

# Autumn Newsletter, 2023



It is hard to believe that the first half term is over. Please take the time to read our school newsletter.

## **New Staff members**

We were delighted to welcome outstanding new team members to Gaelscoil Lir this term: Ciara Nic Oscair (Deputy Principal); Caitríona Ní Thiarnáin; Laura Ní Chuilinn, Eimear Ní Mhalmhuaidh; Andrea Baiséid; Jillian Ní Thuathail. Thank you to the whole team for their hard work, dedication and care.

## **New Building**

The Department of Education will present the plans for our permanent school building to us on 10 November. An email will be sent to update families that evening. The tender process has been completed and bids are currently being reviewed by the project managers, KSNPM.

## **Whole School Evaluation**

We were delighted to receive a positive report from the Department of Education based on an extensive assessment in February, 2023. It is a reflection of our wonderful team, supportive families and fabulous pupils. The full report may be found [here](#).

## **Vaccines**

Swiftbrook Medical Centre administered the flu-vaccine to some pupils in October, on behalf of the HSE.

Junior Infant pupils will be offered the 4-in-1 and MMR vaccines by the HSE in the coming weeks. More information will follow.



## **Garda Colm**

There was great excitement when our local community Garda, Colm Byrne, came to visit the school. He gave a presentation about how different people in our community work to keep us safe. The children even got to try on his hat and coat.

## **Friendship Week**

The children had a great time in October, learning new yard games, learning how to be a good friend and how to play nicely with other children. Thanks to Ciara for organising the lovely activities and resources.

In Gaelscoil Lir, everyone is friends with everyone and it is important to us that our children feel happy, safe and included at school. If you ever have a concern about your child, please make contact with their class teacher, or speak to Sinéad directly.



## Maths Week

The children had lots of fun during Maths Week. Ciara organised indoor and outdoor maths trails, the children played maths games every day. They even had maths based art and music lessons. Please continue to chat to your child about maths in everyday life to support their learning.



## Halloween Walk

The children had a great time on their Halloween walk, and even had a little performance at the LUAS stop.

## Cairde na Scoile (*Friends of the School*)

We hosted our first parents' association committee meeting in October, and thanks to our wonderful Runaí, Aoife, for her informative presentation and advice. We are very grateful for their time and we look forward to working with 'Cairde na Scoile' to provide special experiences for our pupils and wider school community. They will be in touch

soon to invite you to a parents' coffee morning.

If you are interested in joining 'Cairde na Scoile', or even helping out every now and then, please mention it to Sinéad, or email [sinead@gslir.ie](mailto:sinead@gslir.ie).

## Zones of Regulation

As a school, we use Zones of Regulation to teach the children to identify, name and manage their emotions. Feelings are complicated and to make them easier for children to talk about, think about, and regulate, The Zones of Regulation organise feelings and energy levels into four coloured zones – Blue, Green, Yellow, and Red. Read more about Zones of Regulation [here](#).

## New and Updated Policies

Please find all our updated policies on our website: [gslir.ie](http://gslir.ie)

As a new school, we are developing new policies regularly and parental feedback is very valuable to us. If you have a few minutes, please read our draft Assessment Policy [here](#), and send any comments to [sinead@gslir.ie](mailto:sinead@gslir.ie)



## Traffic management

At our request, a dropdown area will be marked at the front of the building. This work is expected to be finished tomorrow afternoon (6/11/23). Children attending Gaelscoil Lir and Rathcoole ETNS may use the new drop-down facility **from Tuesday 7 November**.

Please do not let your child leave the vehicle without the assistance of an adult. We will do our best to attend to your child as promptly as possible, but where there are more children arriving than available staff members, there may be a short wait. If you would prefer to walk your child to the school door, you may park in the old carpark as before.

There have been a number of accidents on campus and I have witnessed near misses some mornings. **Please drive very slowly and with extreme caution.**

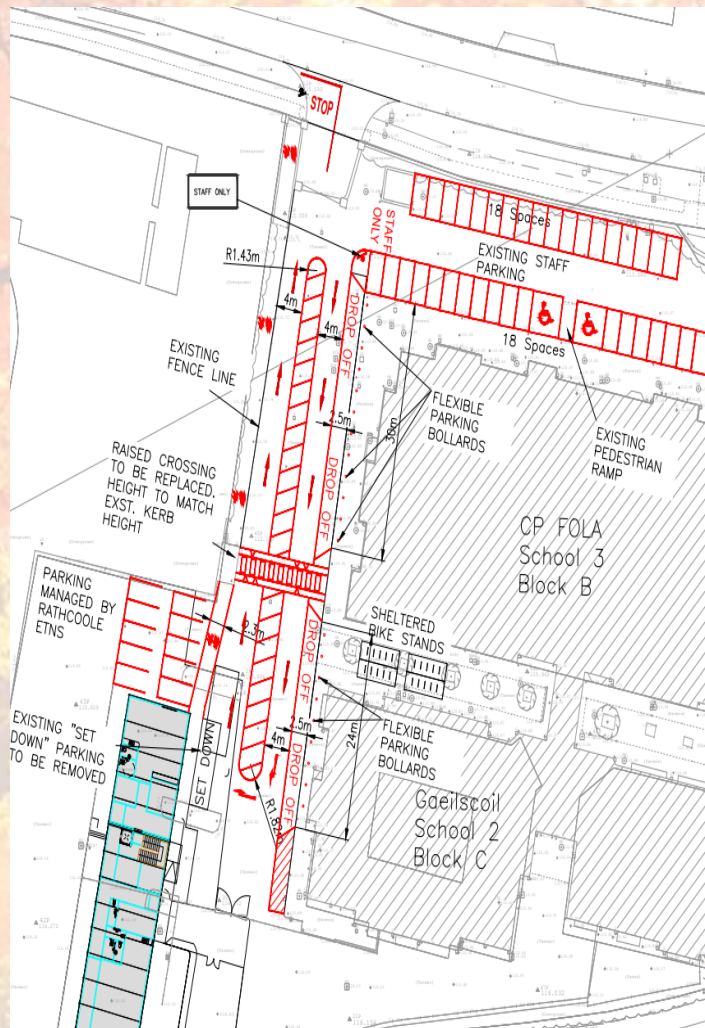
Pick-up time may be more challenging. The DDLETB, who own the campus, have requested that parents/carers do not leave their vehicles in the drop down areas, except for those with a parking permit. As



our pupils are too young to be allowed to leave the school unaccompanied, it would be helpful if you could continue to park in the old carpark at the back of the school until a safer arrangement is available.

A bike rack will be installed on our yard within the next week or two.

### New Drop-Down Layout



### Dates to note:

- 10 November: Book Fair
- 24 November: Drumming Workshop
- 20-23 November 20 – 23: Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 27 November – 1 December: Science Week with demonstration from Junior Einstein
- 20 December: Winter Show at 12pm
- 22 December: Last day of Term 1 (finish time 11:30am)

As always, we are here to support you and your child. If we can be of any assistance, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Beir bua,

Sinéad Bheilbigh  
Príomhoide