



Knocknagree Mallow Co Cork
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office@knocknagreens.ie
Roll no. 18549D

27th November 2023

Dear Parents,

Follow our school blog at www.knocknagreens.ie. We will be updating the blog regularly so you can see what is happening in school. Simply click on the latest blog post and you can easily scroll through the posts which are archived monthly. All newsletters will be available under the newsletter tab, under parent's info tab on our website. Each family will also get a paper copy.

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 **2:55 pm (1:55 for Junior and senior infants)**. The school authority will not be responsible for the children on the school grounds outside of these times. Parents/ guardians are asked to collect children from the school gate, children will not be allowed to leave school grounds without an adult.

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 from on our website. All contact details are available on the website.

ATTENDANCE

If your child has to leave school for part of the day, please send in a note 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. Again, if the child is returning the child has to be signed in. Absence notes must be submitted for all absences when the child returns to school.

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 in this matter.*

WHEEL CHAIR PARKING

Please note that cars must not park on the wheel chair parking or bus stop areas and cars must never obstruct other traffic. We would like to remind drivers to drive slowly and carefully at all times when in proximity of the school,

LEE STRAND

Ten 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 carton so that we can avail of free homework journals for all pupils next year. As you collect the tokens you can send them in with your child/children

INITIATIVES

AMBER FLAG

BLUE STAR

The pupils in fifth and have been very busy participating in the Blue Star programme. They have collaboratively created history projects and they are also completing their individual geography projects, which they will present to the other classes. After Christmas, we will focus on learning the institutional, cultural and creative elements of the EU.

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES

The children from third to sixth class will get the opportunity to learn German for period of eight weeks after Christmas. These classes will be delivered by Ms. Karen O' Sullivan on two evenings a week. This programme will compliment the Blue Star initiative.

SCIENCE WEEK

The pupils in first, second, fifth and sixth class enjoyed participating in coding lessons during Science week. All classes showcased a number of science experiments during Science week.

CURIOUS MINDS

GREEN FLAG

ACTIVE FLAG

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons finished Friday, the 24th November. It was great to see so many pupils participating in the lessons. Aquatics is a strand in the Irish primary school curriculum and I encourage all children to participate in swimming lessons as it is an important life skill.

PARENT TEACHER/STAFF MEETINGS

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Tuesday, the 28th of November from 2:45pm. School will close at 2:30pm to facilitate the meetings. The bus will run at this time also. The school will close @1:55pm on 6th of December, 5th of March and the 5th of June to facilitate staff meetings. The bus will run at 1:55pm and Lisa's Little Lions will run the after school service from 1:55pm to 5pm on days of staff meetings.

CINEMA TRIP

All pupils will travel by bus to The Gate cinema in Mallow, on Friday the 1st of December. They will get the opportunity to watch a Christmas movie and enjoy some tasty treats. The

Parent's Association are covering the cost of the buses. The cost per child is €10. A link will be sent over the coming days.

MUSIC LESSONS

All pupils from first to sixth class get the opportunity to learn the tin whistle once a week. These lessons are provided by Ms. Noreen O Connor from Cork ETB. The cost per pupils is €23 per pupil. A link will be sent over the coming days.

CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

The pupils will participate in a Christmas Carol concert on the 14th of December @7pm in Knocknagree Church. The children will sing some Christmas songs, play Christmas music and present a simple Nativity play. As this is on in the church, it is important that we are respectful at all times. Children should only go on the alter when directed to do so by their teachers as part of the concert. There will be a short interval, where the PA will provide teas, coffees, refreshments. They will have a donation box on the night. All monies raised will be used to support your children's education.

BAKE SALE

We will have a bake sale on Thursday, the 21st of December. We ask **all families** to bring in some baked goods. The bake sale will take place in the 5th and 6th class classroom. Parents, grandparents and members of the community are welcome to visit our bake sale between 10am and 11am. Pupils in all classes will get an opportunity to visit the bake sale during the day. Children will need some money if they wish to purchase some tasty treats. Monies raised from the bake sale will be used to fund a set of 15 basketball jerseys for the school. Pupils in 5th and 6th class will participate in basketball tournaments in the Spring.

DANCE LESSONS

All pupils will get the opportunity to participate in Irish Dancing lessons for six weeks in January/February. The cost of these will be €12 per pupil. The lessons will be provided by Áine Murphy from the Áine Murphy School of Dancing.

Local St. Vincent de Paul Food Appeal

We will have a box in our school until **Friday 9th Dec**, where the children can bring in food items for the St. Vincent de Paul collection

The following is a list of acceptable items:

(Please ensure that all food items are non-perishable.)

Tea Sugar Breakfast cereal Porridge Jam / Marmalade Drinking chocolate / Cocoa

Soup (Tinned or packet) Pasta Rice (Pearl / Long Grain) Ketchup / Sauces Pasta/rice sauce

Jelly Custard Cornflour Bisto Tinned Fruit Tinned Vegetables Tinned Fish Baked Beans Soft drinks / Diluted Drinks

Christmas cake / pudding Christmas selection boxes Biscuits Chocolates Mince pies Crisps
Popcorn Sweets

Non Food items may include

Kitchen Paper Toilet paper Toothbrushes Toothpaste Soap Washing up liquid

As it's the season of good will, the staff of Knocknagree National School have agreed that the children should not give any staff members presents of any sort but maybe give a donation to charity.

School will close for Christmas Holidays at midday on Wednesday 22nd of December

To finish off I would like to wish you and your families a happy & peaceful Christmas, looking forward to seeing everyone happy healthy and well on the 8th January 2024.

