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St. Lachtain's N.S., Freshford.

Junior Infants 2020- 2021

A B C D E F G H I J K L M



N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Teacher: Ms J Harrison

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome your child to Scoil Lachtain, Freshford. This first year in school for your child is very exciting, full of new experiences. It is also your child's first big step in life, and so can be a little scary. I understand that many of you are nervous seeing your little ones starting school.....they seem so small! Most children love school from day one, others take a little longer to adapt. When dropping off your child in the mornings, be as brief as possible, make your getaway without delay! And remember, punctuality is vitally important



You may wonder what kind of thing your child will do in junior infants. In the early days, we will be playing games, getting to know one another.



We do lots of singing, reciting nursery rhymes and reading stories.



We will do lots of activities using our hands such as playdough, cutting and pasting, threading beads, building blocks, colouring and drawing etc., to develop muscles and co-ordination for writing.

Over the summer holidays, your child can practice these activities, and they will be more comfortable in September, working with their classmates.



Your child should be able to do the following independently:

- ❖ Put on coat, and jumper, and other items of clothing
- ❖ Carry a small schoolbag
- ❖ Open and close lunchbox
- ❖ Clean nose when dirty
- ❖ Wash and dry hands
- ❖ Manage footwear – please do not give your child shoes with laces if they cannot tie their own laces.
- ❖ Hang up own coat and come into the classroom
- ❖ Play with other children, share toys and help clean up



English:

In Junior Infants, the children are introduced to Jolly Phonics – a phonic programme which implements a broad and fun approach to helping your child learn to read.

- ✓ **The Jolly Phonics Programme** will be used to teach letter sounds and the first steps to reading and writing.
- ✓ Each day a new letter sound will be introduced.
- ✓ When all 26 letters have been covered children will begin to blend sounds together to read simple words.
- ✓ Simple blends sh, ch, th will then be introduced

Anything you can do with your child with letters, drawing and colouring, even scribbling, will be a huge help to them when they start school.

Oral language Tips for Parents:

- Listen to what your child is saying
- Talk through activities and everyday experience
- Make and maintain eye contact with your child while talking
- **Read regularly to your child**
 - ❖ Look at the pictures in the book and talk about them
 - ❖ Ask your child questions about the story and predict what would happen next.
- Encourage your child to ask and answer questions.
- Ask your child to follow simple instructions.

Maths:

It is very useful that children have an idea of counting, shape, size, colour etc. Have them sing number rhymes. Most of the work we do in maths is with materials such as blocks, beads, counters and cubes. Children learn best by handling this equipment, and don't even realize they are learning basic mathematical concepts.



SESE/SPHE:

SESE – Social Environmental and Scientific Education

SPHE – Social Personal and Health Education

Your child will learn about the world around them – about animal and plant life, the environment, local community. Your child will learn about themselves – how to be healthy and how best to take care of themselves.

Gaeilge:

Children learn Irish in a fun way. They will learn lots of poems and songs. The children will learn basic phrases and will understand basic instructions such as, dún an doras, seas, suas, etc. It always helps the children if they hear their new language at home, so don't be afraid to abair cúpla focail anois is arís!!

We also spend time doing music – playing instruments, singing songs, and listening to music.

Art is a favourite among the junior infants. Please bring a **LARGE** old t-shirt for painting. (parent's t-shirt would be ideal)

PE is usually on a Friday evening, so your child should wear runners and navy tracksuit (or navy shorts in summer) on that day.

Your child will also do some computer activities.



Things to remember:

- ❖ Make sure your child's belongings are clearly labelled – **Please put child's name on school jumper**
- ❖ Please don't pack too much lunch for your child. A small snack (e.g. Yoghurt) for little lunch, and a sandwich and drink for big lunch is plenty. No crisps, sweets, fizzy drinks or chocolate bars allowed. Small treat on a Friday. **Healthy Eating policy** is in place.
- ❖ **Due to the Covid 19 crisis, we recommend that your child wear blue short sleeve shirt/blue polo t shirt to help assist with regular hand washing.**

School Uniform	Book List
Navy Trousers/skirt	Gaeilge: Bua Na Cainte A (Edco)
Navy Jumper with Crest	English Workbooks:
Navy socks	Over the Moon skills book (Gill Education)
Black shoes	Look, Listen & Learn – Senior Infants (CJ Fallon)
Blue short sleeve shirt	Mrs Murphy's Junior Infants Copies (Pack of 3) (Edco)
Navy tie	Reading material & online resources -available on book rental €10
Navy/Blue shorts for summertime	SESE: Scrapbook & Large Prittstick
PE: Navy Tracksuit	Music: The Right Note Junior Infants (Folens)
Blue Polo t shirt	Maths: Planet Maths Junior Infants (Folens)
Crested Jumpers –	Religion: Grow in love Junior Infants (Veritas)
(Available in Uniform World Outlet, Market Cross, Kilkenny)	2 Project Book 15A Copy Book (32 pages)
	1 Plain day copy
	1 Junior Copy Book (extra wide ruled – 32page)
	2 Plastic button folder (A4) (School & homework folder)
	2 <u>Blue Groove triangular</u> grip pencil,rubber twistables.
	No Markers

It would be best to shop early for these schoolbooks to avoid disappointment, as many of the shops are sold out in September.

I will collect €20.00 from each child in September to cover the cost of art & crafts, copies, photocopying. Looking forward to meeting you.

School re-opens to be decided

Art & Crafts & Photocopying: €20.00 payable by September 25th Sep 2019

Book Rental (reading Material & Online Resources) **€10** (Payable by 25th Sept 19)

Choir Lessons - €1 per week – Junior Infants & Senior Infants (note out in September)