



Scoil Naomh Laisrian,
Leithghlinn an Droichid,
Co. Ceatharlach,
Uimhir Rolla 19784S

Leighlinbridge N.S.,
Co. Carlow.
Phone: 059 - 9721796
email: school@leighlin.net

Visit Us Online: www.leighlin.net

1st September 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to everybody and we hope that you had a good summer despite the weather. A particular welcome to our new pupils and we hope that they have a fruitful and enjoyable time here with us. Junior Infants have had their photos taken so keep an eye out for smiling faces in the local papers!

Please pay any outstanding bills immediately, in particular the €15 or €20 for school requisites. Collection and counting of money take away teaching time so the sooner we can settle accounts, the better for everybody. **Please remember to pay each teacher separately for each child and to do so in the mornings**, this facilitates us in collecting and counting money which is very time consuming at this time of the year.

It is very helpful to have your **child's name** on his/her belongings, particularly items of clothing so please check this immediately. Remember also that all pupils from 1st – 6th Classes are required to wear a pair of slippers or indoor shoes as part of their uniform. Teachers this week will make clear to pupils on which days they are required to wear their tracksuits (this may or may not be different to last year).

Swimming commences for 4th, 5th and 6th Classes tomorrow in Kilkenny pool. The lessons will continue for ten weeks. Each pupil must wear their P.E. uniform and please make sure that your child has a swimming cap. Cost per week is €7 per pupil. Please pay €14 this week and €7 each Monday morning thereafter for the following eight weeks, with no payment required on the last week. Swimming will begin for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Classes on Friday 5th September in Graiguecullen pool. The lessons will continue for eleven weeks. Each pupil must wear their P.E. uniform on the day and please make sure that your child has a swimming cap. Cost per week is €7 per pupil. Please pay €14 on Thursday morning (4th) and €7 each Thursday morning thereafter for the following nine weeks, with no payment required on the last week. Please send payment to the appropriate class teacher in an envelope with your child's name and marked Swimming. Thank you. All lessons will take place during school hours. No aerosols allowed at swimming.

We are proud of being a Green School. As part of this we encourage you to use a proper reusable lunchbox for your child that will reduce the amount of waste we have to deal with. Any lunch waste that we can't put in our compost bin we ask the pupils to take home with them.

The school opens to receive pupils each day at 9.20 and finishes at 3 o'clock (2 o'clock for Junior and Senior Infants). The Board of Management reminds you that it does not provide for supervision of pupils outside of these hours. Pupils and guardians are requested to wait inside the front wall until school begins. If it is raining then pupils and guardians have permission to wait in the shelter at the back of the school. Please make sure that your children are collected on time after school. Thank you.

The feedback from you on the "Text-a-Parent" system has been very positive. Typically people receive two or three texts per month on school-related matters. If you didn't receive a text to draw your attention to this newsletter and would like to receive one, please contact the school. We will use one mobile number per family from our records and if you think we may not have the correct number for you, please contact us. If you would prefer not to be contacted by the school in this way, contact us and we can easily remove you from the list.

While we are aware that it may be inconvenient we are requesting you not to issue birthday invitations on the school grounds or ask teachers to do so. This is to avoid a situation where a child or children in a class feel “left out” when invitations are issued. Anything that is organised in school involves all pupils being treated equally and issuing selective invitations is contrary to this. Thanks for your cooperation.

As part of our Code of Behaviour we ask pupils (from 1st Class upwards), parents and teachers to sign a “Behaviour Contract” at the beginning of each year to remind everybody of the standards we expect and the importance of good behaviour. Junior and Senior Infants will do this in their own way in their classrooms. Teachers and parents working closely together in this way ensures firm and consistent discipline which is essential for a child’s emotional and psychological development.

The teachers will be having a meeting this **Friday, 5th** September so all pupils will finish at **12 noon** on the day. The main closures for the coming year are listed on the school website at www.leighlin.net .

Finally, please wait at the office if you need to speak to a teacher or drop something into a classroom. While it may only take a few seconds, the cumulative effect of interruptions to teaching and learning can be very disruptive. Thank you and we wish you all a happy and successful school year.

Yours faithfully,

Principal