



Coinnigh an solas ar lasadh

St Patrick's National School

Collon Road, Slane, Co. Meath C15 NX78

(041) 982 4229

office@slanens.ie

www.slanens.ie

Roll No: 18040L

Principal:

Paul O'Donnell

Letter 3 – Settling In

8th September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,
Some updates:

Thank You

- Míle buíochas to everyone for all the work that has gone in to ensuring a smooth start to the new year for all the pupils – uniforms, crests, lunches, IPE payments, less vehicles in the car park, senior pupils helping to settle new junior infants in, and the Parents' Association for hosting tea and coffee on the first day back. It is all very much appreciated.

Class Teacher and School Communication

- This year, all two-way communication with class teachers will be done through the Aladdin noticeboard on the Aladdin app. Please find the instructions on how to use it attached to this email. Please also note that class teachers are teaching all day and have limited opportunities to access emails during the school day. General emails can also be sent to the school office at office@slanens.ie

Medical Conditions/Allergies

- If your child has developed a medical condition or allergy, please call to the school office and get an Administration of Medication Form from Sharon. Fill in and return it to the office as soon as possible.

Child Protection

- Our current Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is on our school website [here](#). I am the school's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Lorna Gerrard is our Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) for any child protection concerns. I have spoken to all pupils about how we keep them safe. We also have a child friendly version of our Child Safeguarding Statement at reception. As part of our review of risks of harm to pupils, if you have anything to share or suggest regarding activities in school and how we can improve child safety, please email them to office@slanens.ie

Bí Cineálta (Be Kind) Anti-bullying Policy

- Our school ratified a new anti-bullying policy last year, titled Bí Cineálta (Be Kind). It can be found [here](#). It is based on mutual respect and kindness.
- Problem solving has been modelled to pupils last week for situations with others, which make them feel uncomfortable or which they are not happy about. Please reinforce this message at home. The message to pupils in these situations is **"Say No, Try to Sort It Yourself, Walk Away, Tell"**.
- There will also be chat boxes in all the middle and senior classes where pupils can drop notes discreetly.
- If you have any feedback on our policy or its implementation, please email office@slanens.ie

Head Lice

- Head lice are a common occurrence, where lots of people gather together. The beginning of each term is when we notice the highest rate of head lice reports to the school.



Proud of our school's achievements



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- Please check for head lice in your child's hair this week and again at the weekend. See the attached note. Please keep long hair clipped or tied up in plaits, ponytails, etc. to reduce surface area to cling to. Consider using repellent spray or tea tree oil/lavender oil at the base of the neck or in shampoo bottles.
- If pupils do get head lice, let us know so that we can notify all class families to be vigilant.

Parents' Association

- The Parents' Association AGM, to elect committee members and helpers, takes place on Tuesday the 29th of September at 8.30pm in the school hall. The committee will have tea, coffee & cake from 8pm, followed by the AGM at 8.30pm. All parents and guardians are automatically members of the Parents' Association and all are welcome.
- We have a brilliant Parents' Association who support the working of our school in so many ways. Their activities include organising our annual Slane Castle 5K, Book Rental sub committee, Halloween party, December Bake Sale, fundraising clothes collections and policy development. They also assist at school events when called upon.
- The committee meets on the first Thursday of each month and I attend to update members on school activities, and events. My report is uploaded [here](#) on the PA section on www.slanens.ie after each meeting.

Board of Management

- Our school is run by a voluntary Board of Management runs our school. The members are Fr. Richard Matthews (Chairperson), Sarah Jane Lynch (Parent Nominee), Soren Jensen (Parent Nominee), Sandra Walsh (Community Nominee and Treasurer), Susan Murray (Community Nominee), Annette Fitzpatrick (Patron Nominee) and me, Paul O'Donnell (Principal and Secretary). The board meets a number of times each year and oversees the effective running of the school.

Other Items

- **The hens** had a great holiday in their summer residence at the back of my house. They have now returned and 6th class pupils hope to be selling eggs to school families again shortly.
- There will be some staff **new curriculum training days** this year. Once we are notified of them, I will communicate them to all parents.
- **Confirmation** is scheduled for the 18th of March in St. Patrick's Church, Slane for relevant 6th class pupils.
- I hope to confirm the date for **First Communion** before the end of September.
- All **updates, policies and school news** during the year can be found on our school website www.slanens.ie and on the Parent Association Facebook and Instagram pages.
- Please, please, please label school uniform tops. Some have been lost or mislaid already this year.

Le gach deá ghuí

Paul O'Donnell

Principal and Board of Management Secretary

P.S. Please, please, please label tracksuit jumpers. We already have some unclaimed with no names on them in the office : (



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