

12th September 2014

Sixth Year 2014-15

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.

School Journal

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.**

School Contacts

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, Class Tutor 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. Walsh

Sixth Year Class Tutors: Ms. MacDonald

Mr. Hurley (Construction Studies)

Mr. Francis (Applied Maths)

Ms. Donlon

Ms. Turner

Lockers

3. Lockers have been distributed by the Parents' Council. Any sixth year requiring a locker should contact the school caretaker.

Supervised Study

4. Supervised study for the first term is now full and a waiting list is being drawn up. Contact Mr. Howlin if you have any queries regarding this service. Students that attend Supervised Study will have their journals stamped each evening to signify attendance on that evening.

Leaving Certificate Mock Exams

5. The Leaving Certificate Mock Exams will begin on Monday 23rd February 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 2013-2014 was €100. The fees will be collected in early February 2015.

Uniform

6. Please ensure that your son comes to school in full uniform every day, unless you are informed otherwise. Non uniform jackets, hoodies etc. will be confiscated. You will be informed by text in the event of a 'no uniform day'.

Lost Property

7. 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.

Parent/Guardian Contact Details

8. If you change your mobile number, please let us know or otherwise 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.

Non-Attendance

9. If your son is absent from school with your permission, please write a note explaining the reason in his diary. The diary 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.

Extra-Curricular Activities

10. There is a wide range of extracurricular activities on offer in the school at lunchtime. Cycling, swimming, public speaking, Gaelic football, rugby, hurling, golf, soccer, table tennis and basketball are available so I would encourage you to encourage your son to get involved.

Nut Allergy

11. I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that a number of our students and staff have severe nut allergies. Students should not bring nuts, peanuts, peanut butter sandwiches, nut bars etc to school. It would be helpful if you had a discussion about this matter with your son and to further impress on him the importance of vigilance on this issue.

Child Protection

12. Child Protection: Any concerns on child protection or child welfare issues relating to any of our students should be reported to the Designated Liaison Person (Mr McMahon) or in his absence the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Mr Hegarty).

Careers Day

13. Ms. Barnwell has arranged for sixth year students to attend the Careers Day in the R.D.S. in Dublin on Wednesday 17th September. **Any student not travelling to Dublin must attend school.**

Career Guidance

14. Sixth year students are strongly encouraged to make guidance appointments with Ms. Barnwell at an early opportunity this academic year so as to provide a solid foundation for C.A.O. option selection. Should parents have any queries regarding career choice or other concerns regarding their son they may contact Ms. Barnwell directly at cbswexgc@gmail.com.

Parents' Council

15. The Parents' Council would like to encourage parents to become involved with the Council and new members are welcome. The first monthly meeting of the new term is scheduled for **Tuesday 23rd September @7.30pm** in Room 11. The Parents' Council AGM is scheduled for **Tuesday 7th October @ 7.30pm** in R.11.

School Mass

16. The school will celebrate the beginning of the new school year with Mass in Bride Street church on Wednesday 1st October @12pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

School Fees

17. 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.

Attendance

18. Full attendance at school is vital if your son's learning is to progress and he is to reach his potential. Family holidays etc. should be scheduled outside of the school calendar if at all possible.

Mobile Phones

19. Students are not allowed use phones during class and should have them switched off. Those breaking this rule will have their phones confiscated. They will be returned to the student or parent at the principal's discretion.

Facial Jewellery

20. Please also note that facial jewellery is prohibited and will be confiscated.

Literacy Campaign

21. As part of our literacy campaign, I would ask you to continue encouraging your son to read. Our 'Drop Everything and Read' literacy initiative continues this year so please make sure that your son has a novel in his bag coming to school.

Website

22. Visit www.wexfordcbs.ie for updates on happenings in the school. You can also visit www.bokerboys.blogspot.com for latest news.

Upcoming Events

C.B.S. Talent Show Thursday 13th November
Christmas Fair Friday 5th December
German Exchange Students 19th-26th September

Best wishes to you, your family and your son for the forthcoming academic year.

Michael McMahon (Principal)