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## Fáilte

A Chairde,

Welcome back after the Christmas period and a Happy New Year to you all.

We had plenty of festive cheer around the school in late December. On the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, the children enjoyed a viewing of the original 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' movie in the Millbank Theatre. On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class children participated in a seasonal table quiz which was great fun. The following day, Santa visited with a firetruck as his mode of transport. Our annual carol service and pageant took place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Maur's church. It was a huge success. Thank you to Ms. S. Ferguson and Phil Corcoran for all their hard work and of course to Ms. S. Ferguson's 3<sup>rd</sup> class who were fantastic on the day. Huge thanks to our school choir who sang beautifully under the guidance of Ms. A. Emmett, Ms. L. McGuinness, Ms. S. Ennis, Mr. P. Conroy and Ms. S.G. Breen.

The new term will be a busy but hugely enjoyable one and we look forward to your continued support throughout the year.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

## Termly Reminders

Below are a few reminders which help the smooth and safe running of the school:

**Head Lice:** Please check your child's hair for lice as we have received quite a few reports of head lice in various classes. If at all possible, please tie up your child's hair.

**Nut Free:** As you are aware, Rush National School is a "Nut Free" school. Thank you for your continued support.

**Road Safety:** To ensure the safety of all our pupils, please observe the speed limit and parking restrictions in front of the school. Pupils travelling to school on foot are encouraged to wear a hi-vis vest. Pupils travelling by bicycle or scooter are encouraged to wear the appropriate safety gear and a hi-vis vest.

**Dogs:** In the interest of Health and Safety, dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

**School Uniform:** Our school uniform may be purchased from multiple retailers once the correct colours are adhered to. However, our school crested tracksuit is only stocked by Pat O'Farrell Schoolwear and therefore generic tracksuits are unsuitable as they don't have the crest or piping on them.

## Opening/Closing Hours:

- The school gates open at 8:50 a.m. in order to prevent congestion outside the school.
- The children walk to their classrooms, hang up their coats, sit down and take out some work/read a book/engage in the activity on the table.
- They are supervised by teachers on morning duty who walk from classroom to classroom.
- The class teacher is not required to be in the room until 9:00 a.m.

- It is vital that all parents vacate their child's classroom by 9:00 a.m. in order to ensure prompt commencement of tuition.
- If you need a quick word with the teacher upon your arrival at school, then please do so. However, for more important discussions, please make an appointment through the school secretary or by writing a note requesting a meeting in your child's homework journal. This is to ensure that the teacher is able to give their full attention to the children in the classroom.
- The school gates are opened at 1:30 p.m. in order for the junior classes to go home at 1:40 p.m.
- The school gates are opened at 2:30 p.m. in order for the middle and senior classes to go home at 2:40 p.m.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Dates for your Diary**

**23.01.19.**

Parent/Teacher Meetings.

14:25 p.m. – 17:30 p.m.

**24.01.19.**

Parent/Teacher Meetings.

14:4 p.m. – 17:30 p.m.

**29.01.19.**

Cycle Safety Course for 5<sup>th</sup> Class

**05.02.19.**

Brú na Bóinne Trip

Room 1

**07.02.19.**

Brú na Bóinne Trip

Room 16

**08.02.19.**

Brú na Bóinne Trip

Room 15



### **Aladdin Connect**

As you aware, we are using the communication app, 'Aladdin Connect' and feedback has been extremely positive.

One of the services offered through the app is 'Absences'. Here, the parent/guardian can fill in the reason for the absence directly onto our system. When illness is the reason, please be specific as to what the illness is/was as this is important for health and safety reasons.

### **Sam Maguire**

Rush National School was a sea of blue recently when Evan Comerford visited with the Sam Maguire. It generated great excitement as Evan navigated his way through some very clever questions. Evan is a fantastic role model and we wish him every success for the season ahead.

### **Book Fair**

A huge thank you to the P.A.C. and all the children and parents who recently supported our Book Fair. €5231 in commission was raised for the school. The money raised will be used to restock school book supplies.

### **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

As communicated previously, our Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Please note the early school finish time of **2:25 p.m.** on Wednesday. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Batteries**

As a 'Green School', we promote recycling on a daily basis. Our battery recycling point is outside room 7. In return for batteries collected, Barretstown will receive a donation from the collecting company so please continue to use this service.

### **Teacht Le Chéile**

We were delighted to welcome the Ombudsman for Children, Mr. Niall Muldoon, to our Senior Teacht Le Chéile recently. Mr. Muldoon gave a fantastic insight into his role and associated responsibilities and was hugely impressed by the level of questioning from the children.

### **St. Vincent De Paul**

Every December, the pupils of Rush National School collect non-perishable items in aid of St. Vincent De Paul. Ms. D. Colhoun and Ms. C. Linehan co-ordinated the collection with the help of Ms. G. Hughes, Ms. D. McCloskey and Ms., E. O'Connor and all the pupils of 4<sup>th</sup> class. We were overwhelmed by the generosity shown.