

October Newsletter

2022

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Welcome to the new look newsletter for October. We are back to pre-covid levels of activities in school and the weeks are flying by. With that said, there seems to be quite a bit of sickness about and if your child is unwell, keep them at home until they are fit for school or out of the required 7 days Covid quarantine.

We are looking forward to meeting with parents this week on Wednesday and Thursday evening. All parents should have received their times last week.

Yours sincerely,

Éilis Treacy

Principal



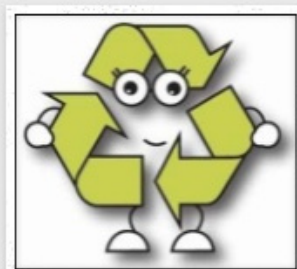
JERSEY DAY

Meelick-Eyrecourt will play Killimor on Saturday in the county final. We will have a "Jersey Day" on Friday 14th to support the team. Pupils can wear their Eyrecourt colours of blue and white. Donation of €2 per pupil to [Goal Jersey day](#).



TRICK OR TREAT FOR TEMPLE STREET

Friday 28th of October will be our annual Halloween dress up day. Pupils can dress in their scariest outfits. Donation of €2 per pupil to [Temple Street](#)



CASH FOR CLOBBER

Cash for clobber will be held in November. Bags of clothing can be sent into the school now. We hope to purchase a water filter to have clean drinking water from the money.

DEIS

(Delivering Equality Of Opportunity In Schools)

An Action Plan for Educational Inclusion

DEIS PLANNING

Eyrecourt NS is a designated DEIS Rural School. As communicated to the parents in [June](#), this is a great opportunity for the school.

DEIS is the Irish for "chance" and the acronym stands for *Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools*.

Schools have to produce a 3 year plan and thankfully we are receiving a lot of support this year to put all the paperwork in place. I attended an online webinar and a full day workshop last week. I will also be attending a second full day workshop in November. Along with the deputy principal, we are part of the Athlone DEIS community of practice and will attend meetings every month.

We applied for sustained support from the PDST and an advisor will visit the school in December for a full day to help the staff with the planning.

There are 6 themes which must be planned for:

- Retention
- Attendance
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Transitions
- Partnership with parents and others
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We have already started working on the literacy theme. Recognising that quite a number of our pupils are dyslexic, all teachers are completing the Dyslexia Ireland teacher tutor course. This takes place on a Tuesday evening from 6-9pm on Zoom over 3 weeks. This is an example of using the DEIS funding to support a target on the DEIS plan.

All funds must be accounted for and must reflect our DEIS plan. We are subject to inspection from the Department of Education inspectorate and from the Department of Social Protection.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

It was announced to the pupils last week that after Halloween, we will have free school lunches. This is due to our school being designated DEIS.

We have chosen Glanmore foods to be the provider of the lunches for this year. They offer a sandwich or alternative and two snacks. They used to provide one snack and a drink. The drink was a bottle of water. This year they have changed to two snacks and it makes sense instead of 52 little bottles of water arriving in to school every day!

Unfortunately the water in school is no longer drinkable for pupils refilling their own bottles but we are researching water filters and will hopefully have one in place in the near future. Until

but we are researching water filters and will hopefully have one in place in the near future. Until then, pupils will have to bring their own drink.

At your parent teacher meeting the teacher will verify your email address. You will receive an email from Glanmore inviting you to choose the lunch for your child. You pick a lunch for each day of the week for example: Monday ham sandwich, Tuesday chicken tikka roll..... Then every Monday your child will receive a ham sandwich. You can return to the website anytime and change your child's order. It must be done the Thursday before the following week. Here is a [menu](#).

Our school menu is almost identical, there might be one or two differences. One snack is a choice of apple, banana and satsuma. The second snack is everything on the snack list. We have plenty of time to get it all ready for the return to school on November 7th.

This is what the DEIS status means. We have families and children who have difficulties providing a lunch each day. With the free school lunches, everyone is the same and everyone benefits.



EYRECOURT NS

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