



SN. Chnoc na Graí,
Knocknagree Mallow Co Cork
064-7756237/ 085 2698022
office@knocknagreens.ie
Roll no.18549D

September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all our students. We hope you all enjoyed a happy and restful summer. This year twelve children started in Junior Infants. We welcome Emer, Rory, Ollie, Ivy, Ava, Aaron, Isla, Paige, Andrew, Molly, Hannah and Darren. We also welcome Daire, Tomás and Denis who started in other classes. We wish them every success and hope their time here will be happy and filled with good memories.

NEW STAFF

Ms. Brigid O'Shea	Teacher
Ms. Caroline Doolan	Teacher
Ms. Niamh Fitzgerald	Teacher
Ms. Miriam Regan	SNA
Ms. Rosemarie O' Riordan	SNA
Ms. Máire O'Sullivan	SNA

Welcome to our school community we're happy to have you join our team and look forward to the amazing contributions you will make.

SMART PHONES - AGREE TO AGREE

Knocknagree N.S. is part of a pilot scheme with other schools in Kerry again this year. Dr. Maureen Griffin guided school communities last year through a collaborative process which aimed at implementing positive change, fostering agreement and understanding among school stakeholders in order to establish a new norm for children's use of internet enabled devices. There will be an event held on Thursday 25th September in the hall in Rathmore at 7pm, where the schools involved in the pilot will launch their agreements. All parents are welcome to attend this event. Dr. Maureen Griffin who is a forensic psychologist, will speak on the night about the negative effect phones and social media are having on our children and identify the dangers that are out there.

PUPIL PERSONAL ACCIDENT

This year the pupil personal accident insurance is part of the photocopying/arts & crafts contribution which all families pay at the beginning of the school year.

DROP OFF AND COLLECTION ROUTINES

School begins at 9.15am. We ask that children are dropped off **no sooner than 9.05am**. School finishes at **2.55pm (1.55pm for Junior and Senior Infants)**. The school authority will not be responsible for the children on the school grounds outside of these times. Children are not allowed to leave the school grounds unless an adult is there to collect them.

PARENTS WHO NEED TO COME INTO THE SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON

If you need to meet a teacher at any time, please make an appointment by emailing the teacher or ringing the school beforehand. Please note, you can contact individual teachers through their individual school email or by using the contact form on our website. All email addresses are available on our website when you click- Contact School. **Our new school mobile number is: 085 2698022.**

IF A CHILD IS SICK

It is imperative that parents do not send children to school if they are showing symptoms of any illness whatsoever. Any child who is sick will have to be sent home immediately as there are still regular positive cases of Covid-19 in the community. It is vital that parents/guardians are contactable at all times throughout the school day in case of children becoming ill.

CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS

If any of your child/children's details have changed e.g. address, contact details, illness, allergies etc. please contact the school as soon as possible. Thank You.

E-PAYMENT SYSTEM / ALADDIN CONNECT

Payment requests for photocopying, art and insurance etc. will be requested by email and can be paid through the Aladdin app. We ask that all payments are completed asap. If you are finding it difficult to make payments because of financial difficulty, please contact the principal directly by email eleonor.oconnell@knocknagreens.ie or by phone on 064-7756237.

UNIFORM

Our normal crested half zip is required. Plain navy unbranded tracksuit / shorts and a blue polo shirt. Children can occasionally mislay their zip tops and jackets during the school day. **Please ensure that zip tops and jackets are marked with child's name.**

ATTENDANCE

If your child has to leave school for part of the day, please update the school on the Aladdin app informing the class teacher of his/her absence. Children must be signed out by whoever is collecting them, if they leave for part of the day they must be signed back in when they return. All absences must be accounted for. Now and then parents will be asked to reply to a notification on Aladdin Connect, **please reply promptly.**

HEALTHY LUNCHES AND FOOD ALLERGIES

We encourage a healthy lunch. **Chewing gum, fizzy drinks, chocolate, sweets and crisps are not allowed.** We have pupils in the school with **nut allergies**. It is very important that **pupils do not bring items to school that contain nuts**. We ask parents and children to be **vigilant as some products contain traces of nuts**. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

SCHOOL LOTTO

The school lotto continues to run on a weekly basis. This enables the school to raise much needed funds. By joining the school lotto you are helping your child and the school to obtain more benefits. You can contribute €2.50 for one line or €5.00 for three lines. The lotto can be accessed on:

<http://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/knocknagreens>

PARENTS COMMITTEE

Exciting Fundraising Event! ✦ 🧑 🧑

The Parents' Association are delighted to announce that we will be hosting a *Strictly Come Dancing* evening to help raise funds for a brand-new AstroTurf for the school.

 **Date:** Saturday, 8th November

 **Venue:** The Great Southern Hotel Killarney

It promises to be a fantastic night of fun, entertainment, and community spirit. Your support would be greatly appreciated — every step takes us closer to our new AstroTurf!

Stay tuned for more details on tickets and how you can get involved.

LEE STRAND

A big thank you to all the parents who collected Lee Strand tokens. We got 80 FREE HOMEWORK JOURNALS. Tokens are required for each homework journal. It is a whole school effort and we are asking you to start collecting the tokens from the 1 litre or 2 litre Lee Strand Milk cartons. As you collect the tokens you can send them in with your child/children. We also received €549 from Lee Strand for our ongoing support.

LIBRARY

The Mobile Library will visit our school every 2nd Tuesday. It will visit again on the 30th September. All classes can avail of this service. Please complete and send in the green registration card so your child can visit the mobile library. We encourage parents to visit

their local library as often as possible with their children. Visiting the Library will help in encouraging your children to read.

