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26th August, 2025

Dear Parents,

We were delighted to welcome our pupils back to school on Monday. We extend a special welcome to our new infants Céadan, Eoin and Conor. We also welcome Séimí who joins us in 6th class.

Liz our school secretary will be participating in an indefinite strike action along with Fórsa from Thursday 28th August. Liz will be a massive loss to our school during this time. Liz manages countless administrative tasks and quietly solves problems before they ever reach classrooms. The smooth running of our school depends greatly on her dedication, much of which happens behind the scenes but benefits every child and family. We appreciate strike action may cause some inconvenience to our school, but as a staff, we want to state our unequivocal support for Liz and all secretaries in their campaign for what should be a basic right – access to a pension scheme. Your encouragement and support for Liz during this action would undoubtedly mean a lot. During this period some administrative tasks that support both parents and staff will be on hold and there will be periods of time that the school phone will not be answered. Please email the school if your query is not urgent and we will respond to you when possible. You can also support Fórsa's strike action at <https://act.forsa.ie/solidarity-messages-pensions>

Each teacher will continue to use email to communicate with parents. If parents have a query, we ask that they use this email address as a method of communication. If you need to speak with a teacher, you can email them requesting an appointment or phone call back. Please note that staff should not be contacted over the weekend or outside of the hours of 8am–4pm. Staff will be unable to respond to emails during the school day while engaged in teaching but will get back to you as soon as possible.

Email addresses are as follows:

Mrs Moloney- msmoloneyanglesborons@gmail.com

Mrs O'Connor- mrs.oconnor20@gmail.com

Ms Lee- mslee.anglesborons@gmail.com

Mr Maloney- eoinmaloneyans@gmail.com

Ms Nolan- msnolananglesborons@gmail.com

Ms Van Dalen- msvandalenanglesborons@gmail.com

Mrs Maher- mrsmaherset@gmail.com

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. This link will be sent tomorrow.





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. As you are more than likely aware from regular news reports, all schools are struggling financially due to increased costs of heating, electricity, insurance, etc. The free schoolbooks initiative for primary school children is another additional cost with the grant decreasing from € 96 per child in 2023/24 to €80 per child over the past 2 years. This is despite our school spending €95 per child on school books this year. The voluntary contribution is €20 per child per term, however any donation is always greatly appreciated. A payment option for this will be sent to all parents tomorrow. 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.**

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 have continued to make good progress on our school extension project over the summer months. While the target is to begin construction this January, we are excited that the first piece of construction for this project was completed over the summer with a retaining wall for the soft play area of our school extension being built in recent weeks. Conveniently this will also double up as a hurling wall for our Astroturf.

Our Design Team has made good progress with the next stages of the building project that were broken down in last June's newsletter. Our Stage 2B report was submitted to the Department on 14th August almost 3 weeks before our target date of 5th September.

1. Issue of Detail Design Packages by the Design Team (Drawings, Schedules & Specifications) to Quantity Surveyor 
2. Issue of Preliminary Health & Safety Plan & AF1 Form 
3. Completion of Pricing Document by Quantity Surveyor 
4. Issue Stage 2B Report to Department 

We hope that we will not experience any major complications or delays with the Department and we will be in a position to proceed to Tender in the coming weeks. The remaining steps are again broken down below:

5. Receipt of Department Approval to proceed to Stage 3 'Tender Action' 3rd October 2025
6. Issue Tender Package on e-tenders 10th October 2025
7. Tender Returns 7th November 2025
8. Assessment and issue of Report on Tenders 21st November 2025
9. Issue Stage 3 Report to Department 5th December 2025

10. Receipt of Department Approval to proceed to Stage 4 'Construction Stage' 19th December 2025

11. Correspondence with Contractors / Pre-Start Meeting January 2026

12. Submit Commencement Notice & Commence Construction January 2026

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.

Beginning a new school year, it is important that good habits are developed for the year ahead and children are on time for school each day. This is particularly important in the mornings when core subjects are taught. Children should be in school for 9:15am each morning to give themselves 5 minutes to settle before classes start at 9:20am sharp. Being just 5 minutes late each day may not seem like much, but over the course of a year it adds up to almost 3 full days of lost learning time. We understand there will always be mornings where families are delayed but would hope that families could aim to have their children in school each morning when class begins at 9:20am.

School Meals with Gourmet Kids will commence from 1st September. The ordering system for this has opened and orders will need to be placed by this Wednesday the 28th for your child to have their lunch in school next week. Orders placed after this will mean your child will not have a hot meal in school next week. A letter from Gourmet Kids below this newsletter explains this in more detail.

We will be starting written homework from Monday 8th 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 Ms Nolan'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.

Sonas & Spraoi will visit Liskennett on Wednesday 10th September at 10am. A payment link will be sent for this tomorrow.

School will be closed on November 17th as staff take part in Child Protection training. School will also close on 25th February and 19th May as staff take part in training as part of the new curriculum in Limerick.

Is mise le meas,

Seán Kearney