



# SCOIL NIOCLÁS NAOFA

Dunmore, Co. Galway.

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www.dunmorens.com

Roll No: 197446

Newsletter September 2018

## School Calendar 2018-2019

MONTH	DETAILS
September	
October	Closing for Presidential Election on Friday October 26th Closing for Mid-term Oct 29 <sup>th</sup> – November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
November	Opening Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>
December	Closing for Christmas holidays Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>
January 2019	Opening Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>
February	Mid-term break: Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>
March	Closing Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> (Bank Holiday)
April	Closing Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April Re-opening Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
May	Closing Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> (Bank Holiday)
June	Closing Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Bank Holiday) Closing for Summer holidays on Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>

### Uniforms, Coats, Tracksuits etc

Please ensure that all your child's clothing is clearly labelled to avoid any confusion as regards ownership. Last year, some new jumpers went missing at considerable cost to parents.

### Pupils' Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (Voluntary Personal Insurance)

Application forms for Insurance Cover accompany this newsletter. (Given to all pupils) Please return all completed forms and money in a sealed envelope by Friday, September 28th. **Please remember that a separate payment slip is required for each pupil.** Full details on the scheme are available on [www.allianz.ie/schools](http://www.allianz.ie/schools). All slips will be retained by the school as proof of payment. **If you are paying by cheque, please make all cheques payable to Scoil Níoclás Naofa, Dunmore.** Please put all slips and money in a sealed envelope with the name (s) of your child (ren), and their respective classes on the outside.

### Parent – Teacher Meetings 2018:

**Our annual Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> between 3pm and 5.45pm.** The school will close at 2.45pm on that day. School buses will be available at that time. Parents will be allocated a time slot as in previous years. Parents are free to make other arrangements to see the teachers, outside of teaching time, by mutual agreement.

If a parent believes that another meeting may be necessary at a later date, this will be facilitated by the teachers.

### School Texting Service

Please inform Fidelis if you have changed your mobile number which is used by the school in its Parents' Texting Service, or if you discover that, on a regular basis, you do not receive messages that go to the whole school. On occasions, messages are sent to a specific class only, as the information contained in them pertains to that specific class only.

### **School Attendance**

The DES has allocated a personal pupil ID number to monitor school attendance. This system further strengthens the emphasis on good attendance. **Please supply the class teacher with a note of explanation when your child is absent.** If your child is absent for fifteen days, you will receive a letter from the school reminding you that Tusla will have to be notified if your child is absent for twenty days or more in the course of the full school year.

### **Local Contribution towards School Costs:**

With the reduction of our Maintenance Grant and the reduction in capitation, it is necessary to ask parents to contribute towards the cost of photocopying, Art and Crafts materials etc. We, therefore, ask you to contribute as follows:

**1 child: €25. 2 children: €40. 3 children or more: €50**

**Pencils, display folders, homework journals, hard back copies, which are given out by the teachers, can be paid for in each classroom. (See booklists)**

We thank you most sincerely for your contributions down through the years and our school is well maintained and resourced, thanks in no small measure, to your voluntary contributions. **We have noticed, however, a significant fall off in the number of families who contribute and we appeal to all families to make a genuine effort to support the school financially.**

### **Christmas Concerts 2018:**

Our Christmas Concerts will take place on Tuesday, December 11th (1 – 2pm) and Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 (at the earlier time of 7.00pm).

### **Confirmation 2019:**

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish on Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as posted previously on the website of the Archdiocese of Tuam.

### **Swimming 2018-19:**

Swimming begins this week, on Thursday as usual. Two classes will go swimming each week, accompanied by their teachers. Please ensure that your child brings all their swimming gear to school, in a secure bag which will not fall apart when tracksuits, runners etc are put in it for storage in the locker. The cost, per swim, is €8.

All parents who come to the pool must identify themselves at Reception for Child Protection purposes.

### **Enrolment This Year (2018-2019)**

Our current Enrolment is 214 pupils, which is a healthy surplus as regards retaining 8 mainstream class teachers for the foreseeable future. We will distribute Enrolment Forms for September 2019 before Christmas, as we may need to cap Enrolment in our Junior Infants as was necessary this year. More details later.

### **School Uniform Policy:**

The vast majority of pupils, and their families, fully support our School Uniform Policy and wear the appropriate navy tracksuits on Thursday and Friday also. Pupils will be asked to wear the school uniform in class, rather than a sports top when the jumper has been removed. We noticed this trend in our senior classes last year, and we ask for your support around this issue.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, I would like to wish all the children, parents, members of staff and our Board of Management all the best for the coming school year.

**John O' Mahony, Principal.**