

Eolas do Thuismitheoirí/Caomhnóirí

Information for new PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Scoil Fhionáin, An Fál Carrach, Co. Dhún na nGall

Uimhir Gutháin/Phone -----074-9135122

scoilfhionain.anfalcarrach@gmail.com

www.scoilfhionain.ie

Cathaoirleach/Chairperson-----An t-Athair

James Mac Giolla Easpaig- Fr James Gillespie

Príomhoide/Principal -----Stiofán Ó Canainn

Leas-Phríomhoide/Deputy Principal----Patricia Ní Ghrodaí



Foireann Na Scoile/School Staff

Fiona Nic Giolla Chumhaill

Niamh Ní Bhroin

Clara Nic Aodha

Deirdre Nic Eamharcaigh

Claire Nic Suibhne

Yvonne Ní Ruiséil

Sinéad Uí Fhearraigh

Fionnuala Ní Dhochartaigh

Nigel Ó Fearraigh

Agnes 'Uí Fhearghail

Póilín Uí Cheallaigh

Rose' Mhic Aoidh

Amanda 'Mhic Giolla Chomhaill

Paul Mac Phaidín

Tina Nic Suibhne

Dáire Ó Baoill

Patsy Coyle

Múinteoir Gaeilge

SNA

SNA

SNA

SNA

SNA

SNA

Glantóir / Airíoch

Relationship to Department of Education and Skills

The school operates in accordance with the rules for national schools. The school depends on the grants and teacher resources provided by the D.E.S.

Bord Bainistíochta/Board of Management 2019 – 2023

An t-Athair James Mac Giolla Easpaig --- Cathaoirleach (chairperson)

Caitriona Uí Cheallaigh – Príomhoide(Principal)

Stephen Cannon - Ainmní na múinteoirí(Teachers' nominee)

Helena Nic Giolla Chomhaill– Ainmní na dtuismitheoirí (Parents' nominee)

Christopher Smyth – Ainmní na dtuismitheoirí (Parents' nominee)

Patrick Mc Vicar- Ainmní an Easpaig(Bishop's nominee)

Pauline Mhic Gairbheith- Ainmní neamhspléach (Independent nominee)

James Harkin - Ainmní neamhspléach (Independent nominee)

Bord Bainistíochta

The Board of Management has overall responsibility for the school, including finance, maintenance, staffing and the development of the school plan and policies. The Board comprises of two direct nominees of the Patron, two elected parents/guardians (male and female) the



Principal and one other teacher on the staff elected by vote of the teaching staff and two extra members proposed by these nominees, The Patron appoints the Chairperson of the board. The term of office for the Board of Management is 4 years. It should be noted that all members are **nominated by but are not representatives** of any group- the board has what is known as a corporate function, i.e. with collective responsibility.

Parents' /Guardians' Association / Coiste na dTuismitheoirí/Caomhnóirí

Marie Doohan– Cathaoirleach / Chairperson

Karen Hagney – Rúnaí / Secretary

Denise Mc Crossan/ Mairead Mc Elhinney – Cisteoirí / Treasurers

We thank the association for the work they do, fundraising to reduce costs to children of school trips.

Coiste na nDaltaí/Student Council:

We are fortunate to have a student council in Scoil Fhionáin, made up of sixth class pupils. We have a small but hardworking Green Schools committee.

Am Oscailt

Opening Time

9.20 – 2.00 naíonáin / infants

9.20 – 3.00 gach rang eile / all other classes

11.00 - 11.10 Sos na maidne / Morning Break

12.30 – 1.00 Am Lóin / Lunch Time

All Junior and Senior Infants go home at 2 o'clock, parents are asked to collect their child at the classroom door. To ease the children gently into school life, the junior infant children will go home at 12.30p.m. for the first week and a half.

Maoirseacht / Supervision

Bíonn maoirseacht ar siúl ar maidin ó 9.10 go dtí 9.20 agus arís tráthnóna ó 3.00 go dtí 3.10. Ní ghlacann Bord Bainistíochta Scoil Fhionáin nó múinteoirí na scoile freagracht d'aon pháiste taobh amuigh de na hamanna seo mar níl said clúdaithe ó thaobh árachais de.

