



# School Newsletter

October 3rd 2024



## Welcome BACK

We welcome everybody back after the summer break. A special welcome to our 14 new Junior Infant pupils: Lacey, Fred, Darcey, Ruby, DJ, Ella, Isla, Ella, Mason, Alex, , Elsie-Mae, Kevin, Ava Marie, Cameron and their parents and welcome to Ms. Furlong our substitute teacher while Ms. Murphy is on Maternity leave. We wish them all well as they commence their time in our school community

## SCHOOL CLOSURES

The school will close on Friday October 25th 2024 at 3pm for Halloween Break and will re-open on Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup>.



## SCHOOL EXPENSES & PUPIL INSURANCE

A reminder that the School Expenses, Friday food & Pupil Insurance 2024/25 are due to be paid now on Aladdin Connect.

Many thanks to those who have already paid and subscribed. If you have any queries, please contact the office during office hours which are Monday to Thursday 9:30am to 2pm and Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

## HEADLICE

We would ask that parents check their child/children's hair for head lice on a regular basis. If head lice are found, treat as necessary as they can spread rapidly within a school unless all affected children are treated promptly. It is important that you check your child's hair and re-treat after seven days as normally one course of treatment is not enough to get rid of the problem. Your chemist will answer any questions you might have concerning head lice and give you advice on the most effective preparations, shampoos and lotions that are available to treat this problem.

## Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher Meetings for all classes will commence on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> 2024.

We hope to carry these out either over the phone or face to face, Parents will be given an option closer to the time.

Further information will follow after the October mid-term break.



## **SCHOOL HOURS & CHILDRENS SAFETY**

The school day begins at 9:20am. We would ask that the children do not arrive any earlier than 9:10am as they are not supervised prior to this time. Teachers arrive early sometimes to do class preparation work. **All children are expected to arrive no later than 9:20am.** School finishes at 3:00pm (2:00pm for Junior & Senior Infants). Please arrange to have your child collected at the appropriate time, as they are not supervised after school hours.

Please, at all times when dropping off or picking up your children:

- **park your car in the spaces provided across the road.**
- **accompany your child to and from the school gate. (It is vital that each child from Junior Infants up to sixth class is collected at the gate by a parent/guardian.**
- **do not drop your children off before 9:10am and be sure to collect them on time.**
- **all the above points apply at all times and with no exceptions even during bad weather.**

We would greatly welcome your co-operation.

**STRICTLY NO PARKING OPPOSITE THE SCHOOL BUS AREA AS THE BUS DRIVER IS HAVING DIFFICULTY REVERSING INTO THE PARKING SPACE IN THE EVENINGS. THE DRIVER IS ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE AS HE HAS TO BE BACK IN TIME TO COLLECT SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THIS SITUATION IS CAUSING HIM DELAYS.**

### **NO RUNNING AT FRONT OF SCHOOL & NO STANDING ON WALL**

One of the school rules is 'No running, at the front of school'. Also no standing on walls in front of school. In the interest of Health & Safety we would ask that you please supervise your children. (The school does not provide outdoor yard/front of school supervision at this time.)

### **FACEBOOK PAGE**

You can follow us on our Facebook page, which gives up to date news & information on day to day happenings in our school.

Our school's Facebook page a closed group that you must request to join. We invite all parents to connect with our page **Raheen National School Wexford**. To access the page you must have returned the Facebook permission form to the school.

### **HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TIME**

In recent years more parents are taking the decision to holiday when the school is open. We realise significant savings can be made. However we would ask that you would not take your child out of school in **May (Standardised Testing takes place – usually last week of May)**. Any day missed – your child misses out. Also, holidays during the important month of September are not recommended. The first few weeks are so important to your child's learning and for settling back to routines after the long Summer break.

### **FRIDAY FOOD**

As one of the choices for 'Friday Food' is Chicken Curry with Rice, we would ask you to check with your child if they have ordered it. **If so please remember to give them a spoon when coming into school on Fridays.**

*We are waiting on the Department of Education to contact us regarding the newest update on the School meals Programme as soon as we know more we will be in touch; we are currently on a list along with other schools waiting to hear.*



### **ALADDIN CONNECT**

Many thanks to all those parents who have already subscribed up to date. Aladdin connect is the only way for parents to contact the school regarding absences, lates, appointments, even queries to teachers. Going forward all monies due to the school for School expenses, Friday Food, Swimming, Tours etc. can be paid through Aladdin connect, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office.

