



Corridor Echoes

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Parents/Guardians

A lot of very important information is contained in this issue of *Corridor Echoes*. Some of the topics covered are:- Parents' Association, RSE, Stay Safe, Money, Language Curriculum Day, School Policies, Student Council, Internet Safety, School Closures.....

Parents' Association

Earlier in the school year we appealed for parents to volunteer to become members of the Parents' Association Committee. Two people volunteered. We need a strong and vibrant Parents' Association in our school that will work as a sub committee of the Board of Management and in close, regular consultation with the Principal. The work of the Parents' Association is varied. As per the Education Act 1998 "A parents' association shall promote the interests of the students in a school in co-operation with the board, Principal, teachers and students of a school and for that purpose may advise the Principal or the board on any matter relating to the school and the Principal or board, as the case may be, shall have regard to any such advice". With events like our Fun Day and 6th Class Graduation, to name but two, to plan for we again appeal to you to join the committee.

Ideally we would like to have two parents for each class. As your child is an important member of our school, so too are you. Please give a little of your time to help make our school better, especially while your child is here. Generally there will be a meeting each month. If you are willing to help please contact Jackie or the Principal.

RSE

RSE – Relationships and Sexuality Education – is part of the SPHE (Social Personal Health Education) curriculum and is taught each year in each class. Information about RSE has been sent home but if any parent wishes to find out more then please contact the Principal. The RSE programme will begin this week and will run for 5 weeks.

Stay Safe

The Stay Safe programme was updated for last year and is compulsory in Primary School. The Stay Safe programme has been taught in all classes.

Language Curriculum Day

The boys will not have school on Wednesday next, 18th April. The school will be closed as the teachers will be at inservice for the new language curriculum.

We will have one other curriculum day this term. We don't have a date yet but it is likely to be in May.

Money

Money is a very important issue generally and our school is no different in this regard. Thank you to the majority of parents who have paid the book rental fee as well as the photocopying and Art & Crafts fee in full. You might wonder why this topic is being brought up in April. Unfortunately, despite many requests there are parents who have not paid these two legitimate fees in full. These are charges, they are not voluntary contributions. When we have to get a bus for a match or a class trip across town the money is paid. When we have swimming the fee is paid. We try to keep other occasions when we ask for money to a minimum but parents always contribute generously to a jersey day, lollipop day etc. We are very grateful for your support of these events and look forward to your continued support. However, back to the book rental and photocopying fees – we ask that all outstanding fees be paid now or definitely by the end of April. Parents have always had the facility of paying any fees in instalments. Please contact Jackie if you have any queries regarding money.

Student Council

Our student council is very busy at present. They are currently working on welcome signs in the various languages which will be displayed around the school. They are also working on a school motto and we hope that these projects will be completed in the coming weeks. The student council will then deal with other work during the rest of the term. Our Student Council is a group comprising two boys from each class 2nd to 6th. The members of the student council are elected in each of the classes at the beginning of each school year.

6 th Class	Mate Tomczuk (Captain)	Jacob Murray (Vice Captain)
5 th Class	Sean Byrne	Conor Daly
4 th Class	Matthew Powell	Jack Kelly
3 rd Class	Jack Hoban	Justin Sinnott Durojaiye
2 nd Class	Luke O'Connor	Rian Byrne

Internet Safety

Internet safety and all related issues are high on our list of priorities. Our internet safety policy and acceptable use policy are updated regularly. As you know Ger Brick, an internet safety expert, visited the school in January and held workshops on the topic in 4th, 5th and 6th classes. He also facilitated a talk for parents that evening. A huge thank you to those parents who came to the talk. Internet safety and safety in online gaming is the responsibility of all parents.

We have had to deal with issues that arose due to unsupervised online gaming but we won't deal with any more. If any such issues spill over into school we will contact the gardai. Do you know what your child is playing? Do you know the content on the games? Are the games age appropriate? Do you care?

