

ST.FELIM'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

SN Leiter, Coill an Chollaigh, Co. Cabhain

Roll No. 18564W

Principal:

Mrs. Cathriona Molloy

LEITER

Phone/Fax: 042-9665605

BAILIEBOROUGH

Email: office@thevalens.com

CO. CAVAN

Website: www.thevalens.com



Thursday 20th August 2020

RE: Miscellaneous Items

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to bring the following items to your attention in advance of our reopening next week.

Contact Details

- Parents are asked to please ensure that we have your most recent contact details including emergency contact details. This year in particular we would ask for your co-operation in this matter.
- Parents can update same via our Aladdin app or email the school on office@thevalens.com

Personal Equipment

- Children from 1st-6th are asked to bring a plastic box with a lid to school on the first day to hold all of their books and copies. A box of approximately 40cm long and 30cm wide would be suitable.
- Children are asked to leave their pencil case with all their personal equipment in school after the first day. This includes pencils, pens, twistables, eraser, parer, gluestick and scissors. Parents are advised to have a second set of this equipment for use at home.
- **It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.**

Additional Items needed to be purchased

- **Child Friendly Scissors – if your child is left handed ensure you buy left handed scissors**
- **A box with lid as described above (children in 1st – 6th Class)**
- **Pencil case and items to be left in school (All Classes)**

Uniforms

- There is no guidance or advice to say that school uniforms or tracksuits should be washed every day and this is probably not practical for most families.
- We will follow our usual practice in relation to uniforms and tracksuits. Uniforms should be worn every day, except on P.E. days, or when otherwise requested by teachers.
- As a school we strongly advise that children should wear their school uniforms or tracksuits **only for school related activities.** Uniforms or tracksuits should be taken off straight after the child arrives home from school for the day. They should not be worn in after-school facilities, shops, during after-school activities, etc.
- Teachers will be unable to assist your child with any part of their school uniform. Please ensure your child can
 - Open and close their own coat independently
 - Turn their jumper and coat inside out.
 - Put on their jumper
 - Tie their own shoelaces or ensure your child wears shoes with velcro

Coat Hooks

- Unfortunately, this year children will not be able to hang their coat on the coat hooks in the corridors or in their classrooms. Coats will have to be stored in school bags or under the table in the classrooms. Please provide your child with a small reusable shopping bag to store the coat in during the day.

Lunches

- Parents/Guardians, please ensure that your children brings their lunch to school every day in order to avoid adults having to drop lunch off during the day. Visitors to the school must be kept to a minimum in line with public health advice.
- Ensure lunchboxes are child friendly and can be easily opened and closed by your child. Unfortunately, teachers will be unable to peel fruit or open yoghurts etc. so consider this when packing lunches. These are skills that can be practised at home in advance of reopening.
Frubes are not permitted this year.
- Please remind your children not to share their food or drinks with other children.
- Children will eat their lunches at their desks, as usual.
- There will be no compost this year, all food waste and wrappers will be sent home in your child's lunchbox.

Masks

- At present primary school children are advised not to wear masks or face coverings in school. However, we will not be discouraging children from doing so if it makes them and you as their parents more comfortable sending your child to school. In the event you do decide to send your child to school with a face covering, staff will not be responsible for ensuring that your child wears the mask or face covering while at school.
- The school recommends that all children travelling to school by bus wear a face mask while on the bus, as is required for public transport.

Homework

- No homework will be set in the first two weeks in September. Decisions in relation to homework and the setting and submission of same, thereafter, will be communicated in due course.

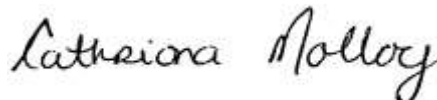
Parent Access to school / Communication with Teachers

- Parents will not be permitted to enter the school grounds. This is in line with the advice from the DES in the roadmap for reopening our schools.
- Appointments may be made to visit the school for essential purposes only. A contact tracing log will need to be filled out for each visit.
- To communicate with your child's teacher, write a note in their homework folder/diary, telephone the school or send an email. Teacher emails will be set up in due course and communicated to parents in September. Please allow three working days for a response.

Yours sincerely,



Gerry Sheanon (Chairperson B.O.M.)



Cathriona Molloy - Principal