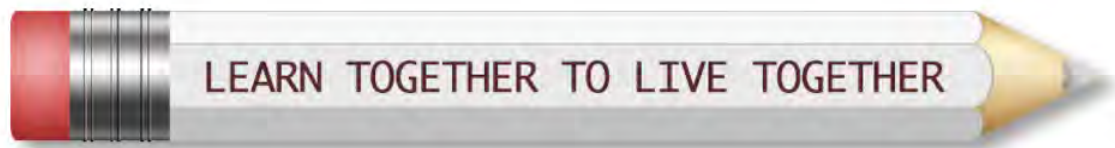




TULLAMORE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL

Collins Lane, Tullamore, Co Offaly - tetns1@gmail.com - 057 9361190

Scoil Náisiúnta Ag Foghlaim Le Chéile An Tulach Mhór



September 2024

Dear Parents, Children and Staff,

We would like to welcome all the children and staff back to school after our summer break. We would like to extend a special welcome to our new pupils in Junior Infants, The Arc and the other classes and to Aine, Orlaith, Aoife , Holly and Ciara.

Settling In

Any parent who has concerns regarding their child please feel free to make a phone appointment with the class teacher. All teachers are very willing to accommodate parents in this regard. The earlier concerns are dealt with the better for everyone involved. It is quite common to have teething problems and periods of adjustment at the beginning of the school year. The official Parent Teacher meetings will take place the week of 18th -22nd of November .

Art and Craft Money

Each year in early September we ask for an Art and Craft/Insurance fee for each child. The fee is €50 for one child, €95 for two and €135 for three. Please send it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. The insurance fee is for a 24 hour cover which applies to social, domestic and leisure activities in addition to school activities. Thank you for those who have already paid.

Aistear

Aistear is a framework for learning through play. This month's theme was 'Home'. The children learned the relevant vocabulary and phrases through role-play, game-playing and art.

Solar Panels

Last year Minister for Education Norma Foley and Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, Ossian Smyth, launched the commencement of the first phase of the Solar for Schools Programme. It provides eligible schools with 6 kilowatts of roof-mounted solar PV, which equates to approximately 16 solar panels.

The scheme will assist schools in reducing their energy costs and their carbon footprint as part of the response to meeting the 2030 and 2050 Climate Action Plan targets for the schools sector. The solar PV panels in schools will also be connected to the electricity grid, so that the schools can generate income by powering other homes and businesses with clean energy when schools are closed at weekends and during school holidays. Offaly is in the first cohort of counties chosen for the scheme.

Our panels were installed this month. A big thank you to Richard who did all the necessary organising.

County Photos

County Photos took photographs of the Junior Infants and 6th Class on September 18th.

Cumann na mBunscol

The Cumann na mBunscol games have started early this year. The boys have played one game already and they won. The girls have played two games and won one. Training is on Thursdays afterschool, rain, hail or shine! Thanks to all involved.

September 18th : Tullamore ETNS V Kilcormac (Boys) Win

September 19th : Tullamore ETNS V Scoil Mhuire, Tullamore (Girls)

September 26th : Tullamore ETNS V Edenderry (Girls) Win

National SNA Appreciation Day

September 26th marks the first National SNA Appreciation Day. Many thanks to Lynne, Massi, Olivia, Olivia and Holly for the great work they do. Cakes were eaten on the day! Check out our Facebook Page where we can enter a competition to win funds for our school and for a prize for a very lucky SNA.

Cineáltas Showcase Event

On September 25th Minister for Education Norma Foley TD hosted today's inaugural Cineáltas Showcase Event at Croke Park, which recognised best practice school community initiatives to combat bullying. Tullamore ETNS was invited to represent Offaly. We focused on what we have done as a school 'promoting positivity to prevent negativity'. As the 6th Class Wellbeing Warriors Amelie and Arnas were chosen as the two pupils to represent the school. With Michelle leading the visual presentation and Arnas and Amelie armed with their speeches we represented the school well, showcasing what is best about our school in relation to inclusion, diversity, wellbeing and equality. Minister Foley said they were the best warriors she met all day. You can catch a glimpse of us on news2day on RTE player-September 25th.

Learn Together Programme

This year we are focusing on the Learn Together Programme strand, Ethics and the Environment in assembly. 6th Class were the first class to participate and their topic was habitats. The class presented superb projects on the subject covering deserts, the oceans and our own bogs. Well done 6th Class!

Healthy Lunches

Please ensure your child has a healthy lunch. One treat is permitted on a Friday. In the interests of keeping the school green we ask the children to bring home any wrappers or cartons they bring into school.

Assembly

We had our first monthly assembly of the year on September 27th.

Congratulations to Sudhanva (Junior Infants), Matvii (Senior Infants), Uliana (1st Class), Muire (2nd Class), Tanishqa (3rd Class), Arwa Ali (4th Class), Wiktor (The Arc), Jack Griffin (5th Class) and Caitlin Hackett (6th Class) who were the September recipients of our handwriting awards. Well done to all!

Thanks to Breda for the upkeep of the handwriting noticeboard.

Enrolment

Enrolment for the academic year 2025/2026 is open on November 4th next. All admission information is available on the school website.

Educate Together Day

On October 25th we have our annual Educate Together Dress Up day where we celebrate being an Educate Together school. Please ensure costumes are comfortable to wear! Again we will have prizes for the best home-made costumes. This is also the last school day before mid-term begins. School goes to 3.00 p.m. on this day.

Clubs

Doireann and Orlaith restarted the Friday morning choir on September 27th from 9.00 a.m.-9.20 a.m. for children in the 3rd-6th Classes who have an interest in singing. It takes place in Orlaith's classroom. From next week the children can leave their bags in their line and enter Orlaith's room through the yard door by Cathy's office.

The quiz club is starting back on Wednesday October 9th next until Wednesday December 11th.

Secondary School

The local secondary schools are visiting the school and information on open nights has been widely circulated on social media, on the school websites and via Aladdin.

Attendance

There is a direct link between school attendance and pupil progress. Your co-operation with maintaining high attendance and punctuality is greatly appreciated. As part of the Board of Management's revised strategy on attendance, parents who take their children on holidays during the school term are required to fill out a separate form in addition to filling in the absence on Aladdin.

This form will be posted out to parents. Parents will also receive a letter at intervals reminding them of the number of days their child has been absent from school.

Housekeeping

Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 5th Class are strictly nut-free zones.

We do not mark children's birthdays in school. Please do not send in any food for distribution as it will be returned.

The passing of invitations and cards must take place outside of school hours. This ensures that no child is excluded or hurt.

The children must wear appropriate footwear for P.E.

Coming Up

- October 9th :Vision Screening for Junior Infants
- October 25th : Educate Together Day
- October 16th : Junior Infants Vaccinations
- October 14th: 18th :Maths Week
- Student Council elections
- Wellbeing Warriors elections

Take care,

Cathy