Caithfidh tuismitheoirí páistí na naíonán na páistí a bhailiú ag an seomra ranga gach lá. Iarrtar ar na páistí ar fad fanacht sa chlós (taobh istigh don gheata) i gcónaí agus gan dul taobh thiar den scoil. Má tá ag páiste an scoil a fhágáil i rith am scoile caithfidh sé nóta sínithe chuig an tuismitheoir a thabhairt den mhúinteoir agus caithfidh an tuismitheoir an páiste a bhailiú ag an seomra ranga.

Supervision is in place in the morning from 9.10 to 9.20 and again in the evening from 3.00 to 3.10. Since Covid 19, pupils now go directly

to class from 9.10 onwards. The Board of Management and staff of Scoil Fhionáin accept no responsibility for children on the premises outside these times as they are not covered by insurance. Children must remain inside the school walls while at school. If a child must leave the school early, a note signed by parent / guardian must be given to the class teacher and the child must be collected at the classroom door.

Consent for Publishing Photos / Work

During your child's time in Scoil Fhionáin , occasions may arise where your child's photo / school work may be selected for publishing in local newspapers and or on the school website. All parents are issued with consent forms where they have the right to give or refuse consent to have their child's photo / work published. This is part of the enrolment form for children enrolling from September 2009 on.

Educational Outings

During the school year, appropriate educational outings will be available to all children.

The school requests written permission at the beginning of the school year from parents/guardians for all educational tours / outings. Parents will be notified in advance about the various outings .

CURRICULUM

The primary school curriculum is presented in seven primary areas, some of which are further subdivided into subjects. These are :

- Primary Language (Gaeilge and English)
- Maths,
- Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (History, Geography and Science),
- Arts Education (Visual Arts, Music and Drama)
- Religious Education
- Physical Education and
- Social, Personal and Health Education.

A meeting takes place in the first term where the class teachers discuss with you your child's progress..

School Code of Behaviour

A copy of the school Code of Behaviour is given to all parents when they enrol their child in the school. This is a very important document and it is important that everyone is familiar with it. We promote positive behaviour at all times.

Culaith Scoile / School Uniform

Tá sé riachtanach go mbeidh gach páiste scoile gléasta ina gcuid éadaí scoile ceart gach lá.

T- Léine / Léine liath

Grey Poloshirt / shirt

Geansaí dubh-ghorm

Navy jumper

Carbhat dubh-ghorm Navy tie (if shirt is worn instead of polo shirt)

Bríste liath

Grey trousers

Sciorta liath

Grey Skirt / pinafore

Jackets are also available but not compulsory.

*****School jumpers , polo-shirts and school jackets can be ordered through the suppliers in the school near the end of May , an exact date will be given nearer the time. PLEASE remember that crested uniform is not compulsory- uniform can be bought from any source ..*****

Please ensure that all your children's belongings (jumpers, cardigans, coats, lunch boxes and books)are clearly labelled with your child's name as many children possess similar items. Children may wear dark grey or navy track suit bottoms on PE day (usually Friday).

Hygiene / Glaineacht

It is important that children are clean and tidy when coming out to school. Head lice can be a problem at school and to try and control the problem we would ask parents to check their children's hair regularly and to inform the school if there is a problem so that notification of possible risk may be sent to other parents.

Long hair should be tied back at school.

Health and Safety

If your child develops any contagious illness such as chickenpox, please keep her/him away from school until the period of contagion is over and inform his/ her teacher immediately. All information regarding your child's health is treated in the strictest confidence. Occasionally your permission will be required for dental, eye or other health examinations.

Please inform the school if your contact numbers change during the school year.

HSE Screening

Children's teeth and eyes are checked under H. S. E. Scheme. Children will be issued with consent forms from the HSE prior to the check taking place

Children Unwell at School



In the event of illness or an accident minimum first aid is administered and parents/guardians are informed when collecting the child

When the teacher feels that a child is not well enough for school either as a result of becoming sick or an accident the Parents / Guardians will be contacted immediately.

This highlights the importance of filling out the contact form.

In the event of a serious illness / accident an ambulance will be called and the child will be brought to hospital. Again you will need to have signed the permission form for this.

If your address or phone number changes *please notify the school* so we can amend our records.

Breagáin / Toys

There is no need for children to bring toys into school and we do not encourage this practice because of breakages, competition and peer pressure. There are many toys and other things in school to play with.

