

Burgess National School
CARRIGATOHER, NENAGH, CO. TIPPERARY.



Roll No. 18164G
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September, 2018

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year, we look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year and thank you for having your child so well prepared for this first term.

New Teacher: We welcome Ms. Róisín O'Donnell, who has joined our staff as Special Education teacher. We wish her well in all her endeavours.

Class Information Meetings: On Friday, 14th September, parents of pupils moving to a new class teacher will have an opportunity to meet their teacher briefly to discuss classroom routines etc. Parents of Junior Infants can meet Ms. Costello at 12.00p.m. Parents of First class pupils can meet Ms. Quigley at 12.00 p.m.

Hurling: Children from 3rd-6th class have the opportunity to participate in hurling/football training during lunchtime with Fergal Mc Donnell for the month of September. We are very grateful to Fergal for being so generous with his time and interest. Please ensure your child has their gear in school each day.

County Athletics: Children from 3rd to 6th will commence training for this event which will take place at the end of the month.

Peace Proms 2019: We are delighted that Burgess N.S. will once again participate in Peace Proms. The programme promotes 'peace through music' and culminates in a large-scale performance for choirs and orchestra, to take place this year in U.L. early 2019. Date to be confirmed.

Tidy Schools: Burgess N.S. were awarded second place in the wild garden category of Tipperary Tidy Schools Competition. Thank you to all the children who brought in materials to create the garden.

Expenses:

Music – Children from 1st - 6th class will have instrumental instruction with Miss Kathleen Costello for two terms throughout the year. The total cost will be €60 per child which will be payable in two instalments. The first sum of €30 is payable in September and the other €30 will be payable in January 2019. All children are expected to have tin whistles/instruments in school each **Wednesday**. A small number of instruments will be available to rent for €30 for the school year and when returned in perfect order €20 will be refunded. Any repairs of instruments will be at parents' expense. Please, contact the class teacher if you are interested in this scheme, which is available to children from 3rd class upwards.

Dance – All pupils will be taught dancing by Marie Hogan each **Thursday**. The cost for the year for each child will be 30 euro. The first amount of 15 euro is payable in September and the remaining 15 euro payable in January 2019.

Insurance – Personal accident cover is available from Allianz Insurance. This is optional but the costs involved and the level of cover are quite attractive. Cover for school activities costs €6 and 24 hour cover €9. Those who wish to avail of this option must complete the attached form.

Please forward the relevant monies in a clearly marked envelope to the school no later than the 28th September 2018. (There will be someone in the office between 9.00a.m. and 9.20 a.m. each morning and 2-3p.m. each evening.)

Clothes Collection: Thursday 18th October is the next date for our clothes collection, so please start bagging all your recyclable items. No duvets, pillows, cushions or school uniforms will be accepted.

Annual Street Collection and Carol Singing: Wednesday December 19th is the date of our annual fundraiser in Nenagh. This is a fun event for the pupils from 1st to 6th class and is supported greatly by the parents. We would appreciate if you would keep some time free on this day to help with the money collection. Please inform the teachers at the parent/teacher meeting later this term, the time slot that suits you best. Mile Buíochas.

Childhood Illness: We would ask that all parents would cooperate with alternative arrangements for their child when experiencing infectious illnesses. Any child that has been sick during the night should not attend school the following day. This practice is in the interest of your child but moreover the general wellbeing of all pupils and staff.

Allergies: Any parent who has a concern with regard to a child with an allergy, please inform the school. All pupils are asked to refrain from bringing any food item containing **nuts** to school.

Haircare and Hygiene: Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice and their general hygiene throughout the year.

Lost Property: Parents are responsible for labelling all their children's belongings. Please cooperate in this matter as the school cannot be responsible for lost items. Any parent who discovers an item of clothing that does not belong to them, please return to the school as soon as possible.

iPads: Thanks to the support the school received in its fundraising initiatives during the 2017/2018 school year, we have been able to purchase seven new iPads, bringing the total to ten. These iPads will be used by all pupils in the school as interactive technology helps to make learning more engaging and memorable. This year we will be fundraising for a multiple iPad charging station to charge and securely store the iPads. We look forward to your continued support. Any ideas or offer of help with fundraising would be gratefully appreciated.

Other forms:

Enclosed are Parental Permission forms for new children, which are retained for the duration of Primary school.

Contact forms must be completed annually for each child and returned by Friday 28th September.

Other Information:

- Any parent who wishes to meet with a teacher to discuss at any length an issue relevant to their child must make an appointment by sending a note requesting a meeting and stating the nature of their concern. Please do not disturb teachers, where possible during their preparation and instruction time. Parent /Teacher Meetings will be scheduled for all parents later this term.
- Children are expected to be on time for class each morning. Parents are expected to drop off children at 9.15am and to pick them up promptly at 2/3pm each evening. The school accepts no responsibility for children who are on the school grounds outside of school hours either on school days or weekends. In the interest of the safety of all children, all doors will be locked throughout the day and access will be only by request.