



1 Meán Fómhair 2019

A Thuiste, a chara,

The new school year has begun. We welcome all our new first year students and wish them well. We thank our Ceangail and Cinnirí teams who have ensured they are well looked after and are familiar with their new surroundings. We welcome back all of our other students and wish them every success in their studies and their activities this year. We welcome our new School Chaplain Fr. Jesmond Apap and we wish Fr. Arek every success in his new endeavours. We also wish Ms. Crean and Mr. Bracken every health and happiness in their retirement.

Leaving Certificate 2019

On behalf of all the teachers and students, we would like to congratulate our Leaving Certificate students of 2019. We congratulate Liam Mahon who achieved the highest Leaving Certificate result. We will invite Liam and his family to our Opening School Mass on Friday 27th September to acknowledge his excellent results. We will also invite all students who achieved over 500 points for a special presentation ceremony. Over the next two weeks Ms. Harris, Career and Guidance Counsellor will contact the Leaving Certificate students of 2019 to confirm which third level placement they were offered and accepted. We wish them every success as they progress on their educational paths. We are delighted with our Leaving Certificate results this year. It is evident that sustained, regular and consistent work and full school attendance are key to a successful Leaving Certificate.

Nuts and Nut Products ban & High Caffeinated/sugar drinks ban for new school year 2019-202

Due to the number of students in the school who have a severe nut allergy, we are going to ask all parents, guardians, staff and students to assist us to ensure you do not bring any nut products into school.

We realise that we cannot monitor all lunches, food products and snacks, however we would sincerely appreciate that all students adhere to this from now on. We are also no longer allowing students to bring high caffeinated / sugar drinks into school.

Collecting Students & Entry on to school grounds & Bicycle safety

At the beginning and end of the school day parents / guardians are not allowed on to the school grounds to park / drop off/ collect their sons. This is for the health and safety of your son. You will be asked to move should you be found on the school premises. We are mindful that there are exceptions in the case of a student who has sustained an injury e.g. broken leg etc., or in the case of a student with a specific disability which limits his movement. In accordance with the relevant sections of the Occupiers Liability Act 1995, the school takes no responsibility for any loss or damage that occurs as the result of driving onto school grounds. All students who cycle to school must have a secure lock for their bikes. We also advise students to wear helmets. On entering and leaving the school all cyclists must dismount and walk to and from the gates.

Medical Information

We ask parents and guardians to notify the school in writing with specific information about students who may have particular medical needs which personnel in the school need to be aware of. Please send this letter for the attention of the relevant Year head.

Electronic Payments & School Charge

I would like to sincerely thank parents and guardians for paying their school charge. We remind parents that the full charge is €130. This is a mandatory fee which helps to fund the provision of the Parents' Association Fee, resources for language subjects and resources for technical subjects, house examinations, science, office services, sports equipment, maintenance and student insurance.

Journals

We ask parents to communicate with the school through the school journal. We ask all parents of Junior Students to check the journals each night and senior students once a week. Students must have their journals with them at all times.

School Offices

As you can appreciate the school is a very busy place and we endeavour to work as best we can to ensure the smooth and effective running of the school. **We ask parents and guardians not to call to the school offices with deliveries i.e. lunches/books/keys for students who may have forgotten them.** They will not be delivered to the students and we do not take any responsibility for such items, so we kindly request that you do not ask the office staff to take such items as they will politely decline.

Opening School Mass & Student Awards

We will celebrate our Opening School Mass on Friday 27th September. We invite parents who wish to join us to attend. This is a normal school day and full attendance is expected from all students. Our mass celebrations led by our Salesian Chaplaincy team, Fr. Hennessy, Fr. Jesmond and Fr. Paul and RE Team will begin at 9.30am. After our mass celebration we will present our Student of the Year Awards to our students who have excelled in 2018-2019. We will invite their parents also to attend.

Junior Certificate Results 2019 –September & JLO Presentation

We hope our Junior Certificate students will achieve just as high results as our Leaving Certificate students. The results will be presented in September. As we have done in previous years, Garda Sheridan, Junior Liaison Officer, will address the students before they receive their results. In Salesian College, we present the results at the end of the school day. The aim of this presentation will be to encourage students to celebrate their results in a mature and responsible manner. The Principal and Deputy Principals will address the students at the final class. We would like to invite parents to attend this presentation. As is normal, all students should attend school the following day. We ask parents for their cooperation in this matter as subject levels and classes are reorganised based on the Junior Certificate results, therefore it is important for all students to attend. Students in 5th year who already have their Junior Certificate results will finish school a class early as well on this day.

Afterschool Study & Evening Study – Monday 9th September

Application forms will be available from outside the school office this Friday. We urge all students, in particular our Junior and Leaving Certificate, both 5th and 6th year students to sign up for this programme. It is a well-established system in the school and one which we know has worked extremely well. It helps students focus on their work and develops a good work and study ethic. Afterschool study will start from Monday 9th September. Please sign up for Afterschool Study through our Easypayments System.

Parents' Association Meeting Tuesday 10th September & AGM Tuesday 8th October 2019

I would like to take this opportunity to invite our new parents of first year students and indeed other year groups to get involved and make a valuable contribution to the school community and join our Parents Association. We have a very active Parents Association and wish to maintain the important role they have in the effective running of the school. As parents, you play an integral role in your son's education. We would like to thank all our parents for their work in ensuring that students were well prepared for school and this has led to a good and organised start to the year. The first meeting of the year for the Parents Association will take place on Tuesday 10th September 8.00pm in the new building at the back of the school. I would also like to sincerely thank Ms. Geraldine O'Sullivan and Ms. Carol Ormsby Lawlor and other members of the Parents Association for their excellent work for our 6th year graduates in organising the Annual Debs Event. I also thank sincerely Ms. Claire Spelman and Ms. Martina Murphy and other members of the Parents Association for their preparation and organisation of the uniform sales.

Extra-curricular Activities

Over the next few weeks our sport coaches and team leaders will announce the various trials and training sessions for the various sporting teams in the school. We thank all the teachers involved for their commitment to these extra-curricular activities and commend the students who make the weekly commitment to train and prepare to represent the school. We advise all students and parents that students involved in extra-curricular activities must ensure they find out what work they need to catch up on and what homework needs to be completed. We had great success with our teams last year and look forward to another successful sporting year.

On behalf of all the teachers and members of staff we wish our students a happy, hardworking and productive new year.

Is mise, le meas,
Ms. B. Kearns, Príomhoide.