



# Weekly Update

## 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### **Important information regarding Return to School (Junior Infants-2nd) and changes to Remote Learning (3rd-6th)**

Junior Infants – 2nd class returning to School on 1 March

The staff of RETNS are really looking forward to welcoming our children from Junior Infants to 2nd class back to school on Monday, 1 March. We hope that the older children will follow in just a few weeks' time.

### **Return to School Declaration Form**

This form must be signed by parents / guardians of all children returning to school on Monday, 1 March. You will receive notice of this form through Aladdin on Friday, 26 February. Please complete the declaration straight away so that there is no confusion on Monday morning.

This form should be used when your child is returning to school after any absence

### **If your child has any of the following symptoms of Covid-19, do not send them to school and contact your GP:**

- ❖ A temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
- ❖ Any other common symptoms of Covid-19 – a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, shortness of breath or an existing breathing condition that has become worse
- ❖ Other uncommon symptoms of Covid-19, such as sore throat, headaches or diarrhoea
- ❖ Been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19
- ❖ Been living with someone who is unwell and may have Covid-19
- ❖ Returned from another country in the last 14 days

If in doubt, it is advisable to err on the side of caution and consult your GP.

### **Our responsibility to keep our school safe is a shared one. In particular, we ask parents and guardians:**

- Not to congregate outside the school, either at the school gate in the morning or when collecting your children in the afternoon.
- Not to organise play-dates or home visits for your children as Level 5 restrictions continue
- To wear a mask when on the school premises
- If childcare arrangements permit, to leave older children at home when dropping and collecting younger children to and from school. If this is not possible and you are driving to school, please leave your older children in the car. These measures are to reduce numbers around the school

## Arrival and Departure

Arrival and departure times remain as in Term 1: Staggered Arrival times

08.40 – 08.50: Families Adams – Dowling

08.50 – 09.00: Families Doyle - McGrath

09.00 – 09.10: Families McKeown – Zhang

## Departing School

- Parents/guardians are asked to park some distance from the school. Please arrive on time for collection and observe social distancing when waiting for your children.
- If waiting for an older child, please keep your younger child with you
- Please leave the school grounds promptly, maintaining social distance.

Junior Infants exit at 13.20 by the front door

Senior Infants exit at 13.30 by the front door

Half one club exits by the front door 14.20 (JI) and 14.30 (SI) - the Half-One Club will resume on Monday, 1 March

1st Class exit at 14.20 using the fire exit by the front of the school

2nd Class exit at 14.30 using the fire exit at front of the school

## Communication from the Department of Education

Please see attached letter from Minister Foley and Advice from Department Of Education

[Letter to Parents/Guardians 24th February Department of Education](#)

[Advice for parents during COVID-19- Returning to Primary Schools - Junior Infants to 2nd Class](#)

A video for parents and guardians is available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/#health-advice-for-parents>

## Contacting your child's teacher

For Junior Infants to 2nd class, contacting your child's teacher should now be done through Carol at [info@retns.ie](mailto:info@retns.ie). Parents and guardians of children continuing remote learning may continue to use the class email addresses.

## Children from 3rd – 6th

We have a new **zoom timetable** to facilitate parents and guardians dropping and collecting their younger children to and from school.

### Zoom Timetable for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Classes

Time	Class
9.30	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>
10.00	4 <sup>th</sup>
10.30	3 <sup>rd</sup>
12.00	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>
12.20	4 <sup>th</sup>
12.40	3 <sup>rd</sup>

## Joining class zoom calls or assembly

Please remember to identify yourself using your child's name or your family name. If we cannot identify someone seeking entry to the meeting, they will not be admitted.#

## Change to Supplementary Provision Programme

The supplementary programme for children from 3rd – 6th will be extended by a further 2 weeks (i.e. 10 hours). The closing date for completion of the programme has also been extended by two weeks.

## Other Matters

### RETNS Family Quiz



Thank you to our Development Committee who are organising our second RETNS Family Quiz on zoom. The quiz will take place at 4 pm on Sunday, 7 March. A family ticket costs €10.00 and tickets will be available from tomorrow until Thursday, 4 March. Carol has updated Aladdin so that each family will now receive only one payment request.

## Parents' Course on Dyslexia – Message from the Dyslexia Association of Ireland

We offer a Parents' Course on Dyslexia, the next one begins on March 9. This is a great practical course for parents, and is especially beneficial for those whose child has recently been identified with dyslexia. The course provides an overview of all the main topics parents need to understand so they can best support their child. Full details on our next parents' course are available at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dyslexiaireland/463953>

### [Online Resources and Events for Parents](#)

## Ireland Reads Day was on Thursday, the 25th of February

The aim was to get everyone to 'squeeze in a read' on the 25th of February, Ireland Reads Day – whether that's reading a book, a newspaper, a comic – whatever works. If you didn't manage on Thursday, feel free to 'squeeze in a read' over the next week.

Please visit [www.irelandreads.ie](http://www.irelandreads.ie), or watch the video at:

(English) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrdqudzgQds>

Ireland Reads is a new campaign from Irish libraries, Children's Books Ireland, NALA, booksellers, publishers and others to get the whole country reading this month as part of the Government's National Keep Well campaign.

We look forward to seeing all our children from Junior Infants to 2nd class in school next Monday, 1 March. We also look forward to the return of our older classes in a couple of weeks' time.

Le dea-ghuí

Maeve