

COOLE NATIONAL SCHOOL



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Newsletter April 2023

~~Coicís na Gaeilge~~

~~Primary Language Curriculum training / Treanáil sa Churaclam~~

~~The school will close on the 1st Of June to facilitate Primary Language curriculum training for the staff~~

~~-Student Council News~~

~~The student council held a **recent** meeting to discuss the impact of the covid -19 pandemic on their education.~~

~~Múinteoir Lisa chaired the meeting and used the following prompts with the council~~

~~Which learning situation was better; learning at home or learning in school?~~

~~Have you experienced any difficulties with learning or school in general following the covid-19 pandemic.~~

~~Has anything changed for the better in school since the covid-19 pandemic.~~

~~All members of the student council agreed that the school setting is better for learning. The reasons they gave for this are~~

- ~~• It is easier to focus in school~~
- ~~• It is more social~~
- ~~• A teacher is available to help~~
- ~~• The day is structured/routine~~
- ~~• More opportunities for sports~~
- ~~• More books and resources available~~

~~The children talked about spending a lot of the last school year catching up and they felt they had caught up on their learning now.~~

They discussed the issue that some children being anxious of germs and focusing on cleaning a lot. They mentioned Irish being difficult as they missed out on a lot of learning and the jump from 3rd class (pre-covid) to 5th- 6th class Irish was difficult. They spoke about not having much Irish at home and the impact that had on their learning during the pandemic.

The children also mentioned absenteeism as a difficulty now. They mentioned getting sick more often and missing school more often, especially during the winter months.

On a similar note they mentioned the difficulty of having a substitute or being split due to teacher illness as well. They said that substitute teachers just don't know them or the school well enough and it can be difficult to learn in those circumstances.

Green Schools Committee News

The Green schools committee has been working on attaining a new green flag for Coole National School. The focus of this flag is biodiversity. The children in each class have completed a biodiversity survey and mapped the different habitats on the school grounds. Ms Kelly who is leading the green schools will meet the committee again soon to make further progress.

There is also a lot of activity taking place in our school garden. We are very grateful to our wonderful parents and volunteers who have been beavering away in the school garden to get it ready for planting.

The children are looking forward to helping make it a wonderful space which will enhance their experience in school.

We have also entered the Pride of Place competition for the very first time. This is a competition run by Meath County Council.

Brick flicks

The children in 4th, 5th and 6th class will participate in a workshop hosted by createschool.ie on the 3rd of May. A facilitator will visit the classes and teach the children how to use technology and Lego to make short animations.

Motus Learning

The children in 5th and 6th class will participate in a transition to secondary school wellbeing workshop with Motus learning on the 30th of May.

I would like to express our gratitude to the parent's association for providing the funding for these workshops.

Junior Infants September 2023

We will hold an information meeting on Thursday the 18th of May at 7pm for the parents of the incoming Junior infants. This meeting will involve a short presentation and question time. There will be tea and coffee afterwards for time to meet and greet.

We will welcome our new junior infants to the school on the 15th of June to meet their classmates and teacher.

The current junior infants will finish school at 1 o'clock on the 15th of June to facilitate this.

Free schoolbooks for all primary school pupils



Information for parents/guardians

From September 2023, schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks for children in recognised primary schools, including special schools, will be provided to every child free by their school. There is no charge to parents/guardians for this, as schools receive funding from Government to cover these costs.

Schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks will be provided by the school.

There is no need for parents to buy or rent these.

There will be no fee for parents for this.

Schools receive funding to buy these items. Schools must prioritise the use of the funding to cover all costs of textbooks, workbooks and copybooks.

There may be a requirement for parents to buy some additional items for children to use at school. The schools must make this clear to parents.

All children in the class will have access to the schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks that they need.

The schoolbooks and workbooks will be on loan to the children.

They must be returned at the end of the school year, or if the child leaves the school.

It is important that books are kept in good condition so they can be re-used. Please help make sure your child/children keep the school books safe and takes care of them, so they can be used again by another child.

Booklists

Please read the information note from the department of Education in relation to the provision of free schoolbooks to primary school children.

Lists of what Parents need to provide for their children will be sent home with the school reports in June.

In Budget 2023, the Government provided over €50 million to eliminate the cost of schoolbooks for children attending primary schools and special schools.



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

~~Green schools committee meeting~~

Garden

Booklists

Communion

Ms Weldon and the children preparing for communion are working hard learning their prayers and mass responses. The ceremony will take place on Saturday 6 May at 12 noon. We look forward to celebrating this wonderful occasion with you. There will be a reception in the school hall afterwards.

Mud Kitchens

We recently took delivery of 2 mud kitchens. The children from junior infants to 6th class are having lots of fun playing with the mud kitchens.

Book Sale

The Parent's association will hold a pre-loved Book sale on the 19th of May. They are currently seeking donations of books that your child may have outgrown. Please drop any books into the school before the 5th of May. Books for ages up to 12-13 are needed. Books need to be in good condition.

5th & 6th class Musical

We are delighted to announce that the children of 5th and 6th class will perform songs from the Musical Grease on the 11th of May at 7:30pm.

The children are practicing with Ms. Cassidy and are looking forward to the show.

School Tours

Below is the schedule of school tours. All fees will be collected through Aladdin.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<u>Junior/Senior</u> <u>Infants</u>	<u>30th May</u>	<u>Clonfert</u> <u>pet farm</u>	<u>20 euro</u>
<u>1st & 2nd class</u>	<u>15th May</u>	<u>Clonfert</u> <u>Pet farm</u>	<u>20 euro</u>
<u>3rd & 4th class</u>	<u>25th May</u>	<u>Sports Campus Ireland</u> <u>& National aquatic</u> <u>centre</u>	32 euro
<u>5th & 6th Class</u>	<u>26th June</u>	<u>Bay Sports</u> <u>Athlone</u>	<u>35 euro</u>

6th Class Graduation

We will have a special ceremony on the 23rd of June to celebrate our 6th class pupils graduation.

Child safeguarding / risk assessment

The Board of Management has ratified the review of the Child safeguarding and anti-bullying policies. Copies of the policies are available on the school's website or from the school office.

Please note if you have any child protection/safeguarding concerns you should speak to The Designated liaison Person, Lisa Doyle or in her absence The Deputy Designated Liaison Person, Louise Cassidy.

Absences

Please ensure you are inputting the reasons for your child's absences from school. We can accept these absences through the Aladdin app. There is no need to email the school or send in a written note once the absence has been recorded on Aladdin. There is also a function on the app to mark an absence ahead of time.

Primary Language Curriculum training

The school will close on the 1st Of June to facilitate Primary Language curriculum training for the staff

School Calendar 2023-2024

Coole NS

2023-2024 School Calendar

September '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

	First day of school/ new term
	School closed/Holidays
	End of term/Half day