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| **FáilteC:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\TZX8H2VE\welcome_2[1].jpg** | **Welcome to Scoil an Linbh Íosa**  In this information pack we have set out the main points of interest and concern which parents have when their child starts school with us here in Prosperous.  We hope you will find it useful and that it helps both you and your child to settle into school life in Scoil an Linbh Íosa. We all hope that your child’s first experience of our school will be positive and that it lays a good foundation for many happy years ahead. |
| **School Day** | School starts at **9am**. Children may line up in front of the school from 8:50am. Doors open at 9am.  There is a rota for the use of the Yard and Astro at break times.  **Morning break**: 10.40-11:00am & 11.10-11:30am  **Lunch break:** 12.40-1.00pm & 1:10-1:30pm  **Hometime:** Junior and Senior Infants finish at **1.40 pm**.  1st- 6th classes finish at **2.40 pm**. |
| **Uniform**  **\\DC\userfiles\geraldine.hetherton\Desktop\School crest.jpg** | **Junior and Senior Infants:** Navy tracksuit with school crest, navy shorts (not leggings), light blue polo t-shirt, **velcro runners**  **1st- 6th class:** Navy jumper/cardigan with school crest, navy trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore, tie, light blue shirt.School tracksuit can be worn any day and must be worn on **P.E. days**.  *School crests and ties can be bought from the Admin Office.*  Uniform policy can be found at: <http://www.prosperousns.ie/uniform.html> |
| **School Calendar**  **Image result for calendar clipart** | Parents/Guardians will be issued with a school calendar detailing school closures and school events. Occasionally unforeseen events occur: up-dates will be issued in newsletters and on the school website. |
| **Attendance and Punctuality**  **Image result for roll call clipart** | Roll call is at **10 am** each morning.  If your child is going to be late for any reason, please let the class teacher know via Aladdin or leave a message with the Admin Office where possible (045 868660).  It is important that children are punctual in the mornings and collected on time.  Attendance policy can be found at: <http://www.prosperousns.ie/attendance.html> |
| **Absenteeism**  **Image result for being absent from school clipart** | Regular attendance is crucial to your child’s progress. Understandably children do get sick from time to time. In accordance with the **Welfare Educational Welfare Act**, the school has a duty to report any child who has missed **20 days** or more in one academic year. The Principal has no discretion in this. Parents/ Guardians are obliged by law to provide a written explanation for their child’s absence. This can be done through the Aladdin app. |
| **Sickness**  **Image result for being sick school clipart** | It is important not to send a **sick or infectious** child to school as there are vulnerable children and adults in the school who are at risk from exposure.  When the Class Teacher or Principal feels that a child is not well enough to be in school, either as a result of becoming sick or following an incident, the parents/guardians will be contacted immediately. It is school policy to report all head bangs. |
| **Medical Conditions**  **Image result for medicine clipart** | Please inform the school about any medical conditions your child has.  Administration of Medication Policy can be found at: <http://www.prosperousns.ie/medical-matters.html> |
| **Head Lice** | Head lice are frequent visitors in all schools so please check your child’s hair regularly.  If there is an outbreak of head lice in a classroom, the teacher will distribute a note to all pupils requesting their head be checked and/or treated. |
| **Appointments**  **Related image** | **Parent Teacher Meetings** occur once a year.  The meetings for children in 1st to 6th are held in November.  The meetings for children in Junior and Senior infants are held in February.  However, if you wish to meet with a teacher, an appointment can be made through the office, or by written request. |
| **Healthy Eating**  **Image result for healthy lunchbox clipart** | We operate a **Healthy Eating Policy**. See <http://www.prosperousns.ie/healthy-eating.html>   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Example of healthy foods allowed:** | **Foods not allowed:** | | Water  Milk  Juice (unsweetened)  Sandwich/ bread roll etc.  Fruit  Crackers  Vegetables e.g. carrot sticks  Cheese  Popcorn  Rice cakes  Yogurt | Fizzy drinks  Crisps  Chewing gum  Cakes/ Sweet pastries  Yogurt Frubes  Nutella/ Chocolate spread/ Peanut butter | | **Foods allowed on Friday as a treat:** | | Small packet of sweets  Chocolate bar  Slice of cake/ cup cake/muffin |   **Friday** is treat day. Children are allowed to bring **one small treat** with them on these days.  ***Scoil an Linbh Iosa is a nut-free school. Nuts are strictly forbidden to ensure***  ***the health and safety of children and staff who have allergies.*** |
