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October 2019

Dear Parents/guardians,

After a busy September, the children are settling very well into the new school year.

**Parents’ Association AGM**

The AGM of the Lusk National Schools Parents’ Association will take place on Tuesday 15th October in the Junior School at 7:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity to hear about the work the PA and how we can all support the school in our children’s education. If you want to get in touch with the PA you can email: luskparentsassociation@gmail.com

**Anti-Bullying Week**

Anti-bullying week took place this week from 7th October to 11th October. Children took part in a number of lessons that focused on awareness of bullying, and many additional themes including those of friendship, resolving conflict, kindness and respect

**Dress Up Friday**

Children will be invited to take part in a Halloween themed dress up on Friday 25th October if they wish to do so. We will be collecting a voluntary donation of €1/2 on the day, which will go towards developing sensory spaces on our corridors.

**Parking**

We would like to thank everyone for your ongoing cooperation with traffic management in the school. With your ongoing support, the systems in place are working quite well. We would like to remind everyone that there is no facility for parking at the set down areas during morning drop off and 2:30pm pick up. Parents may park for the 1:30pm pick up only. In addition, we would like to remind you, if parking outside the school, to be mindful of the neighbour’s houses and to avoid parking on their property or at their entry and exit points.

Again many thanks for your support in regard to these issues.

**Ethos**

Many thanks to all who came to the registration meeting for First Holy Communion on October 2nd. Anyone who would like to register and missed the evening should give their registration form into Yvonne in the Parish Office.

Fr George gave us the official date for the communion masses which will take place on May 23rd at 10am and 12pm. First Confessions will take place on the evenings of 4th and 5th March at 7:30pm.

Enrolment masses for First Holy Communion will take place this weekend. Any child who wishes to make their First Holy Communion should attend any of the weekend masses (12th and 13th October) in order to enrol with their enrolment certificates. Candles, books and magazines are ready for collection in the parish office from Friday 11th October.

**Junior Infants photos**

Thank you to the Parents’ Association who arranged for our Junior Infant children to get their very first school photograph taken with professional photographer Simon Archer. Thank you to the PA also for helping the children with their presentation on the day.

**March for Climate Change**

Well done to all our boys and girls who took part in a strike to demand action for climate change during school time on Friday 27th September, taking example from Greta Thunberg who has been protesting on the issue since September 2018 and has generated global support for her actions. The children had great fun learning about climate change, and making their voices heard by making posters and creating school ‘chants’ to demand action now for the future.

**School Gardening Project**

Many thanks to all our children and parents who have been helping to develop our school garden by planting a number of spring flowers on the school grounds. Children in the junior and senior schools have been working together tirelessly in rain and shine, as have our parent volunteers. A huge thank you to those parents who have given their time so generously for the project. A huge thanks also to our second class teacher Ms ní Dhúill, who has coordinated the gardening activities of the Junior classes with the Senior School classes.

**Nut Free Classrooms**

We would like to remind all parents of the importance of refraining from giving your children nut based products for lunch breaks. We have a number of children in the school with severe nut allergies and we all want to make the environment as safe as possible for them.

We would be grateful if all parents could also refrain from giving their children chocolate spread as a treat on Friday. Although some spreads can be bought that claim to be nut free, it is impossible to decipher from a school’s point of view which spreads are safe and which ones are not. We really appreciate your support and understanding in relation to this matter.

**Dates for your diary:**

Halloween Break: Monday 28th October until Friday 1st November inclusive. School re-opens on Monday 4th November.

Parent Teacher Meetings will take place on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st November.

Curriculum planning day: Thursday 5th December. School will be closed for all children.

Kind regards,

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Órfhlaith Clarke