
Clonburris N.S.

Our Lady Queen of the Apostles

Learn, Believe, Achieve!



Welcome to Junior Infants 2020

Thank you for choosing Clonburris N.S. Our vision for your child is that they can be the best they can be and we will do everything we can to help them achieve that goal.

Some Important things to note...

- * If your child has a medical condition that needs to be notified to the school (severe allergy/diabetes/asthma etc.)
- * If your child has any condition that requires having medicine administered please speak to Ms. Kerins HSCL teacher or Patricia the school secretary.
- * Never put any medication in a child's school bag as it can pose a danger if found by another child.
- * If your child uses an inhaler please notify class teacher in September.
- * The school holds a Public Liability Insurance. Parents can choose to take out own Personal Accident Insurance if they wish. Forms are sent home at the start of the school year.
- * If your child has any assessment or report relating to their development or learning please let the school know.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Emphasis in Clonburris N.S. is preventing occurrence of bullying through teaching programmes such as Walk Tall and Stay Safe to all classes. These lessons promote spirit of friendship and inclusion, treating others with dignity and respect.

Friendship week is held annually in September. Children and teachers are mindful of the difference between bullying and small disagreements.

Parents can help by reminding your child to always tell the teacher on yard duty or class teacher if they have a problem. Class teachers will always investigate incidents raised to them.

Communication

Call the school to arrange an appointment if you wish to speak to your child's teacher, or alternatively write a note in your child's Teddy Bear book.

Guardianship

If there is joint guardianship in place in your family, please notify the school so we can set up both guardians for text service and receiving school notes home.

Class record slips

Teachers will send home an information record with each child that needs to be filled out by all parents/guardians. Please include "in case of emergency contact" such as neighbour/ relative for times when parents can't be reached. Please inform the school when mobile numbers have changed.

Housekeeping

- * School closures will always be notified by note home or text. Check folders and bags regularly. School website lists all closures and events coming up in the online calendar section.
- * Uniform consists of navy trousers, skirt, pinafore, navy jumper with crest, white or blue shirt and navy tie.
- * Tracksuits are worn on PE days and school tours or outings.
- * Uniforms can be expensive, please label it with your child's name.
- * Lunches are provided as part of the Department of Family Affairs grant. Glanmore provide lunches at present. Children will be given an order form in September. Talk to your child about choices so they are able to pick the foods they like.
- * We encourage healthy eating in school so the following foods are not permitted in school: crisps, sweets, chocolate, nuts, fizzy drinks, popcorn.

Yard Rules

Junior Infants have their own designated yard where all three classes will play. There is a Buddy system in operation with 5th and 6th class children who will help the infants to mix and play together. The Buddies will make sure all children are included in the games on the yard.

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Getting ready for school

There are lots of things that you can do over the summer with your child to help get them ready for school.

- ⇒ Ensure that your child can use the toilet independently.
- ⇒ Encourage them to tidy away their toys/books/crayons.
- ⇒ Get your child to put on their own coat and hat in the mornings.
- ⇒ Get your child to put on their own shoes. Try to get Velcro shoes which will be easier for them to manage.
- ⇒ Make sure that your child's school bag is big enough to hold A4 sized books. Get your child to carry and open/close their schoolbag.
- ⇒ Teach your child how to wash their hands by showing them how to use the soap, rub their hands together and dry them with a towel.
- ⇒ Practise throwing, kicking a ball with your child.
- ⇒ Read to your child every day.

A Day in the life of a Junior Infant

- * lots of pre writing / writing activities
- * Maths activities including Ready Set Go programme
- * Gaeilge
- * Aistear—Learning through play
- * Nature walks/outdoor classroom
- * Physical Education
- * Development of social skills
- * Informal learning—they won't be aware of 'work', lots of singing, drawing, stories, environmental learning
- * Songs, poems, rhymes.
- * Golden Time

In September...

Encourage your child to walk into the classroom by themselves. After settling in we hope to see the children walk in from the school hall on their own to hang up their own coat before coming in to their classroom.

Tips for language learning for young children

- 1) **Play** listening games to build your child's attention and practise following instructions - Simon says, I spy, etc.
- 2) **Lots of Repeating**—repeat new words for them lots of times and in many different sentences.
- 3) **Show them** the right way—say the word or sentence correctly for your child instead of asking them to repeat themselves.
- 4) Use every day routines to **encourage conversation**—let your child help you unpack the shopping, put laundry in the washing machine, chop fruit/vegetables with you. Talk about what you are doing.
- 5) Encourage your child to **tell stories**—sharing books or looking at photos together. Encourage your child to use the pictures/photos to talk about what they see and create a story.

Tips for developing fine motor skills at home

- * Construction toys: free play, set a task to build something (*house/castle/fort etc.*)
- * Clothes pegs: squeeze to pick up cotton wool balls and put them in a container, place pegs around a paper plate to make a sun, hang pictures on a string etc. *Encourage children to squeeze the peg with their fingers rather than using the palm of their hand.*
- * Tennis ball (cut half way through) and marbles: place marbles in one hand and squeeze tennis ball in other hand with fingers to 'eat' the marbles. *Encourage children to squeeze the tennis ball with their fingers rather than using the palm of their hand.*

Home School Community Liaison

The goal of the HSCL teacher is to help children and parents get the best from school life. There are lots of ways to get involved in school. Drop into school, ring or text 083 8490219 and ask for Ms. Kerins, or email HomeschClonburris@gmail.com.