| **PTA**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\XW44S32R\Pta[1].gif** | **Parent Teacher Association**  The PTA is a significant invaluable part of our school community. They meet in the school on the **first Wednesday** of the month, at 8pm. This is a great way to get involved in your child’s school, introduce new ideas, make friends and help develop Scoil an Linbh Íosa. |
| **Curriculum Subjects**  **Image result for curriculum clipart** | In 1999 a revised **curriculum** was introduced into Irish Primary Schools.  The Primary School Curriculum consists of 6 curricular areas and these are further divided into 11 subjects. See ncca.ie for further details.  Your child will be studying the following:   1. Language: Gaeilge & English 2. Mathematics 3. Social, Environmental & Scientific Education (S.E.S.E.): History, Geography & Science 4. Arts Education: Music, Visual Arts and Drama 5. Physical Education (P.E.) 6. Social, Personal and Health Education (S.P.H.E.)   The curriculum aims to ensure that all children are provided with learning opportunities that recognise and celebrate their uniqueness, develop their full potential and prepare them to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The focus is on the child as a learner.  Scoil an Linbh Íosa is a Catholic School. We teach the Grow In Love programme. |
| **Homework Information**  **Image result for homework clipart** | Children in every class are given homework on **Monday to Thursday**, which must be completed according to the Class Teacher’s instructions. It is important to maintain a good homework routine at home: regular time and space, with no distractions.  **Time guidelines**:   * Junior and Senior Infants: Up to 10mins * 1st and 2nd: Up to 20mins * 3rd and 4th: 30-45mins * 5th and 6th: No more than 1hr 15mins * Homework policy can be found at: <http://www.prosperousns.ie/homework.html> |
| **Booklists**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\7043YHIR\booklists[1].jpg** | The Department of Education is covering the cost of books, copies and software licences for the first time this year. There are other expenses that the school requests you to pay. Money for Art & Craft materials, for example. A list of these expenses will be sent out by the office. If you have any difficulty in this area please contact us. |
| **Birthdays**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\TZX8H2VE\5692710438_94060f977a_z[1].jpg** | In adherence with our **Healthy Eating Policy** please do not send party food to school. We would also ask you not to issue party invitations on the school grounds. This is to avoid a child feeling ‘left out’. Activities organised in school involve all children being treated fairly. Issuing selective invitations is contrary to this approach.  This also applies to Christmas cards, gifts, holiday souvenirs and Holy Communion or Confirmation cards and presents. |
| **Green Schools**  **Image result for green school flag** | Love of nature and care for the earth are nurtured in our school. Children are encouraged to walk to school, especially on **W.O.W** (Walk on Wednesday) and **W.O.F** (Walk on Friday).  Please supply your child with a lunch box and avoid wrappers where possible. If children have wrappers they will be asked to take them home. Compost bins are provided for fruit waste. |
| **Special Education Needs**  **Image result for special educational clipart** | Scoil an Linbh Íosa is an inclusive school. We follow the NEPS guidelines in our approach to supporting children with additional educational needs. The Special Educational Needs Team works closely with the class teachers in identifying, monitoring and supporting children with SEN. This may involve in-class support, withdrawal in a small group or individual attention (or a combination). All children are regularly screened through the administration of standardised and observational tests. Parental consultation and support is a vital aspect of our learning support programme. If you have any concerns in this area please talk with the class teacher.  Scoil an Linbh Iosa has three Assisted Learning Classes for children with Autism. The children have access to a purpose built facility, with such resources as a sensory room, occupational therapy space and a kitchen. Interaction between mainstream classes and the ALC is fostered. |
| **The first Day**  **Image result for first day at school clipart** | Start with a good **breakfast**. Come to the school **on time**.  Give a hug, say goodbye and **reassure** your child that you will collect them at the agreed time. Then leave!  Almost all children are busy and happy within minutes of their parents leaving, even if there are initially some tears. |
| **Junior Day**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\7043YHIR\stop_watch_-_cartoon[1].gif** | For the first two weeks Junior Infants will have a shorter school day **(9.00 – 12 noon)**. They will only need a small healthy lunch. New Infants are usually very tired when they start school first, so please help them by making sure they go to **bed early**.  From the middle of September the Junior Infants will be in school for the full Infant day **(9.00 – 1:40pm)**. Parents will be informed of exact dates when the school calendar is decided.  Please ensure you are on time in the morning and in the afternoon. Your child’s ability to separate from you will be enhanced if they know you will be there promptly.  You are welcome to walk with your child to their class for the **first few days**, but from Week 2 you will be expected to allow the children to enter the school independently. |
