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30th August, 2024

Dear Parents,

We were delighted to welcome all of our pupils back to school on Monday. Our new infants have settled very quickly into life in Anglesboro N.S. and are a credit to Mrs Hickey and Mrs Moloney.

Our infants will be extending their school day with us from Monday 9th September and will finish school at 2pm. Some of our infants are taking part in our Afterschool Club with Esther Creagh. This is a very useful facility if your child is using the bus or has other siblings in school. It is a pay as you go system: €6 per day or €25 a week. If you would like further details on this, please contact Esther on 087-9349051.

Allianz forms for Pupil Personal Accident Insurance are available in the school office. This is an optional but very worthwhile scheme. A form will be sent home to parents who decide to sign up for this via the Aladdin payment link.

In Anglesboro N.S. like the majority of schools, we run a voluntary contribution scheme to assist us in meeting the shortfall between departmental grants and the running costs of the school. Money raised is used for photocopying costs, art supplies, PE equipment, etc. Usually, the voluntary contribution is €15 per child per term, however any donation is always greatly appreciated. A payment option for this will be sent to all parents today. Thank you for your continued support.

Over the course of the school year, we may need to contact you at certain times should your child have an accident or become ill. **Please let us know if any of your contact details have changed.**

Post Office saving stamps with Kevin Lane continue this year and will be available every Wednesday in school.

Reminder our tracksuit tops can be worn over our school uniform in colder weather or can be worn instead of our school uniform on PE days (**Thursday and Fridays**).

We are delighted that Tony Henebry from Galbally Rugby club will be back with us again this year for children from 1st-6th class. Coaching begins on Thursday 12th September and will take place every Thursday after for 6 weeks. Please send gear to school on these days as we will be using the field if possible. We also look forward to taking part in Tag Rugby blitzes for 3rd-6th class which takes place in October.

We will begin football training over the coming weeks in preparation for our school football blitzes which usually take place in October. Boys from 4th-6th class and girls from 3rd-6th class will be part of our teams this year. Training will take place on Fridays. Children from 1st-6th class will need gear on Fridays as we hope to use the field as much as possible.

We look forward to a robotic coding workshop in our 4th, 5th & 6th class next Wednesday using our VEX Robotics classroom kits.

We are putting in an order for 6th class hoodies with JBR Sports. These are €30 but will be subsidised by the school and will be available for €15. Please discuss sizes with your child as we hope to put in our order next week.

If your child is absent from school, **please email the school email address AND your child's teachers email address.** Attendance is recorded daily by the class teacher on our online roll books via Aladdin. A school attendance report is submitted to TUSLA, the child and family agency every December and every June. On this form we are required to list any pupils, who have missed 20 school days for any reason. This can sometimes be followed up by the Education Welfare Officer to see if absences were explained. Explained absences, due to illness etc, are not a cause for concern. A large number of unexplained absences may lead to further involvement from the Education Welfare Officer. **Children who are sick should not be sent to school.** It is important that a record of absences is kept and that the reason for these absences is explained in case there is a follow up from the Education Welfare Officer. For this reason, again we ask that you email the school email address and your child's teacher if your child is absent from school. **The school mobile should not be used to communicate absences.**

A feature on Aladdin has been set up where parents will receive an automatic text message from Aladdin when their child misses 10, 15, and 20 school days. Automatic text messages will also be sent where a number of unexplained absences have been recorded on Aladdin, reminding parents to send an email explaining the reason for their child's absence.

We will be starting written homework from Monday 9th September. Junior infants won't be starting written homework until after Halloween. As always, we ask that parents sign and time their child's homework. This can be recorded in your child's homework diary/copy or on their homework sheet for children in Mrs Hickey's class. This will help teachers become aware of children who may be having difficulties while also helping teachers to monitor the workload. To give a fair and accurate reflection, homework should be completed at a time when there are no distractions such as televisions, computers, etc. disturbing your child. If you have any concerns about homework, please contact your child's teacher.

School will be closed on October 18th as staff take part in training as part of the new Primary Maths Curriculum in Limerick.

Is mise le meas,

Seán Kearney