

Dear Parents,

On behalf of Mrs. Noonan, Mrs. Keane, Ms. Sheehan, Ms. Walsh, Ms. Lyons, Ms. McNamara, Ms. Devine, Mr. O' Sullivan, Mr. O'Sullivan Glynn, Mrs. Bradshaw, Mrs. Moran and myself I would like to extend a warm "welcome back" to your children at the beginning of another school year. We would like to give a special welcome to our 15 new Junior Infants.

To ensure the continued smooth running of our school we would appreciate your support in implementing our school rules.

**Uniform:**

Children are expected to wear their full uniform while at school and this will be monitored on a daily basis. Tracksuits should be worn by children from classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> on Friday's and any other appointed days by their class teacher. The Junior and Senior Infants will wear their tracksuits every day.

Only all navy tracksuit bottoms should be worn.

**Punctuality:**

We would appreciate your assistance in having all children in school before 9.20am. and they should be collected on time in the afternoon. The practice of dropping children to school late on a regular basis is not acceptable. We are very conscious of safe handover procedures for your children after the school day ends. It is absolutely essential that you notify the school if any person other than those designated is collecting your child/children.

**Children feeling unwell:**

Apart from Covid 19, if your child has been feeling unwell before he/she comes to school on any given day it would be very helpful to the staff of the school if parents pass on this information to his/her class teacher. Please ensure that the main contact number is contained on the personal information page of each school diary. Parents should ensure that the school has an up to date contact number for each pupil's parent/guardian.

**Absence Notes:**

In the school diary there are spaces for parents to write notes explaining children's absences. Aladdin can also be used. Please take note that children are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school or on any school outings (including school tours).

**School Bus:**

We are particularly mindful of the need for safety on the school bus. We advise parents to encourage their children to behave appropriately while on, or in the vicinity of the bus. Should you have any concerns regarding safe practices on, or near the bus please do not hesitate to contact me. Please instruct your children to use the seat belts which are provided on school buses.

**Euro a week collection:**

We hope to recommence our school collection on Friday October 15<sup>th</sup>. Again we would like each family to contribute €1 per week to help defray the cost of day to day ancillary school purchases. As always, we would like to stress that any contributions to this fund are strictly voluntary.

### **Credit Union:**

Credit Union deposits will be taken up from Friday October 15<sup>th</sup> also. Children wishing to join the Credit Union for the first time must go to Askeaton Credit Union and have their account set up. From then on they may make their deposits at school on Fridays. We would be grateful if children could lodge a minimum of €1 coin as the counting of smaller coins is very time consuming. We would like to encourage parents to keep a check on their children's Credit Union books as on rare occasions mistakes can occur. We are only too glad to correct any incorrect deposit entry when it is drawn to our attention.

### **School Welfare Board:**

The terms of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000 oblige me as Principal, to carefully monitor our pupils' absences during each school year. Once a child reaches 20 absences in any one year it is now my duty to pass on this information to the School Welfare Board. It is important to note that regardless of the reason for a child's absence we are still obliged to alert the School Welfare Board.

### **Healthy Eating:**

As you are aware we are implementing a healthy eating policy in our school. This policy is up and running since September '04. We would very much appreciate parental support in ensuring that the following items are **not** included in your children's school lunches.

(1) All varieties of crisps (2) Sweets (3) Bars (4) Biscuits (5) Chocolate (6) Fizzy drinks.

Please check with class teachers to ensure there are no children with allergies in the class.

Children are never permitted to eat chewing gum at school.

We would encourage parents to be mindful of the difficulties some children experience (particularly infants) when handling yogurts, actimel, frubes etc.

### **Meeting Teachers:**

In line with our Covid 19 Response Plan, on occasions when you need to discuss some matter with a member of the teaching staff, it is important that you make an appointment. This can be arranged by a note in the journal, calling the office on (069) 64780 or emailing us on [cappaghns1@yahoo.ie](mailto:cappaghns1@yahoo.ie)

### **Parking:**

We would be most grateful if parents refrained from parking outside the school wall as this space is reserved for staff cars. Unsafe situations can occur when people insist on parking up directly outside the staff cars.

**We hope that a member of An Garda Síochána will visit our school again this year on a number of occasions both before and after school to advise parents on Road Safety.**

### **First Holy Communion**

The date for this year's First Holy Communion has not yet been decided. As soon as a definite decision has been made in this regard we will let you know.

Please feel free to log onto our school website during the coming months ([www.cappaghns.com](http://www.cappaghns.com))

I trust the contents of this letter will clarify many things for parents and I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Le gach dea - ghúí

T Rocca Houlihan.