| **Going Home**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\XW44S32R\1069991-Clipart-Female-Teacher-And-A-Line-Of-Diverse-Stick-Students-Royalty-Free-Vector-Illustration[1].jpg** | At home time the teacher will lead the children to the **school door** and they will be handed over to the relevant carer, one by one. Please wait until your child comes to the **top** of the line before coming forward to receive them.  Inform the school in writing about who is to collect your child.  The school must also be informed in writing of any changes to the collection routine. |
| **Independence**  **Image result for child putting on coat clipart** | HELP YOUR CHILD TO BE **INDEPENDENT** by training him/her:   1. To use and flush the toilet, wash and dry hands without help. 2. To put on and take off his/her coat and do and undo buttons and zips. 3. To open and close schoolbags, lunch boxes and drink containers. 4. To use a tissue/handkerchief when needed.   To recognise his/her own belongings. |
| **Labelling**  **Image result for label name clipart** | Young children frequently **misplace** their belongings. To help us ensure these belongings are returned to their rightful owners please write your child’s name on ***everything they own.*** |
| **Ways to you can help your child to grow**  **Image result for children in school clipart** | •Give your child time, spend time together.  •Talk to your child and encourage him/her.  •Listen attentively to your child.  •Read and enjoy stories together. Talk about the story.  •Repeat Nursery Rhymes.  •Identify colours and shapes.  •Provide paper, crayons and paints for colouring and scribbling.  •Provide jigsaws, lego, play dough etc.  •Help him/her to cut out using safe scissors.  •Allow sand and water play.  •Have fun together.  •Praise his/her efforts at every opportunity.   1. •Avoid criticism |
| **Social Skills**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\7043YHIR\socialreinforcement[1].jpg** | Encourage your child to **mix** with a variety of children in order to develop their social skills and to avoid over-reliance on any one person (adult or child).  In this spirit we mix the classes each year. |
| **Good Rapport**  **Image result for communication clipart** | The school has a good rapport with all of the local **playschools** in the Prosperous area. The Junior Infant teachers visit the playschools and in turn invite the playschools to visit our school. This allows the children to begin to familiarise themselves with their new school environment. |
| **After School**  **C:\Users\geraldine.hetherton\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\94KFMQSV\iStock_000015933195XSmall[1].jpg** | A number of **After School Activities** take place in the school. These include Playball and keyboard in the Junior classes and basketball, hurling, football, athletics and art. Some activities are free, while others are offered at a small fee. School Insurance is required for participation in after school activities. Our school insurance is €9 for the year for 24 hour cover. |
| **School Website and Newsletter**  **Image result for scoil an linbh iosa prosperous website** | School news and **updates** will be given via our Aladdin app.  The school also has a website ([www.prosperousns.ie](http://www.prosperousns.ie)), a twitter account (@ProsperousNS) and a facebook page.  Occasionally notes with specific information are sent home. You may have to check the bag. |
| **Contact Details**  **Image result for contact details clipart** | Please update the Admin Office about any **changes** in contact details. It is very important that the school has a current contact number for every child in the school.  Emergency contact details are essential. Email addresses are essential. |
| **Complaints Procedure**  **Image result for making a complaint** | The school adheres to the INTO **complaints** procedure. The procedure facilitates the resolution of difficulties, where they may arise, in an agreed and fair manner. It is set out in five stages, Stage 1 being where the parent approaches the class teacher with a view to resolving the complaint. The procedure can be found at:  <http://www.prosperousns.ie/uploads/2/5/0/4/25048510/into_complaints_procedure_pt.pdf> |
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| **Faoi dheireadh**  We look forward to working together in partnership with you as we embark on this exciting chapter in your child’s school life. The school motto ‘Ar scáth a chéile a mhairimid’ urges us to live in harmony, working together in our endeavours to provide the best possible education for your child.  May all our children find fun, friendship and fulfilment in Scoil an Linbh Íosa.  Le gach dea mhéin.  **Paul Cassidy** Príomhoide | |
| **Contact us : Telephone 045 868660 email:** [**enquiries@prosperousns.ie**](mailto:enquiries@prosperousns.ie) |