



## Introduction

Dear Parents, Guardians and Pupils,

I hope you are all keeping well and had a lovely summer. We are delighted to welcome you back to school tomorrow. As we begin another school year, this newsletter aims to keep everyone up to date with school procedures so that it can run as efficiently and smoothly as possible for the year ahead.

Staff will be on hand tomorrow to guide your daughter to her correct classroom. Morning supervision begins as usual for all classes at 9:05AM in the Junior Yard for Senior Infants—2nd class and the Senior Yard for 3rd—6th class.

Junior Infants can go straight to their classroom through door E in the junior yard from 9:05am—9:20 am.

If your daughter gets a bus, please check with the bus driver as to what time they arrive at school as pupils should not be arriving before supervision starts at 9:05AM. The board of management accepts no responsibility for pupils arriving before this time.

## Infant Collection Time 12:30

To smooth their transition to Junior and Senior Infants, pupils in both classes will finish at 12:30 for the first week and a half of this school term until Friday the 9th September.

From September 12th onwards, the normal finish time of 2:00PM will apply.

## Communication Protocols for 2022/2023

- ⇒ General School Notes will be sent directly to parents using Aladdin Connect by class teacher and school office.
- ⇒ All absence reasons should be completed and sent via Aladdin.
- ⇒ Parents can send a short message to your daughter's class teacher via Aladdin or in your daughter's homework journal.
- ⇒ If you need to communicate an urgent message to your daughter during the school day, please ring the office on 04198923632 or email [duleekgirls2009@gmail.com](mailto:duleekgirls2009@gmail.com) and we will endeavour to pass this message on.
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ Website: General School Information and Policies [www.duleekgns.ie](http://www.duleekgns.ie)
- ⇒ Monthly Newsletters via Aladdin and the School Website

## **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. Please note that we no longer accept cash payments.

## **School Uniform**

Our uniform consists of plain navy tracksuit bottoms, a light blue polo t-shirt and a plain navy school jumper. The majority of pupils prefer to wear navy trousers instead of a pinafore. All pupils can wear a pinafore if they prefer but it is optional. School crests are available to buy via Aladdin for a cost of five euro. Once purchased, crests can be collected at the school office.

## **DEIS Urban Band 2 Status**

We are delighted to announce that our school along with Duleek BNS has been assigned Deis Urban Band 2 Status. This classification will give both schools more resources to further support the school community. Below are some of the additional benefits of gaining this status. Please note that schools were only notified about this development three months later than the norm during the summer break. The list of supports below will not come into effect straight away, this will take time and all relevant developments will be communicated to you before they occur.

- Increased funding through a DEIS grant paid
- Access to Home School Community Liason Services (HSCL)
- Access to School Meals Programme
- Access to Planning Supports
- Additional funding for School Books

## **Nut Free School**

Please be reminded that we are a nut free school due to some pupils having allergies. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **Assigning of Homework**

The purpose of 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. T

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.

## Staffing for 2022/2023 Academic Year

Class	Teacher
Junior Infants	Ms. Healy
Junior Infants	Ms. O'Brien
Senior Infants	Mrs. Kearney
Senior Infants	Ms. Griffin
1st Class	Ms. Ní Chuinn
1st and 2nd Class	Ms. Collier
2nd Class	Ms. Fitzgerald
3rd Class	Mrs. Martin/Ms Walsh Job Share
3rd Class	Ms. Tuohy
4th Class	Ms. Sharkey
4th and 5th Class	Ms. Andrews
5th Class	Ms. O'Dwyer
6th Class	Ms. Costigan
6th Class	Ms. O'Brien
Rang Oisín	Ms. Raftery
Rang Cormac	Mr. Greene
SET	Ms. Heavey
SET	Mr. Brady
SET	Ms. McKelvey Connell
SET Shared	Ms. Byrne
SNAs	Sinéad Mc Enery, Noreen Davitt, Valerie Smyth, Valerie Carroll, Lorna Mallon, Yvonne Brien, Paula Smith and Nicola Piper
Secretary	Marian Owens and Claire Byrne
Caretaker	Peter Hamilton
Principal (Designated Liaison Person)	Pádraig McGovern

On behalf of all the staff in Duleek GNS, we would like to wish our long serving secretary Marian Owens well in her retirement. Marian has been secretary in Duleek GNS for the last 24 years and will be dearly missed by the whole school community. Marian will still be with us for the start of the academic year so everybody will still have a chance to say their goodbyes! Thank you Marian for all your hard work, kindness and professionalism over the last 20 years. We'd also like to give a big welcome to Claire Bryne who will be assuming the role of secretary.

We would also like to wish both Ms Fanning and Ms Robinson who have left our teaching staff well in their future teaching careers. Both Ms Fanning and Ms Robinson will be missed dearly for their professionalism and hard work in Duleek GNS over the years. Ms Boylan and Ms Gregory have taken career breaks for the year, we wish them well for the year and look forward to their return.

Finally, we would like to welcome our new members of staff to the school this year. We are delighted to have them on board and I am very confident that they will be great assets to our school community. A big welcome to Ms. Griffin, Ms. Collier, Ms Tuohy, Ms. Andrews, Ms. O'Dwyer, Ms. O'Brien, Lorna Mallon, Paula Smith and Nicola Piper.

### **Duleek GNS School Calendar 2022/2023**

First Day Back: Pupils Return Wednesday 31st August at 9:20 AM

Mid-Term Break: Closed from Friday 28th October at 3:00 PM until Monday 7th November at 9:20 AM

Christmas Break: Closing Wednesday December 21st at 12 noon until Thursday 5th January at 9:20 AM

New Bank Holiday: Closed Monday 6th February

Mid-Term Break: Closed Thursday 16th and Friday 17th of February

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

Easter Break: Closed Friday 31st March at 12 noon until Monday April 17th at 9:20 AM

May Bank Holiday: Closed Monday 1st May

June Bank Holiday: Closed Monday 5th June

Summer Holidays: Closing Friday 23rd June at 12 noon