Children are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school.

Parents may contact their children through the office phone number and likewise children can contact home if the need arises.

All hand held electronic games are not allowed at school.

Níl cead ag páistí bréagáin nó fón póca a thógáil na scoile leo. Is féidir teagmháil a dhéanamh le do pháiste trí glaoch a chur chuig oifig na scoile.

Birthday Invitations

Birthday invitations are not allowed to be distributed in school – this can cause a lot of upset to children who do not get invited so we are not allowing invitations to be given out at school.

Child Protection Guidelines

The school has a Child Protection Policy and any concern that a member of staff may have about a child's welfare / safety will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Child Protection Guidelines(DES).The Board of Management is obliged to report any concerns in relation to child abuse to the Health Board in accordance with the Guidelines and Procedures issued to all schools by D.E.S.The Health Board will assess the case and put measures in place to provide the necessary



supports for the child concerned. Abuse is defined as – neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse and sexual abuse.

A copy of the policy may be had from the school office. All other policies may be obtained from the office.

Anti Bullying

In the school we strive to create a positive school climate, which focuses on respect for the individual, which encourages trust, caring consideration and support for others.

Pupils are encouraged to report incidents of bullying , and all reports will be noted , investigated and dealt with by the teacher in accordance with the Anti-Bullying and Cyber Bullying Policies.

Relationships and Sexuality (RSE) and Stay Safe Programme

The RSE and Stay Safe Programmes are taught from junior infants to sixth class, as part of Social, Personal and Health Education.

Bosca Lóin

Tá polasaí lón folláin ag an scoil agus iarrtar go mbeidh lón foláin le gach páiste ag teach tar scoil.

Tá torthaí, glasraí, cáis, ceapairí agus deoch sú / uisce / bainne molta.

Níl seacláid, criospaí, cnónna , deochanna le bolgáin aer ceadaithe.

Níl buidéil gloinne ceadaithe sa scoil.

Lunch Box

The school has a healthy lunch policy and we ask that all children bring a healthy lunch to school with them.

Fruit, vegetables, cheese, sandwiches, fruit juice, water and milk are encouraged.

Chocolate, sweets, crisps, nuts and fizzy drinks are not allowed.

A school lunch is provided by school, paid for by the Department of Social protection under the DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) scheme. You will be given info about new scheme in September!

All children bring their own reusable water bottle to school. There is clean drinking water available in all taps.

As Láthair / Tinneas

Tá sé riachtanach nóta a thabhairt don mhúinteoir ranga má bhíonn do pháiste as láthair de bharr tinneas.

Má bhíonn tinneas tógalach ag páistí ba choir é seo a chur in iúil don mhúinteoir ranga láithreach ar mhaithe na bpáistí eile.

Absences

A note explaining absences must be sent into the class teacher when a child returns to school after an absence. When a child misses 20 days or more it must be reported to the Tusla – This is in

accordance with DES (Department of Education and Skills) guidelines. Our attendance strategy is available on www.scoilfhionain.ie

Medical Conditions

If a child has any medical conditions, the Principal should be informed when the child is enrolled. Should a problem develop the Principal should be told immediately. In this way appropriate provisions can be put in place. The above information will be treated with respect and confidence.

Additional Needs / Learning Support

In Scoil Fhionáin we support pupils experiencing learning difficulties through a team approach involving the pupil, class teacher, learning support/ resource team, parents, and other relevant personnel i.e. psychologist, Early Intervention Team, speech therapist, occupational therapist and physiotherapist . Resource teaching hours and SNA support is available to specified pupils approved by the DES.

It is important that we apply for SNA support now for September 2021 enrolment.

In September 2020 we opened our new class for children with Autism needs. A new 500sq. m. building is planned for this purpose. Plans are available for inspection.

Classes

During your child's eight years in Scoil Fhionáin , there is a possibility that (s)he may be in a composite class. Where a composite class is necessary, the selection of pupils for these classes will be made by the principal in consultation with the teaching staff.

Communication

An annual Parent / Teacher meeting takes place at the end of the first term.

Parents can request a meeting with a teacher by making an appointment.

Summer reports for each child are sent home.

Curriculum meetings for parents are organised by the class teacher in October.

Newsletters/ circulars are distributed regularly to the pupils. Please check your child's bag for these.

