



Ard Rí Community National School

Ard Rí C.N.S, Balreask Old, Navan, Co. Meath.

Principal: Darragh Roe

Roll No 20352T



January & February 2020 Newsletter

Happy New Year everyone,

Attendance Policy

In a case where your child will have a brief absence of one to three days from school (due to illness etc.) it is not necessary to contact the school in advance. Please send in a short note of explanation upon your child's return. Only in the case of scheduled absences, lasting longer than 3 days, must you notify your child's class teacher in advance. Only in exceptional circumstances would we require a doctor's note.

Please be advised we report cases where children miss over 20 days in a school year to The Child and Family Agency. It is a misunderstanding that 20 days is the number of days you are permitted to be absent. The 20 days is not like 'Annual Leave'. We understand absence due to illness is unavoidable however families should strive for full attendance. This avoids gaps arising in your child's learning and establishes a strong work ethic for later life.

Punctuality is very important also. A child who is 12 minutes late every day will miss one hour of school a week. Teachers have settling-in routines each morning. Children who miss out on these activities are at a disadvantage. Just as above if you place value on punctuality it will establish positive habits which your children will bring with them into later life.

Homework Club- Due to low numbers Homework Club will not continue in Term 2.

Parent Teacher Meetings take place on 21st & 22nd of January in your child's classroom. Please understand that in order to run smoothly we must stick to the times set. Each meeting will be max 10 minutes long. Thank you in advance for your co-operation on this.

Term 2 Check for Headlice Weekends- will be Weekend 18th & 19th of January and Weekend 22nd & 23rd of February. Over these weekends we encourage you to carry out detection combing. If you find headlice treat them immediately to stop them from spreading. As per HSE recommendations we encourage chemical treatments as HSE research suggests this is most effective. All information is available in our [School Headlice Policy](#).

Chinese New Year- All classes will celebrate the Chinese New Year during the week 20th to 24th of January. Classes will learn about the Chinese New Year at their own level.

Ard Rí Community NS is a Multi-Denominational School. We model respect, celebrate and recognise diversity in all areas of human life. We endeavour to encourage children to have pride in what makes them different and a belief that difference, when respected and valued, gives strength and vibrancy to the school community and the wider community in which we



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live. In order to ensure we value all the beliefs and values in our community the staff at Ard Rí Community NS plan based upon our [Interfaith Calendar](#). This document is a live document, a work in progress, one which changes as we reflect upon our teaching, as we receive feedback and as our community evolves.

Tin Whistle- From January 2020 we will be teaching Tin Whistle to children from First to Sixth class during our curriculum Music lessons. Please buy a Tin Whistle in the Key of D and bring it to school. We will label each tin whistle and children will keep their whistle in school. Children can only use their own whistle etc.

Post Office Saving Scheme- The Ard Rí Parent Association run a Post Office Saving Scheme on Friday mornings. Just set up a Post Office account for your child in Johnstown Post Office and hand the account book to Debi in the office. Your child can then deposit a few Euro into their saving account every Friday morning.

Swimming will be divided into two sessions this year. Details of our Swimming Policy, cost etc. will be sent out shortly.

Classes	Dates
	19.02.2020
Rang Maria (1st)	26.02.2020
Rang Karen Dillon (1st)	04.03.2020
Rang Cailín (3rd)	11.03.2020
Rang Karen Dunne (3 rd /4th)	18.03.2020
	25.03.2020

Swimming for Senior Infants, 2nd, 5th and 6th Classes will begin on 21st April 2020.

Mid Term Break- School will be closed on Thursday 20th & Friday 21st of February for Mid-Term break ([School Calendar](#))

