



St. Raphaela's Primary School

6th September 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a pleasure to welcome back all our pupils and parents to the new school year. Our staff welcomed in a special way the pupils who have joined us from other schools, and the pupils of our two classes of Junior Infants. We also welcomed Miss Kate O'Crowley as our Senior Infant Teacher.

I would like to thank Ms. Doheny for her leadership, care and commitment to our school community during my Maternity Leave. It's a privilege to work with a Management Team and Staff that create such a caring and improvement focused learning environment for staff and pupils alike.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and working with each other and our parent body to enrich learning across all areas of our pupils' academic, sporting, social and spiritual development.

The school term ahead will be a busy one, and I will forward a detailed calendar of events in the coming days. Please note the [dates for your diary](#) included in this newsletter. The school calendar can be found on the school website and I will forward a list of additional events planned for Term One later this week. I am also attaching important [School Reminders](#).

We are looking forward to a special day at our [Back to School Family Fun](#) day on Saturday 14th September with thanks to Nicola Hayes and Gemma Dardis, the co-Chairs of the Parent Association, along with the Parent Association Class Representatives and volunteers for organising this event. If you can volunteer your time or would like further information on our [Parent Association](#), please contact: straphaelaspa@yahoo.co.uk. Our P.A. with and for the families in our school and there are many ways that you can support and help their work throughout the year! I am sending a special call out to parents and grandparents to ask for your help in running our [school library](#). If you can assist us on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings, we would greatly appreciate it. Please email the school office, and our parent volunteers will help you through the Garda Vetting process as well as train you in!

Over the Summer a group of parents committed both their time and money to revitalising our [Badminton Hall](#). This is a space that our pupils, teachers and families use for sports, gatherings and special School occasions. Thank you to Nathan Fox for coordinating this transformation and to each parent who gave their time, and contributed towards the full cost of the transformation, we received over €3000 in donations to complete this project and the space will be enjoyed by every member of our school over the years to come. Please see photos attached

With best wishes to each of you for a successful and happy school year ahead.

Laura Corry

September:

- ✓ Mon 9th : **Junior Infants begin full school day** (8.50a.m.-1.30p.m.)
- ✓ Mon 9th **First Class begin full school day** (8.50a.m.-2.30p.m.)
- ✓ Mon 9th – **After School Clubs begin**
- ✓ Sat 14th – **Back to School Family Fun Day** (details attached)
- ✓ Tues 24th - 1st-6th Class will celebrate **Mass for the beginning of the School Year** with Fr. Paddy @11.30a.m.

October:

- ✓ Thurs 3rd -**Junior Infant Parent Social**
- ✓ **Mon 7th - School Closed**
Staff Inservice Day
- ✓ Thurs 17th -**Open Morning** for prospective 2020 Junior Infant parents
- ✓ Thurs 24th - **Hallowe'en Disco**: Pupils from 3rd-6th Class
- ✓ Fri 25th - **Fancy Dress Friday**: for the whole school (no face paints)
- ✓ **Mon 28th Oct – Fri 1st Nov, School Closed**

WELCOME BACK

School Reminders

Pupil safety: School begins at 8.50a.m each morning. Supervision is provided from 8.30a.m., there is no access permitted to the school or yard before that time. On wet mornings children will be supervised in the Drama Hall and Badminton Hall from 8.30a.m.

If you are bringing your daughter to Mass, please **bring her directly in to** the Chapel, children from all faith backgrounds and none are welcome to attend.

Because of the number of pupils in the yard in the morning and at home time, children **are not allowed to use the Jungle Gym at these times.**

On wet mornings, there is only space in each hall for the pupils being supervised. We ask parents to leave their pupils in the care of the supervising members of staff without entering the hall.

E-Payments: we would like to remind parents of the E-payment facility that we have available through the school website. This is a more secure method of processing money, for your child and for the office! By the end of this school year we hope to move towards online payments for all school tours, book rental etc.

Car Park Safety: There are over 1000 primary and secondary school pupils using our campus and their safety must come first. We are relatively lucky in the space we have for parents and visitors to the school campus. Where possible, please use the first drop off zone at the school gates and allow your child to walk to the school building via the footpath and pedestrian crossings.

