

June 2024.

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I hope that you are enjoying your summer holidays and that this letter finds you well. We here in Killina look forward to the new school year and welcoming all students back, particularly our new first year students.

Timings of the school day:

School commences each day at 8.45 Monday to Friday, School finishes at 3.35 Monday to Thursday and finishes at the earlier time of 1.00 on Fridays. Students are expected to be punctual; if a student arrives late then they must sign in at the office.

School re-opening arrangements:

- New First year students on Monday 26th August.
- Sixth Year and Third Year students return on Tuesday 27th August.
- Current 4th year, Nagle class students return on Tuesday 27th August
- Transition year, Fifth Year, and second years return on Wednesday 28th August
- New students in special classes return on Wednesday 28th August.

The school Calendar is available for viewing on the school website www.killinaschool.ie (Parents section).

Books:

Junior Cycle students (1st, 2nd and 3rd)

Textbooks will be provided through the Departments book scheme for junior cycle students. The success of this scheme relies on students taking care of books and ensuring that they are returned in full and in good condition. The school will be spot checking books and may not be in a place to replace any lost or damaged books. A school journal will also be supplied to students through the scheme.

Senior Cycle students (5th and 6th)

5th and 6th years students can avail of the existing book rental scheme. Textbooks can be rented through the scheme; you may wish to avail of this service (see separate leaflet enclosed). Alternatively, books may be purchased; booklists are available from the School Website killinaschool.ie. If you wish to avail of Book Rental, **payment will be required before the end of June**. Payment can be made through the easy payments portal; the link is available from the bottom of the school website.

Books will only be provided to those students for whom payment has been received. If you have previously been part of the book rental scheme and do not renew membership of the scheme, book rental books previously supplied must be returned at the beginning of the school year. The success of the scheme relies on students taking care of books and ensuring that they are returned in full and in good condition. If interested in partaking in the scheme, please sign the enclosed form and return with payment on the relevant date as listed below.

Uniform:

The uniform as prescribed in the schools Code of Behaviour (available at killinaschool.ie) can be purchased from a number of outlets. It is important that students wear a pair of plain black/navy leather shoes, runners or canvas shoes are not acceptable. All students must wear the full school uniform – see: Dress Code and the schools Code of Behaviour.

Lunch:

A lunch service is provided in the school including hot meals, should students wish to avail of it. Alternatively, students are free to bring in a packed lunch. As always, it is important to ensure that lunches

are healthy. We have completed a lot of work on this area in the past year and will continue to promote the area of healthy eating.

School Fees:

Parents are required to make payment for all school fees before the commencement of the school year, the costs are outlined below:

Book rental (5th and 6th Years) €120. This is optional; parents can choose to purchase the books themselves. Book lists are available from the school website. If you are opting in to the book rental scheme, then payment must be made before Wednesday 28th June. (where a parent is unable to make payment and wants to avail of book rental, they can request financial support, see the school website for an application form)

School Journal (5th and 6th) €15 (lost journals are replaced at a cost of €20)

Admin fee €50 (this includes: photocopying, postage and other admin expenses).

Pupil, 24/7 Insurance €10 (See the website for details of the scheme)

School locker €15 (Lockers must be kept locked at all times, replaced locks cost €20).

Voluntary Subscription €50. (With increasing costs in running the school, we are now asking parents make a voluntary payment)

Mock Exams Mock exams are due to commence on Tuesday 23rd January, payment for mock exam corrections will need to be made before that date. Costs for Junior cycle will be in the region of €130 and €150 for Leaving certificate. They payment portal is set up to take payment by install.

- Payments should be made online via an electronic payments facility (link at the bottom of the school website)

If you have any concern in relation to financial matters, then please contact me in the school in confidence to discuss the matter.

Mobile phones

- Mobile phones are not allowed in school; they are unnecessary in the school context. Students may be given permission to use a school phone, if needed. Equally, if parents/guardians need to give an urgent message to a student this can be done by contacting the main office.

School Environment

- I would ask all students to respect the very pleasant and litter free school environment and to help maintain the school campus during the coming year and promote the Green Flag.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Students should be present and punctual for each school day. Students arriving late must sign in at the front office. Students leaving early must be signed out at the front office. Please avoid collecting students early. Parents must arrange to collect students at break or lunchtime. Please organise medical appointments where possible after school hours.

School Journal

- Parents should check and sign the school journal at the end of each week. It is important to check that homework is recorded and completed. Further, the journal is used to record positive contributions of students, notes home, lates, failure to complete homework and uniform breaches. School journals may be inspected at any time and must be free from graffiti.

The school office will be closed from the end of June until the second week of August. Should you need to make contact with us, contact can be made by e-mailing. **office@killinaschool.ie**

Finally, I hope that all students and their families have an enjoyable summer and I look forward to meeting students on their return to school.

Yours sincerely,
John Cotter,
Principal