

# CLASHMORE NATIONAL SCHOOL

Clashmore, Via Youghal,  
Co. Waterford.  
P36 ET78

## September Newsletter 2024

*Fáilte is fiche romhaibh thar n-ais!*

***Welcome Back!***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

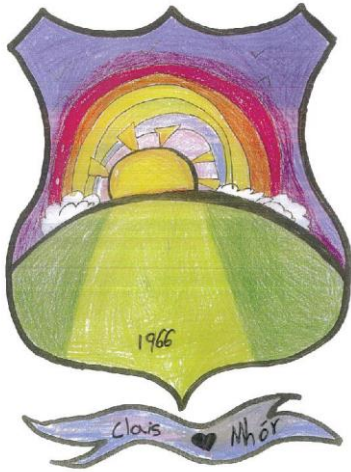
I would like to wish you all a very warm welcome back to school.

I hope that you are all keeping well and you had a lovely break over the Summer period.

It was wonderful to see the school coming to life again, with the return of the boys and girls on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August. I would like to wish all of our pupils, parents, staff, Board of Management, Parents` Association and school community every best wish for the year ahead. I hope that it will be a good one for all of us. I would also like to extend a very special welcome to our New Junior Infants and our new families to the school. I wish them every happiness as they join our school community.

I would also like to wish our past pupils all the very best, as they begin their secondary school education.

Like other years, we have endeavoured to make some up-grades to the school and this year is no different. I am delighted to announce, that the school was successful in its application for new furniture. As a result, all of the pupil chairs have replaced throughout the school. Tables in 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class have also been replaced. We have replaced a number of teacher desks and 2 extra notice boards and 2 extra (marker) whiteboards were granted as well as 2 drawer pedestal units for each teacher. Equally, as we are a Green School all of the old furniture has gone to new homes in the local community. 2 new interactive whiteboards have also been replaced in the Special Education teaching rooms. As well as that, we now have stackable chairs for school events.



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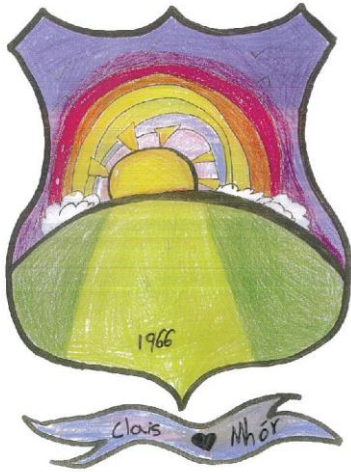
Please note that this is an extra-long newsletter, as it has many reminders and important updates for the coming year.

## 1. The Staff of Clashmore National School are as follows

- Principal & Special Education Teacher- Yvonne Uí Fhlaithimhín
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class Teacher- Mrs. Cathy Osborne
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Class Teacher, Deputy Principal- Mrs. Suzanne Hynes
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Teacher- Mrs. Máire Seward
- Junior & Senior Infants Class Teacher- Mrs. Michelle O`Donovan
- Special Education Teacher- Mrs. Patricia Keogh based full-time in Clashmore this year.
- S.N.A (Special Needs Assistant)- Mrs. Siobhán Fitzgerald/Job-share Partner
- S.N.A (Special Needs Assistant)- Mrs. Dawn Goulding
- S.N.A (Special Needs Assistant)- Mrs. Michelle Fitzgerald
- Secretary- Mrs. Laura Barron
- Caretaker Mr. Michael Dunne
- Cleaner: Mrs. Marian Flavin

## 2. Supervision

As the new term begins, the Board of Management would like to remind you that the school operates from 9.20am to 3pm. Infants finish at 2pm. To facilitate the children`s safe arrival to school, your child should arrive at school between 9:10am and 9:20am. There will be supervision in the yard in the morning between 9:10am and 9:20am. To Keep everyone safe, pupils are not permitted to enter the school grounds before 9:10am. Supervision will be provided until 3pm. However, the school accepts no responsibility for children before 9.10am or after 3pm.



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### 3. Access and Road Safety

In order to provide for the children's safe entry to and exit from school, the following protocol is in place.

Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes are to enter and leave the school grounds via the lower pathway on the village side. Senior children from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes are required to use the upper pathway on the Aglish side.

