

Balbriggan Educate Together NS

Parent Newsletter: Monday 30th May

(please see front and back of page! It's a long one.....)

1 Payment of 120euro

Huge thanks to the vast vast majority of parents who have paid the 120euro to date for school texts and services for the coming year. We wish to acknowledge your co-operation in this regard and your support for the school in doing so. A separate note will be issued today also to those few who have yet to pay.

2 Reminder:

The school closes for the children at 12noon this Thursday and reopens on Tuesday 8th June at 8.45am. (No school Friday!)

3 Junior Infant Welcome Meeting

The new Junior Infant children for the 2010/11 school year, and their parents, will have their induction meeting with Fintan and the teachers this Thursday from 1pm to 2.30pm in the school.

4 Buildings Update

Brian (Chairperson) and Fintan (Principal) were formally handed over the keys of the new building last Thursday (27th). Preparations for the 'move' are already underway. The school will be closed for the children on Thursday 17th June to facilitate the moving of classrooms and furniture and when the children return on Friday 18th they will take up residence in the new building. Parents are welcome to attend school at 8.45am on Friday 18th to accompany the children on the 'march' from the old school yard to the new school building.

5 Clubs

Parents please note that this is the very last week of the After-School Clubs for the 2010/11 school year. Congrats to all the teachers and the Parent Association for another successful cycle. We hope the children really enjoyed them.

6 Traffic

From tomorrow (Tuesday 1st June) we are going to allow parent car-traffic to use the front double gates of the school again. Parents are asked to drive though the front gates, take the 2nd left turn (the 1st is staff -parking) and to use the one-way traffic system for the new building. Ensure to insist that your child alights from the car on the passenger side only and uses the footpath to make his/her way down to the old school yard. Please remember to drive carefully and with due regard to all other road-users.

(please turn over the page for more important news)

7 Get Active Week

Get Active Week will take place in the school from Tuesday June 8th to Friday June 11th. Though the school's Board of Management and the Parent Association are financially subsidizing the majority of the expense of this week we must also seek:

- **20euro per child from each child in 3rd, 4th and 5th**
- **10euro per child from each child in JI, SI, 1st and 2nd.**

You will shortly be receiving a full detailed calendar of events for the week, but the highlights are:

- A full day of orienteering, canoeing, mud-slide and climbing wall in Tanagh, Co Monaghan for all 3rd, 4th and 5th class children
- A full day of Gymnastics in the newly designed Rush Gymnasium for all JI, SI, 1st and 2nd class children.
- A full Sports Day for all on Friday June 11th (parents welcome) in the grounds of Ardgillan Castle
- Workshops with visiting experts in Karate, Sports-Conditioning, Cycling , Rugby and Cricket
- And fieldwork on Balbriggan Beach and O'Dwyers GAA club
- The completion of the soccer World Cup for 1st and 2nd class children
- The athletics squad compete in the Santry School Athletics Championships
- And our children continue to walk to Tipperary, London and onwards to Paris (see www.balbrigganetns.com)
- And much much more! A full timetable will be issued this Thursday.

Please check out the Principal's Blog on the school website www.balbrigganetns for a posting on why we have a Get Active Week at all and please feel free to post your comments.

8 Special Event Weekend

The last of our series of Special Event Weekends for 2010/11 will take place on Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th June. This wonderful event will be open to children in Senior Infants, 1st, 2nd and 3rd. It is a set of workshops in the Arts: Music, Drama and Visual Art called "If the world were a village". This will be run by teachers Aideen and AnnMarie and the cost is 20euro per child and can be paid to the school office. A more detailed note will be sent home this week.

9 And, finally,

- Congrats to all of the Senior Infant children and teachers on their excellent Science Blitz
 - Parents of children in Roisin's class are invited to drop-in to the classroom on Thursday (3rd) between 9.30am and 12noon to see their Science Stations
 - The school choirs (Junior and Senior) have been brought to a set of workshops in the Centre for the Performing Arts (city-centre) aimed at developing their performance skills today Monday 30th May. Their final 'gig' will be a children's concert with St Maloga's school choir in late June.
 - Have you checked out the 4th class children's Blog (Dan's class) on the school website yet? Please do and feel free to leave a comment.
 - A group of parents will be running the Mini-Marathon to raise funds for the school. Please feel free to make any donations to Parent Association (in an envelope marked Parent Association to the school office)
 - Another group of parents are undertaking the project management of getting our new school 'served' and 'networked' with state-of-the-art Computer and Information Technology. If you would like to be involved with this group of parents and may have some free time in the week beginning Monday August 23rd please let Fintan (Principal) know and he can pass on your details to the project-manager.
 - Have you completed and returned the forms for free school lunches for the 2010/11 school year yet. Closing date for the return of this form is Tuesday 8th June.

(please turn over the page for more important news)