**Reminder-** Please could we ask that you complete the 'School permissions' on Aladdin at your earliest convenience as it allows us to plan things during the year.

*Please continue to check Aladdin for all messages regarding your child.*

### **Healthy Eating Policy:**

The focus of this policy is to support parents' and pupils in relation to healthy eating habits from an early age.

This policy is linked to SPHE; taking care of my body – food & nutrition and making choices.

- To help parents and children to make healthy food choices.
- To improve concentration, energy levels and overall health and well-being.
- To help children maintain healthy teeth and gums.
- To develop an awareness of nutrition i.e. ingredients of food.

A healthy lunch-box might contain a piece of food from the 4 lowest levels of the Food Pyramid. No high sugar processed foods or NUTS.



#### **NUT FREE ZONE**

A reminder that Raheen N.S. is a nut free zone so no snacks containing nuts of any kind allowed. No Peanut butter or Popcorn (as some popcorn contain nuts)

\*Please see our website for all our updated Policies <https://raheenns.net>

### **APPOINTMENTS**

If for any reason you wish to see your child's teacher please phone the school office to make a suitable appointment. (051-428258) OR contact us on Aladdin connect or via email.

Teachers are not available for after school meetings unless an appointment has been made at least 24 hours before and with a reasonable explanation as to what it is in relation to.

All appointment reasons will be held in the strictest confidentiality by the school secretary and managerial staff.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9.30am – 2pm and Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

#### **SCHOOL ABSENCES**

Please be reminded that you should always submit a note to the school explaining the reason for your child's absence, via **Aladdin connect**. Also if you wish to collect your child early for an appointment or if they are accompanying sibling to matches etc. Please notify the **office only** via **Aladdin connect**, phone call or e-mail as sometimes teachers don't get to check school bags for notes during class times. **Please do not show up unannounced at the school door during school hours.**

### **First Holy Communion,**

*RaheenNS pupils and staff* look forward to celebrating the sacrament of First Holy Communion this school year. First Holy Communion is due to take place On Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2025 and the time is yet to be confirmed by Fr Brian Whelan.

First Confession will take place on the week of March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025(date and time tbc)

Sunday Preparation Masses for First Holy Communion will take place in the weeks before which have been issued to all parents in 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.

**Please can we ask that all Parents/Guardians obtain a baptismal certificate (which is proof that your child was baptized) from the Church where they were baptized. We need date, and name of the Church.**

### **The Sacrament of Confirmation**

*RaheenNS pupils and staff* look forward to celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation this school year

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, and the time is yet to be confirmed by Fr. Brian Whelan.

Sunday Preparation Masses will take place in the months beforehand; all parents involved in both 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class has been notified of these.

**Please can we ask that all Registration forms for both First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation are returned, if you do not wish your child to partake in these Sacrament's, please indicate this on the form and return it to the school as we need to have it in writing, many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.**



### Swimming 2025

Swimming lessons are due to take place for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class from Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 this will run for 9 weeks. I will add a permission notice in the coming weeks to organize numbers, when this becomes available please tick whether or not you want your child to attend these lessons.

Once I know how many are interested I can add the cost for these lessons on Aladdin.

**The Raheen Parent's Association committee would like to invite you to attend our A.G.M. in the school on **Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm****

Our hope is that each family will be represented so that the views, ideas and questions of all parents can be heard.

Please note attending the meeting does not mean you are under any obligation to join the committee; however, we urgently need new members into the Association. If you cannot attend on the night but would like to be nominated please contact the school.

The monies raised from fundraising by the P.A. will go towards upgrading the school yard with new child sensory areas and perhaps a book corner for reading in the foyer.

### Sing Out Loud:

Our Sing out Loud concert for 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class students will take place in the National Opera House on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 7:30pm.

All students have been given a form to book your tickets, these forms **must be returned with cash** no later than Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, if for some reason you do not have the form then please do not hesitate to contact the school via Aladdin.

Students will need to be in the opera house for rehearsal from 4:30pm on, please read the leaflet carefully for all details relating to this.