessary in line with public health advice. However, a suitable time and venue will need to be agreed and scheduled before a meeting can take place.
- **Aladdin Connect:** *General School Notes* will be sent directly to parents using Aladdin Connect. *Absence reasons* should be filled by parents on Aladdin.
- **Phone Call:** If you need to *communicate something urgent* to your daughter during the school day, please ring the office on **0419823632**
- **Homework Journal:** Your daughter's homework journal can be used to exchange *short messages* between class teacher and parent.
- **Teacher Email:** In the days ahead, the email of your daughter's class teacher will be shared with you on Aladdin. Please use this email if you wish to discuss something in detail with your daughter's teacher. As a school staff, we have decided to *respond to emails with a phone call or homework journal note (if necessary)*. The last 18 months have placed increased demands on everyone and we feel that the most effective and time efficient way to respond is with a phone call or homework journal note. We will endeavour to respond to your query as soon as possible.
- **School Email:** If you have a *general school query* that does not relate to your daughter's teacher, please *email the school at duleekgirls2009@gmail.com* and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Another option is to *ring the office 0419823632*. Please note that your daughter's class teacher will not be available to take calls during the school day as he/she will be with their class.
- **Website:** General School Information and Policies
- **Online Learning Platform:** To enhance teaching and learning across the school, all pupils will have access to and use an appropriate online learning platform.
Junior Infants – 2nd Class: Seesaw
Rang Oisín agus Cormac: Seesaw
3rd – 6th Class: Google Classroom

Homework

Homework will begin to be assigned next Monday the 6th September for all classes from Junior Infants to 6th Class.



The purpose of this homework will be to re-inforce what is being learned in school and to further strengthen the link between school and home. Homework will be assigned on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays but not on Fridays.

Homework will mainly focus upon the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths. Other subject specific homework may be assigned too. Homework will usually contain a mixture of reading, writing and learning tasks. The content will also very much depend on the class level too. Pupils will be using homework journals again this year and we are encouraging you to sign it on a daily basis.

The following are guidelines for time spent at homework, Time spent will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. The following are general guidelines only

Infants: Up to ten/fifteen minutes

1st and 2nd: Up to twenty minutes

3rd and 4th: Up to thirty minutes

5th and 6th : Up to forty minutes

Children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. If your daughter's homework is taking longer than the above guide and this is having a negative impact, please mention this to your daughter's class teacher and he/she will help identify particular areas of homework for your daughter to prioritise instead.

School Fees Reminder

If you have not already paid this fee, it is still available to pay via Aladdin. Could you please make your best effort to pay this fee soon as possible? The books have already been supplied and funds will need to be available before the payment can be processed with the book supplier.

Any copies or workbooks that need to be labelled or covered will be sent home in the coming days.

Junior and Senior Infant Fees for 2020/2021: 100 euro

1 st - 6 th Class Fees for 2020/2021: 120 euro

Thank you for taking the time to read this note. We look forward to working in partnership with you and having a great year ahead.

Kind regards,

Mr McGovern.