

# Whitecross N.S.



## Contact Details

Private and Confidential Information: If any of your details have changed since last year please inform the school secretary. It is most important that you include an emergency contact number that is operable, in the event of an accident or illness.

Fáilte romhaibh go léir ar áis ar scoil. A very warm welcome back to all our pupils and staff as we commence a new school year. A special mention to our Junior Infants and new pupils in other classes who have just started school. They have all settled well into school life at Whitecross N.S.

School commences at 9:00a.m. each day and ends at 1:40p.m for infants and 2:40p.m. for all other classes. For this week Junior Infants will continue to go home at 12:00 and from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September they will go home at 1:40p.m with Senior Infants.

## Before & After School Supervision

Children are supervised in the school yard from 8:30a.m each morning. Parents are advised that children arriving before this time are not supervised and therefore the school cannot accept responsibility for children arriving before this time. Children are again supervised after school from 2:40p.m. to 2:50p.m. Children remaining in the school after 2:50p.m. will be brought into the school hall and parents will be required to come in to collect them. We ask that children are collected promptly after school as school staff can be required for meetings after school.

## Birthday Invitations Reminder

We understand that school is the most convenient forum within which to distribute invitations to parties, however we would ask that you issue invitations to children outside of school time, as it can cause upset and disappointment to some children if they don't receive an invitation. We hope you understand this situation and we appreciate your consideration in this matter. We only ever have the children's welfare at the centre of all of our decisions.

*For further information, please visit our school website.*

## Uniforms



It is lovely to see so many children returning to school, looking so smart in their new school uniform. However, many school jumpers are ending up misplaced and or unclaimed as they are not labelled. Please label your child's belongings carefully.

## Sacraments

Please note the following dates for sacraments this year.

- First confession is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- Ceremony Of Light is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- Confirmation is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- First Holy Communion is on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

## Attendance

Under the Education Welfare Act 2000, children must not be **absent** from school for 20 days or more. We understand that children may be ill or a family emergency can occur. It is therefore imperative that you send a note in explaining all absences. This will be kept on file should there be a query from the Education Welfare Officer. It is our policy to send you a reminder letter when your child has missed 15 days or more. This is for your information and is standard for all children. If you are taking your child out on holidays during term time, it is courteous to let us know beforehand in writing. We understand that some medical appointments cannot be avoided. However, it is disruptive to a child's day and to the classroom when students leave during class time. We request that you try to make appointments outside of the school hours when possible.

## Headlice

As schools return after the summer break, the all too common reality of headlice is perhaps not too far from our minds ..... The start of the school year is, an opportune time to raise awareness, and encourage examination of your children's' hair, if you haven't recently done so. Again, we would request that you notify the school as soon as possible, of an outbreak of headlice, and parents in the class will be notified. Notification of headlice to the school is treated with strictest confidence.



## Dogs & smoking

Please be aware that dogs are not allowed on school premises. Also by law, smoking and vaping is illegal in the school grounds.