### 4. School Secretary

Our School Secretary Mrs. Laura Barron is here on a part-time basis and is contactable at the following times:

**Monday** 9.20am-1.00pm

**Tuesday** 9.20am-1.00pm

**Wednesday** 9.20am-1.00pm

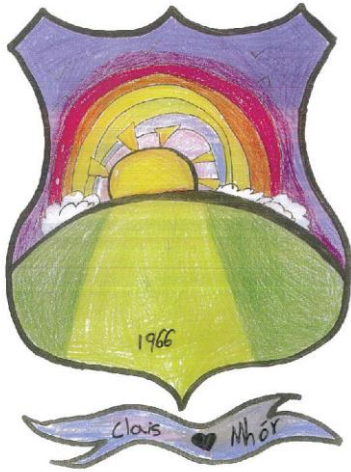
**Thursday** 9:20-1.00pm

**Friday** 9:20-1.10pm

Please note that these times may be subject to change.

### 5. Míle Buíochas to our Parents` Association

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to The Parents` Association of Clashmore National School for covering the cost of the materials for a new bench (€150) for the children to use during break time and for supplying a range of new/second hand Board Games for each class to enjoy playing on wet days. I would like to extend a special thank you to Anne Ledingham and her family for covering the cost of the materials for a second bench (€150) for the school and for the plaque attached to it in memory of her father Edmond Ledingham who was a great friend to the school. I would also like to thank Tomás Bourke for donating his time and skills in building both benches (€300). We are extremely grateful.



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A gentle reminder that the Parents` Association are still collecting unwanted clothes as a fundraiser. Bags can be dropped daily to the school between 9:10-3pm.

## 6. School Crests

Please be advised that the iron-on/sew on School Crest is still available to buy from the office at a cost of €5. This is also a Parents` Association fundraiser, so we would greatly appreciate your support. Please remember to label all of your child(ren)`s jumpers, as jumpers tend to get mixed up or mislaid.

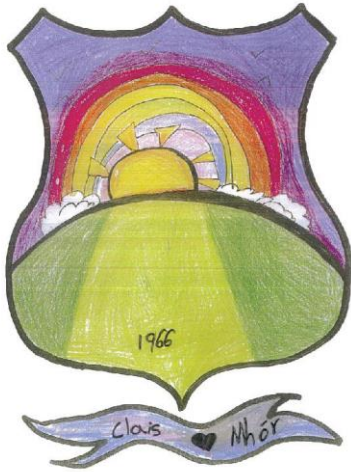
## 7. Attendance/Pupil Absences

As a DEIS school we will be placing a huge focus on attendance again for the coming year.

The importance of attendance cannot be under-estimated. By maintaining a good attendance, children can not only develop academically but can develop their social skills and friendships to name a few of the benefits. So please make every effort to ensure your child is in school.

If your child is absent, it is mandatory that a reason for the absence is communicated to the school. Equally, **we would ask that appointments be made outside of school time and that children are not leaving school early.** In addition, please try to avoid taking holidays during term time, as regardless of the time of year children are missing out when they are not in school.

As per our Attendance Policy, the Principal will issue a letter to parents following absences of 10 days, 15 days and 20 days. If a child has been absent for more than 20 days in a school year, then this will have to be reported to *Tusla Child and Family Agency* and the Children`s Education Welfare Officer may be in touch if there is cause for concern.



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## 8. Child Protection

Please note that Yvonne Uí Fhlaithimhín is the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Mrs. Suzanne Hynes is the Deputy Designated Liaison (DDL) in relation to Child Protection in the school. The Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment can be viewed on the wall inside the front door of the school.

## 9. Arts, Crafts & Photocopying Fee

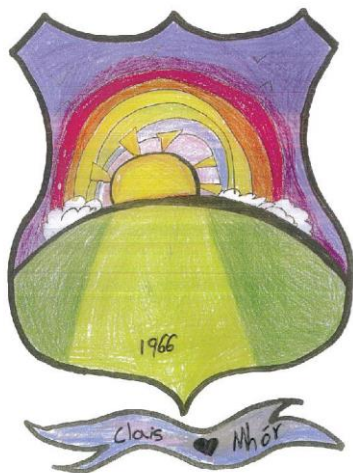
Please be advised that the Arts, Crafts & Photocopying Fee will be increased to €22.50 per child for the coming year. Please note that there has been no increase in these fees since pre-Covid. Please do not send in any money to the office, as this fee will be payable through Aladdin. You will be notified by email with the link to pay the fee when it is due.