*"The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn.
The more places you will go."*

Dr Seuss

INITIATIVES



GREEN FLAG

We would like to wish two of our past Committee members Caoimhe Lenihan and Denis Donnelly all the best as they start their next chapter in secondary school.



This year we will be continuing work towards our third Green Flag which is based on the theme of "**TRAVEL**". We are looking forward to organising some activities to mark "Walk to School Week" and "Climate Action Week" both of which take place from the 13th-17th October.

AMBER FLAG

We are excited to announce that a new Amber Flag Committee will be selected this year! The Amber Flag initiative promotes positive mental health and well-being in schools, and our committee will work together to organize activities and events that foster a supportive environment for all. Ms. Karen O'Sullivan will oversee everything related to the Amber Flag this year and we aim to achieve our Amber Flag by the end of the school year. With the help of our dedicated students, staff and community, we are confident we can reach this important goal.



GAELBHRATACH

We are delighted to be taking part in the Gaelbhratach scheme this year. The aim of the scheme is to promote the Irish language within our school and our community. We will take part in training and receive lots of fun resources to help us promote Irish as a living language. We hope you will all join us to speak the cúpla focal during the year and we look forward to receiving the Gaelbhratach flag to display outside our school.

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES

We are delighted to inform you that once again we have been successful in our application to the "Say Yes To Languages" programme. Children from 5th & 6th class will have a Spanish class for a period of 10 hours over 10 weeks.

CURIOUS MINDS

This year, we are continuing the Curious Minds Initiative in the school. We successfully achieved a gold award last year. We are working towards another gold award this year. The pupils will participate in various STEM activities throughout the school year and continue to develop their skills across the following areas: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

SCHOOL SELF EVALUATION

This year as part of our self- evaluation, we are continuing to focus on digital portfolios and we are encouraging self and peer assessment techniques in all classes. Digital portfolios offer children a dynamic way to showcase their learning progress and achievements, encouraging self-reflection and goal setting. They also enhance self and peer assessment by enabling students to track their own growth and provide feedback on peers' work, fostering collaboration and critical thinking.

HALLOWEEN DRESS UP

The children can participate in a dress up for Halloween on Wednesday 22nd October as there will be no school Thursday and Friday of that week.

SHOE BOX APPEAL

We will participate in Team Hope Shoebox Appeal again this year. Boxes must ready by Tuesday 4th November.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Parent teacher meetings will take place on the 25th November. School will close at 1.55pm on this day. However, we are happy to accommodate parents who may not be able to make the specified day and we will be available from 8:30am on the mornings of that week also.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Every child from Junior Infants to 6th class will have the opportunity to go swimming. Swimming will begin on Friday 17th April to Friday 22nd May inclusive.

CINDERELLA

Children from 1st to 6th class will travel to the 'Everyman Theatre', Cork to see "Cinderella". Juniors & Seniors will travel to Siamsa Tíre to see their Christmas panto on a date yet to be confirmed. These events will be part funded by the Parent Association.

CHRISTMAS

Mass will be held in the church for the school children on Thursday 18th December. This will be followed by a carol service and bake sale in the hall. Details to follow.

ENROLMENT CEREMONY

Enrolment Ceremony for First Communion children & Confirmation children will be held on Saturday 18th October at 7pm. We encourage pupils from 3rd & 4th class to attend and sing as part of our school choir.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 17th February at 3pm in Knocknagree church. Pupils from 2nd/ 3rd/ 4th class will be asked to attend the ceremony as part of our school choir.

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion will be held on Saturday 25th April, time to be confirmed. We encourage pupils from 3rd to 6th class to attend and to sing as part of our school choir.

LISA'S LITTLE LIONS

Children can avail of breakfast club in the school which begins at 7.30am every morning. Afterschool service is also available five days a week until 6pm for those wishing to attend. Please contact Lisa for further information.

SNA APPRECIATION DAY

Be part of national SNA Appreciation Day on Thursday 25th September. Our special needs assistants make our school special. Every day in schools across Ireland staff show up to support students. SNA appreciation day is a way to highlight that support and celebrate the solidarity at the heart of school communities. To celebrate a competition is being run.

WIN UP TO €1000 FOR YOUR SCHOOL. Any staff member or PARENT can enter and the more entries from your school the better the chance of winning!

To enter the competition and thank our SNA's- please see message sent on Aladdin app.

School roll number 18549D

There are 6 SNAs in our school- Nicola, Miriam, Siobhan, Carmel, Rosemarie and Máire.

DATES TO REMEMBER 2025-2026

23 rd Oct	Closed staff training
24 th Oct	Closed Presidential Election
27 th Oct - 31 st Oct	Closed midterm
25 th Nov	Parent teacher meetings (School finishes @1.55pm)
10 th Dec	Cinderella Everyman Theatre (1 st class up) Junior & Seniors Christmas outing (date to be agreed)
22 nd Dec - 4 th Jan	Closed Christmas Holidays
21 st Jan	Closed staff training
2 nd Feb	Closed Bank Holiday
17 th Feb	Confirmation at 3pm
19 th & 20 th Feb	Closed Mid Term
11 th March	Staff meeting (School finishes @ 1.55pm)
16 th & 17 th March	Closed
30 th March - 12 th April	Closed Easter Holidays
25 th April	First Communion- time to be confirmed
4 th May	Closed Bank Holiday
6 th May	Staff meeting (School finishes @ 1.55pm)
1 st June	Closed Bank Holiday
23 rd June	Closing at midday for Summer Holidays