



**Rosenallis NS,
Rosenallis,
Co.Laois**

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February Newsletter 2022

Health and Safety

Firstly, I wish to thank all of our students, staff and families for their support and understanding regarding the Covid related health and safety measures we have had to impose in the school over the past couple of years.

The Government have decided that as of Monday, February 28th, these measures can be lifted in schools. This means that students and staff no longer have to wear face masks, unless they want to. We can fully return to face-to-face meetings with parents (please make an appointment) and students can mix with their friends in other classes again.

Healthy Eating

We encourage children to bring healthy lunches and snacks to school. We ask families to only send a treat in on a Friday.

Ash Wednesday

The students and staff will attend mass at 9.30 on Wednesday next, March 2nd. Staff will walk the children down to the Church at 9.20. If you happen to be late on the day, please drop your child to the Church as there will be nobody in the school.

Cumann na mBunscol

Cumann na mBunscol is back! Students from 4th – 6th are welcome to attend football training from now until Easter. Preference will be given to 6th Class for match selection as it is very important that they are given the opportunity to represent our school before they graduate. Hurling/camogie training will take place after Easter. Our girls will play

Castlecuffe, Clonaghadoo and Clonaslee in the football, while the boys will play Clonaghadoo, Clonaslee and Derrylamogue.

Vegetable Garden

We are developing a school vegetable garden, which will involve restoring the existing raised planters on the pitch side of the school, as well as developing a vegetable patch and adding a green house. Work has started on this in between the spells of bad weather we have had over the past few weeks. Children from all classes will be involved in the creation of the space and in planting, looking after and harvesting the fruit and vegetables that we grow. We hope that this will be a fun and beneficial, hands-on learning experience for the children. A huge thank you to Irishtown Garden Centre, Mountmellick for generously sponsoring this project and for their time and advice.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

We have been asked to march in the Rosenallis St. Patrick's Day Parade. I know that some people will have plans or that children may be representing other groups on the day but if your child is available, we would love if they represented the school by marching with us. I will have more details by the end of next week and will be in touch.

Parents Association

We are blessed to have such an active Parents Association in Rosenallis National School. Thanks very much to Yvonne Somers and Catherine Cuddy for heading up the association this year. Following a very successful Christmas raffle fundraiser, the PA have been able to support a number of initiatives in the school this year, which are detailed below:

Rebounders:

We have received two rebounders from the PA for the students, which arrived in the past week and we are looking forward to developing the children's skills and agility using these as well as broadening the options available to the students at break time. We will stick with football on these for now and will change over to hurling/camogie after Easter. More information on the rebounders and how to purchase one can be found on www.rebounder.ie. We have also received a set of sliotars for use with the rebounders.

Basketball Hoops:

We have received a set of basketball hoops which we will install in the junior yard over the mid-term break and we look forward to seeing our younger students enjoying the use of these.

Buses:

The PA have been extremely generous in subsidising the cost of buses to upcoming swimming lessons, matches and school tours. Without this help, we would not be able to bring the children on so many outings.

I would ask that you support upcoming fundraisers by the Parents Association, which include:

Pancake Tuesday fundraiser for Down Syndrome Centre Midlands (all students will be given pancakes next Tuesday and we ask that they would make a small contribution on the day), Church Gate Collection (Date TBC) and Clothes Collection (Date TBC).

If you wish to help out with any of the above PA events, please contact Yvonne or Catherine.

Have a lovely mid-term break!

Rory Walsh

Principal