Information can also be found on the school website

www.scoilfhionain.ie

Emergency Closing

The safety of the children is of primary importance at all times.

Should an emergency closing be appropriate (e.g. in the event of no heat, snow etc.) the decision to close the school will be taken by the Board of Management at the earliest possible time so as to maximise notice to parents / guardians.

Every effort will be made to contact parents/guardians by Text a Parent in case of emergency closing .

Please ensure all telephone numbers are updated regularly with the school secretary.

In Severe Weather Conditions , please check that the school is open before leaving your child at school.

Obair Bhaile

Tugtar obair bhaile Dé Luain, Dé Máirt, Dé Céadaoin agus Déardaoin, tugtar oíche shaor ar an Aoine. Iarrtar ar na páistí ó Rang 1 – VI an obair bhaile a scríobh síos sa dialann obair bhaile gach lá. Iarrtar ar na tuismitheoirí an dialann a shíniú gach oíche nuair atá an obair críochnaithe. Bíonn fillteán ag na naíonáin ina mbíonn an obair bhaile. Má tá fadhb leis an obair bhaile iarrtar ar an dtuismitheoir nóta a scríobh sa dialann obair bhaile agus feicfidh an múinteoir é.

Homework

Homework is given on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday .

Children from 1st to 6th class have a Homework Diary in which they write their homework each day. Parents are asked to sign the diary only when homework is completed. Should your child have any difficulty with their homework please make a note in the diary where the teacher will see it.

Infant children have a folder in which their homework is placed.

Mobile Phones/ Internet Enabled Devices/ONLINE SAFETY

Pupils are not allowed Mobile phones/recording devices in school , parents may contact their child at school through the office on 074-9135122 and children may contact home in the same way if the need arises. Electronic hand held games are not permitted at school.

We urge all parents to be extremely vigilant about their child's online activity- many Child Protection issues can arise from time spent on inappropriate social media platforms or through meeting adults online in games.

Níl cead ag páistí fón póca a bheith leo na scoile, is féidir teagmháil a dhéanamh le do pháiste ar scoil trí glaoch a chur chuig an oifig ar 074- 9135122.

Parking

We ask all not to park in front of the gate or in the bus area when leaving children off and collecting them, this is for the health and safety of all the children. Staff now park on the lower side of the gate leaving the upper end of the gate free for parents.

Parents/guardians of Junior infants must collect their children at the classroom door. If some one other than you is collecting the child, please inform the class teacher, otherwise the child will not be released to someone who is not known to the teacher.

Leabhair Scoile / School Books.

Cuireann an scoil na teasc leabhair agus cóipleabhair ar fáil do na naíonáin i mí Mheán Fómhair agus cuirtear an bille na bhaile ansin.

All school books, copies are supplied by the school in September and a bill will be sent home in mid- September/early October.

A book rental scheme is in operation throughout the school, mostly in the more senior classes.

The children bring books home from the library to read, please ensure that the books are taken care of and returned to the school.

Allianz Insurance

Allianz Insurance offers a Pupil's Personal Accident Insurance 24 hr. cover to children . Anyone who wishes to avail of this cover may contact the school office for more details.

Notices

Notices go home regularly re what is happening in the school community. Please check your child's schoolbag as it may contain notes to parents. Usually a newsletter will be published at the beginning of each month.

Parents can also check the School Website www.scoilfhionain.ie re what is happening in the school. Text a parent delivers short messages.

Lá Oscáilte / Open Day

Parents and children will be invited to the school in May / June for an introductory day where the children get an opportunity to meet their teacher and parents are given a chance to ask any questions they may have about school, we try to arrange it on the same day as the school uniforms.



Parent/Guardian – Teacher Meetings

Parent/guardian – teacher meeting take place every year around the end of October / beginning of November., which provides an opportunity for discussing each child's progress, both social and academic.

Please do not hesitate to approach class teacher at any time if there is a point upon which you feel anxious. However, if you wish a more detailed discussion , please arrange a convenient time in advance by making an appointment through the school secretary.

Our children are being given the advantage of an education in which they will enjoy the benefits of bilingualism. There is information available on school website on the advantages of immersion education.

Data Protection

The school is registered with the Data Protection Agency. All information is kept on file and will only be retained in the school for administrative purposes only. Parents can access information on their own child.

