

# Doonbeg National School



Doonbeg,

Co. Clare.

8<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

## **West Clare Schools - Cross Country Competition**

Well done to all the children who participated in the competition last week in Knock. We had our largest attendance yet. They all performed brilliantly, please keep up the good work.



Tel: 065-9055311

email: [doonbegns.ias@eircom.net](mailto:doonbegns.ias@eircom.net)

<http://www.doonbegns.ie>

## **Green Schools Programme**

As part of Green Schools Programme, we want to reduce our paper usage within the school. Sending information by email will help in this regard. Please let us know if you would like to receive school information by email.

## **Headlice**

Unfortunately, wherever children gather, headlice can too. There was a reported case of headlice in the school last month. We remind you to check your children's hair regularly and treat as per guidelines. If your child has headlice, please inform the school.

## **Clothes Collection**

A clothes collection will take place in the school on Monday, 15th October 2018. All items of clothing will be accepted.

## **Cumann na mBunscol - Gaelic Football Competition**

This year we have entered two teams for the annual Primary Schools Gaelic Football Competition. The boys and girls have been training hard over the last few weeks. Children from 2nd to 6th class will participate in the event. Many thanks to David Tubridy for assisting with the coaching of the children.

## **School Twitter Account**

The school has a twitter account which is linked into our website. Please follow us on [https://twitter.com/doonbeg\\_ns](https://twitter.com/doonbeg_ns). for school updates.

## **MS Readathon**

The MS Readathon for all children in the school will take place this year from **12th October 2018** to **12<sup>th</sup> November 2018**. Children's information packs will be forwarded in the next week.

## **School Policies**

The Gaeilge, S.P.H.E. and GDPR policies are currently being updated. They are available for viewing from the school office and any feedback would be appreciated.

## **Garda Vetting**

If anyone is interested in having their Garda Vetting updated, please contact the school office.

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### **School Self Evaluation**

The school will be focusing on the curricular areas of Science and P.E. as part of its evaluation process for the year.

### **FAI Primary Schools Futsal Competition**

The Primary Schools competition caters for boys and girls in 3rd and 4th class. The competition will take place this **Thursday, 11th October at 11:00 a.m.** at the Kilrush Astro-Turf Complex.

Futsal is the official FIFA version of the indoor 5 a side football. It is played with a smaller ball with less bounce than a regulation football. The ball and rules create an emphasis on creativity and technique, as well as refining ball control and passing in small spaces.

### **Halloween Hobble and Children's Disco**

The annual Halloween Hobble and Children's Disco will take place on **Thursday, 25th October 2018**. More information will follow at a later date.

### **School Attendance**

Please note that all absences in excess of **20 days** must be reported to TUSLA (Family and Child Agency). If your child is absent for any duration, please ensure that the absence notes are completed and returned to the school.

### **Hatch 4 Schools**

The Hatch 4 Schools Programme was introduced in the school recently. It allowed children and adults an opportunity to interact, care for and learn about chickens and their life cycle, from incubation, hatching and finally growth. The school programme lasted for 2 weeks. We got to see the eggs in an incubator, which were just two days off hatching and got to watch the chicks develop to the next stage. It was an incredibly rewarding experience. Special thanks to Miss Horgan for co-ordinating the programme within the school.

### **Music Generation Programme**

Katie Fitzpatrick is our tutor for the Music Generation Initiative. It is Ireland's National Music Programme and allows the children to access high quality music tuition. The project is co-funded by U2 and the local Music Education Partnerships. There is a cost to all schools involved and we were able source this through parental fundraising activities.

### **Peace Proms 2019**

We have been fortunate to be selected again this year for the 'Peace Proms' programme. Children from 2nd to 6th class will be participating in this musical education programme.

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The programme aims to entertain, educate and engage children in music and allow them to be involved in musical experiences and performances. They will perform with a full symphony orchestra and develop vocal technique and presentation. It is supported by the Department of Education and Skills and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The performance will take place in the University of Limerick on **Sunday, 3rd March 2019**.

### **Confirmation / Communion**

Confirmation will take place on **Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019**. Bishop Fintan Monahan will administer the Sacrament. First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday, 18th May 2019**.

### **School Calendar 2018 - 2019**

The school will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday, 26th October 2018 - Presidential Election

#### October 2018 Mid-Term Break

- The school will close from Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to Friday, 2nd November 2018 inclusive.

#### Christmas 2018

- The school will close on Friday, 21st December 2018, which will be the final day of the school term. The school will re-open on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

#### February 2019 Mid-Term Break

- The school will close on Thursday, 21st February 2019 and Friday, 22nd February 2019.

#### Easter 2019

- The school will close on Friday, 12th April 2019, which will be the final day of the school term. The school will re-open on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

#### Other Dates of Closure

- Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - St. Patrick's Day
- Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Public Holiday
- Monday, 3rd June 2019 - Public Holiday
- PDST - Oral Language Training - Date to be Confirmed
- Wednesday, 26th June 2019 - Summer Holidays - TBC

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Mise Le Meas,

*Neil Crowley - Principal*

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