

4th September 2012

Sixth Year 2012-13

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I would like to bring a number of important items to your attention as your son begins his final year in secondary school here in Coláiste Éamonn Rís.

1. The homework journal is a very important communication vehicle between you as parents and your son's teachers. Please ensure that your son has his homework noted in his diary on a daily basis. This diary should be checked every evening for notes etc. from his teachers. **Each sixth year is expected to do at least three and a half hours study every evening, with some additional time over the weekend.** You are expected to sign the diary on a weekly basis. Night Study has commenced.
2. It is very important that your son settles into the new school year quickly. If you have any concerns regarding his progress, please contact the school. You should address your concerns initially to the subject teacher or year head. However, if your concerns are of a more serious nature, please feel free to make an appointment to meet the deputy principal or principal.
Sixth Year Year Head: Mr. Francis
Class Tutors:
6A1:Mrs. Scallan
6A2:Mr. Hurley
6A3:Ms. Donlon
6A4:Mr. Smith
3. Lockers have been distributed by the Parents' Council. Any sixth year requiring a locker should contact the school caretaker.
4. As you are aware your son will be sitting Mock Exams in February next ahead of his Leaving Certificate. The Leaving Certificate Mock Exams will be held immediately after

the February Mid-term break. While the Department of Education and Skills waive Leaving Certificate fees for medical card holders, the school will have to collect mock exam fees from all students to cover Mock Exams costs. The Leaving Certificate Mock Exam fee in 2011-2012 was £100. The fees will be collected in early February 2012.

5. Please ensure that your son comes to school in full uniform every day, unless you are informed otherwise. You will be informed by text in the event of a 'no uniform day'. Please also ensure that all property belonging to your son has his name on it as a lot of time and energy is wasted trying to unite lost property with its owners.
6. If you change your mobile number, please let us know as you will not be in a position to receive texts from the school. A text message will be sent home in the event of your son not presenting for morning and or afternoon classes. If you are aware that your son is absent, write a note explaining the reason in his diary which should be presented to all his teachers on his return to school. If he is absent without your permission, please let us know as soon as possible.
7. There is a wide range of extracurricular activities on offer in the school at lunchtime. I would encourage you to encourage your son to get involved. I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that one of our second years has a severe nut allergy. Students should not bring nuts, peanuts, peanut butter sandwiches, nut bars etc to school. It would be helpful if you had a discussion with your son on the issue and to further impress on him the importance of vigilance on this issue.
8. The Design Team for the school's redevelopment project has been appointed. The first meeting between the school representatives and the Design Team took place on Thursday 26th August.
9. As part of our literacy campaign, I would like you to encourage your son to read. Your help, encouragement and example in this regard will be vital if we are to be successful in raising literacy standards in the school. Please see enclosed leaflet.
10. Many thanks to all those who have paid the lending scheme/ printing fees and the voluntary contribution. If you haven't already done so, please do so as soon as possible. This money helps to ensure that the school stays on a healthy financial footing.

Yours sincerely,

Principal.