Recycling / Athchúrsáil

The school has a clothing bank where parents can drop in bags of clothing for recycling. Mobile phones and batteries are also collected in the school on Fridays. The school is currently working towards its 8th green flag, awarded for our ongoing commitment to good environmental practices.



An Ghaeilge

We encourage all parents to encourage their child with the Irish language – together we can make a great and positive difference.

There are many advantages gained from speaking two languages fluently – see website for more information.

From September 2019, Scoil Fhionáin has begun its journey towards Gaeltacht schools' status- this is an exciting time for the whole community . We want our children to enjoy the benefits of being fully bilingual.

Má tá an Ghaeilge agaibh , labhraigí leis ná páistí í, cuidíonn seo go mór leis an obair a dhéanann an scoil.

Déanfaimid gach iarracht anseo i scoil Fhionáin a chinntiú go mbainfidh do pháiste taitneamh agus tairbhe as a (h) am anseo ar scoil - tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuil co- oibriú idir an scoil agus an baile le seo a chur i gcrích.

We make every effort here in Scoil Fhionáin to ensure your child is safe and happy and achieving socially and academically – it is important that the school and home work together as partners to achieve this.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school re any concerns you may have about your child at school.

Le Meas, Stiofán Ó Canainn, Príomhoide/ Principal

Advice for parents/guardians of infants starting school:

Start with a good breakfast. Come to the class on time on the day. Give a hug, say good-bye, give an assurance that you will collect her/him at the proper time.

Then leave!

Almost all children are busy and happy within minutes of their parents leaving.

For the first week your child will be going home at 12.30p.m.

New infants are usually very tired when they start school first, so please help them by making sure they go to bed early.

Please ensure that you are on time. Your child's ability to separate from you will be enhanced if they know you will be there on time.

Please wait for your child's turn to come out.

THE FIRST YEAR

Starting school is a milestone in the life of your child.

You can help to make this transaction easier for your child by providing safe opportunities for her/him to spend away from you and with other children in order to learn how to share and take turns.

Your child will have an opportunity to visit the classroom/school in June and will thus be familiar with the school setting.

All children are different.

In school we encourage each child to do her/his best through individual, group and whole class activities. **All children learn at their own pace.** Just as children walk and talk at different stages, they also read and write when they are ready..

HELP YOUR CHILD TO BE INDEPENDENT by training her/him:

1. To use the toilet, wash and dry hands without help.
2. To put on and take off her/his coat and do and undo buttons and zips.
3. To open and close schoolbags, lunch boxes and drink containers.
4. To use a tissue /hanky when needed.
5. To recognise her/ his own belongings.

WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD TO GROW:

- Give your child time, spend time together.
- Talk to your child and encourage her/him.
- Listen attentively to your child.
- Read and enjoy stories together. Talk about the story.
- Repeat Nursery Rhymes.
- Identify colours and shapes.
- Provide paper, crayons and paints for colouring and scribbling.
- Provide jigsaws, Lego, play dough etc.
- Help her/him to cut out using safe scissors.
- Allow sand and water play
- Have fun together.

- Praise her/his efforts at every opportunity.
- Avoid criticising.
- Please avoid using the threat of “teacher” as a form of punishment!!

If children feel you have confidence in them they will feel they can achieve. Education is a life long journey. We want your child’s first steps to be as positive as possible. Join us as we walk the path of learning together.

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

If a child lives with criticism, (s)he learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility, (s)he learns to fight.

If a child lives with shame, (s)he learns to feel guilty.

If a child lives with tolerance, (s)he learns to be patient.

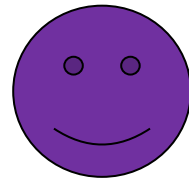
If a child lives with praise, (s)he learns to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness, (s)he learns justice.

If a child lives with security, (s)he learns to have faith.

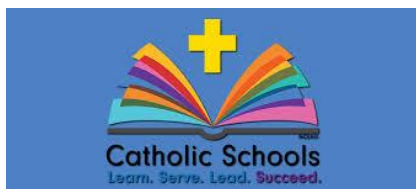
If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,

(S)HE LEARNS TO FIND LOVE IN THE WORLD.





Fás agus Foghlaim- Growing and Learning



hionáin