If you want to find out about a particular game the google '*name of game* what parents should know'.

The material that Ger Brick presented to Parents is available for viewing at www.inetsafetytalk.com/parentinfo. Staff & Parents should use username **parentinfo** and password of **inetsafety55** to access the page and presentation. To protect the content of the material, please remember that the information is to be used by Parents for their own personal use and the information contained is not to be distributed or published to social media.

**Fairness
isn't about giving
everyone the
same. Fairness is
about giving
everyone what
they need**

School Policies

While we have school policies, part of our work is to review and update these policies when necessary. Parents are always welcome to be part of the reviewing and updating process. If you have any suggestions or ideas regarding any area of school policy and feel that you can contribute in a meaningful way please let us know.

School Uniform/Tracksuit

A reminder to all parents— please remember that full uniform and full tracksuit are required to be worn by your child. When the tracksuit is worn, the new tracksuit pants or a plain navy tracksuit pants must be worn. No other colours, no stripes or logos are allowed. The tracksuit top must be the school top and not that of the hurling club or soccer club. Please also remember that a savings scheme is available to ease the cost of buying the uniform and tracksuit from Excel Promotions. Details are available from Jackie.

Daffodil / Yellow Day

Last year we supported Daffodil Day organised by the Irish Cancer Association. We did so in memory of our sadly missed colleague Margaret Brown and our “Yellow Day” was a great success. This year’s Daffodil Day was on 23rd March but, due to many things happening in the school, we decide that we would hold our “Yellow Day” after the Easter holidays. We plan to hold our Yellow Day on Friday 27th April. Again we will encourage the boys to be as creative as they can be in an effort to make it a memorable Yellow Day.

Jersey Day for Crumlin Hospital

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported the Jersey Day in aid of Crumlin Children’s Hospital last Friday. We got involved to support the Transition Year Students in Abbey Community College in their efforts to support Crumlin. They organised a charity hurling match between the Transition Year Students and the staff of the Abbey CC. It is absolutely wonderful to say that the brilliant response from families to support this venture at short notice was fantastic. Two of the chief organisers of the event, transition year students and former pupils of our school, Jack Haley and Cian Martin deserve special mention for the superb work they put in for this event. They obviously got great support from the other transition year students. However, from our point of view, Cian and Jack should be extremely proud of themselves. We certainly are as are their families. Superb job boys!

Important Notice when collecting Children at 2.00 / 3.00

If you are collecting your child at 2.00 or at 3.00 and you have a small child/children with you, please remember that you must keep these small children under your control at all times. They must not be allowed to run free in the playground or in the grass.

Key Elements of a Positive Culture in our School

• OUR SCHOOL:-

- ⇒ acknowledges the right of each member of the school community to enjoy school in a secure environment
- ⇒ acknowledges the uniqueness of each individual and his worth as a human being
- ⇒ promotes positive habits of self-respect, self-discipline and responsibility among all
- ⇒ prohibits vulgar, offensive or other aggressive behaviour or language
- ⇒ has a clear commitment to promoting equality
- ⇒ has the capacity to change in response to pupils' needs
- ⇒ identifies aspects of the curriculum through which positive and lasting influences can be exerted towards forming pupils' attitudes and values
- ⇒ takes particular care of "at risk" pupils and uses its monitoring systems to facilitate early intervention where necessary
- ⇒ recognises the need to work in partnership with and keep parents informed on procedures to improve relationships on a school-wide basis
- ⇒ recognises the role of parents in equipping the pupil with a range of life skills
- ⇒ recognises the role of other community agencies in preventing and dealing with bullying
- ⇒ promotes habits of mutual respect, courtesy and an awareness of the interdependence of people in groups and communities
- ⇒ promote qualities of social responsibility, tolerance and understanding both in school and out of school
- ⇒ staff share a collegiate responsibility, under the direction of the Principal, to act in preventing bullying/aggressive behaviour by any member of the school community