Car users who use our campus must respect the double yellow lines, signs and drop off zone. It is also expected that our Caretaker and any staff member or parent volunteer on Car Park duty will be treated with respect. The safety of our children is paramount, **and the convenience of our car parking and campus facilities will be withdrawn** from car drivers who repeatedly disrespect our Car Park Safety rules.

School Uniforms: Children should wear their full school uniform every day, or their school tracksuit on PE days. **Only green coats should be worn to school.** There is an abundance of uniform items available to parents on our Swap Shop rails that parents can avail of at any stage during the school year. Children should wear their hair tied back neatly every day, please avoid large bows or bandanas for hygiene purposes. Hair dyes of an unnatural colour are not allowed.

Contacting your child's Class Teacher: Your child's class teacher should be the first person you talk to with any query or concern about any part of your child's school day. Please write a note in your child's journal or contact your class teacher through the school office.

If a child is late or absent, **parents must write a note** in their child's journal, or send a written note of explanation directly to the teacher upon their return to school.

Early Collections: Parents must write a note in their child's journal if they are arranging to collect them before the end of the school day. Children will be called to the School office for collection from the foyer. **Please ensure you do not arrive during break or lunch time to collect your child as the office will be unattended.** Parents must sign their child out in the book at reception,

After School Activities: Please contact the club leader directly for after-school activities. Please also inform your child's class teacher in writing if you've arranged for your daughter to go somewhere other than directly home at 1.30/2.30p.m. If you are booking child care with Caroline Coen, please do so with at least one day's notice so that she can ensure there is a space for your child. Caroline cannot accept calls at the weekend. Details of all after-schools can be found here <http://www.straphaelasns.ie/after-school>

Parent / Guardian Contact Details: we regularly use text alerts and emails to keep parents and guardians informed of relevant school information. Please inform the school of any changes to the contact details of a parent/guardian's telephone number, email address or home address at any stage during the school year.





**PARENTS ASSOCIATION WELCOMES
YOU TO OUR ANNUAL...**



BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY

FREE
EVENT



**SATURDAY 14TH SEPT
1-3PM**

(weather permitting!)

**BACK FIELD,
ST. RAPHAELA'S
NATIONAL SCHOOL**

**JOUSTING | POPCORN |
CANDY FLOSS | SLUSHIES
ASSAULT COURSES AND
MUCH MORE..!**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

CAR PARK SAFETY MESSAGE



DROP OFF ZONE
Only to be used for
morning drop-off.

NEVER pick-up
from the Drop Off
Zone or Roundabout.
Use a parking space.



- If no space available, drive out of car park and back in to find one.
- No Stopping or Parking on Double Yellow lines.
- Drive Slowly Always and stop at Pedestrian crossings

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE



Badminton Hall



Huge thanks to each parent and family member who donated their time, energy and money to transform our Badminton Hall:

Nathan & Caroline Fox (Katie, Anna & Laura); Avril & Paul Molloy (Shauna & Lauren); Stephen and Jane Bowen (Sarah & Emily); Darren Molloy (Naoise and Etain); John & Raphael Connolly (Amelia Connolly); Anu & Jachindra Mohanty (Alisha) ; Goda & Bernard O'Raw (Rachel and Elise); Colm Hayes (Sorch, Hannah, Roisin); The Elbeaa Family; Conor Dardis (Lara); Mags & Neil Buckley (Lyra); Betty Reyes (Angelica and Cristina) ; Keith & Joanne O'Leary (Aisling and Emma); Brian Ryan (Kate and Clodagh) ; Cariosa, Senan and Conall Prouveur (Sorch, Prouver); Dermott & Fiona O'Callaghan (Abbie); Diana Uherova (Ester); Brad & Clare Goodey (Aisling Goodey); Carol Forsyth (organised 4 volunteers from O'Dwyer Property Management); Catherine Walsh(Tessa, Rosie & Niamh); Mary Quinn (Martha & Jenna O'Leary); Cristina Cruz (Helena and Julia); Alex Araujo (Lorena) James Mulrooney (Lisa); Leo (Grandad of Emma);