## 10. Healthy Eating Guidelines

As part of the school's Healthy Eating Guidelines, Pupils are allowed to bring a small treat only on a Friday (e.g. fun size bar/bag of sweets, small home bakes, popcorn or pretzels, chocolate spread or yogurts not containing nuts). **There is a total ban on nut and nut products (e.g. Nutella)** due to the serious allergies of some pupils. Equally cordial is only permitted with lunch time.

## 11. Music Generation

Music Generation will continue in school this year. Junior Infants to Second class will be focusing on Musical Beginnings (songs, rhythm, pitch etc), while 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class will be learning to play the Ukulele. Danny Dunford will be the children's music teacher.



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This is our second year of Music Generation and it was a resounding success last year. We look forward to another wonderful year. There will be a cost associated with this programme, payable again through Aladdin. More information relating to this will be issued at a later date.

## **12. The Daily Mile & Tag Rugby**

The whole school will again be engaging in a Drop Everything and Run initiative beginning during September. This will involve every class spending 10 minutes running at their own pace every day. We as a school will record the accumulative distance that we run on a weekly basis.

We look forward to finding out our exact destination in the next week or 2.

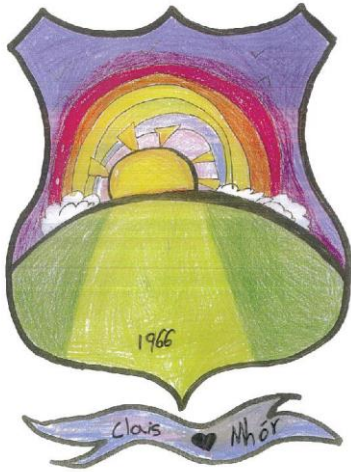
The children will also be engaging in 4 sessions of tag rugby with Waterford Sports Partnership beginning this month.

## **13. Green Schools News**

This year the school is working towards our 7<sup>th</sup> Green Flag which is Global Citizenship- Energy. We hope that our community will come together to become active global citizens through the many different events that we will be holding this year.

## **14. Medication**

In the event that your child requires medication during school hours, you are required to fill out an indemnity form and information form in advance before any medication can be permitted in school. These forms are available on request from the office.



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## 15. Aladdin Connect

A gentle reminder that Aladdin Connect is our school administration system. Please ensure that you are registered and can log in to this App at all times as all messages will come through Aladdin. Text messages will only be issued in the event of an Emergency.

## 16. Allianz Pupil Insurance

Allianz Pupil Insurance can be purchased from the school at a cost of €8 per pupil. This is 24 hour cover 365 days a year for school activities, social, domestic and leisure activities (including school holidays). We strongly encourage parents to avail of this insurance. More information will issue next week and payments can also be made through Aladdin next week.

## 17. Foxy Stamps Saving Scheme

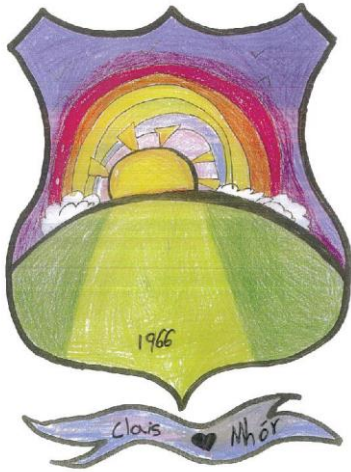
To enable the children to gain the experience of saving, in conjunction with Youghal Credit Union, the school runs the Foxy Stamps Saving Scheme.

This scheme allows pupils to buy saving stamps from the school at a cost of €1 each Friday and redeem their savings card in Youghal Credit Union or lodge into their account.

This will begin in the school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

## 18. School Closure Day 9<sup>th</sup> October

The school will be closed on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October to facilitate staff training in the New Primary Maths Curriculum.



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Finally, I would like to wish you all a welcome return to school and I wish you all every blessing for the coming year.

Le gach beannacht uaimse,

Yvonne Uí Fhlaithimhín

Principal of Clashmore National School

