

October 2020 Newsletter

Parent Association News

For those of you who are new to our school, let me introduce you to the Parent Association. All parents/guardians are part of the P.A. which is represented by a committee from across the school with a class representative who will keep you informed of their activities. For example, last year the P.A. organised a hugely successful disco for the children with face painting, tattoos and a nail bar run by older siblings. Parents enjoyed the tea and chat while the children danced the evening away.

During the summer, lots of parents came to help prepare the school for the new school year, renovating classroom space, painting and decluttering. The staff really appreciate the support and enthusiasm of the parents who help to make our school a great place to learn.

The staff were delighted with our impromptu lunch of pizza and cake last Thursday at the staff meeting. Thank you so much to everyone for showing your appreciation – we really enjoyed the surprise.

Normally, the P.A. would host their Annual General Meeting in the school hall at this time of year to tell you about their role in the school and the fundraising they have done during the past year and their plans for the year ahead. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the A.G.M. will now take place via Zoom on Tuesday 3rd November at 8 p.m. I will send out a link to join the meeting closer to the time. I would really encourage parents to listen in and get involved.

You will find more information on the work of Parent Associations by clicking these links:

<https://www.education.ie/en/Parents/Information/Parents%E2%80%99-Associations/Parents-Associations.html>

<https://www.npc.ie/primary/parents-associations/role-of-a-parents-association>

Aladdin Connect/Seesaw

By now, most parents have activated their Aladdin Connect so you can see your child/ren's details, input absences, check homework, see notices on the Noticeboard etc. We will be holding Parent-Teacher meetings in mid-November and you will be able to book your slot using Aladdin Connect once I have set it up. Details to follow.

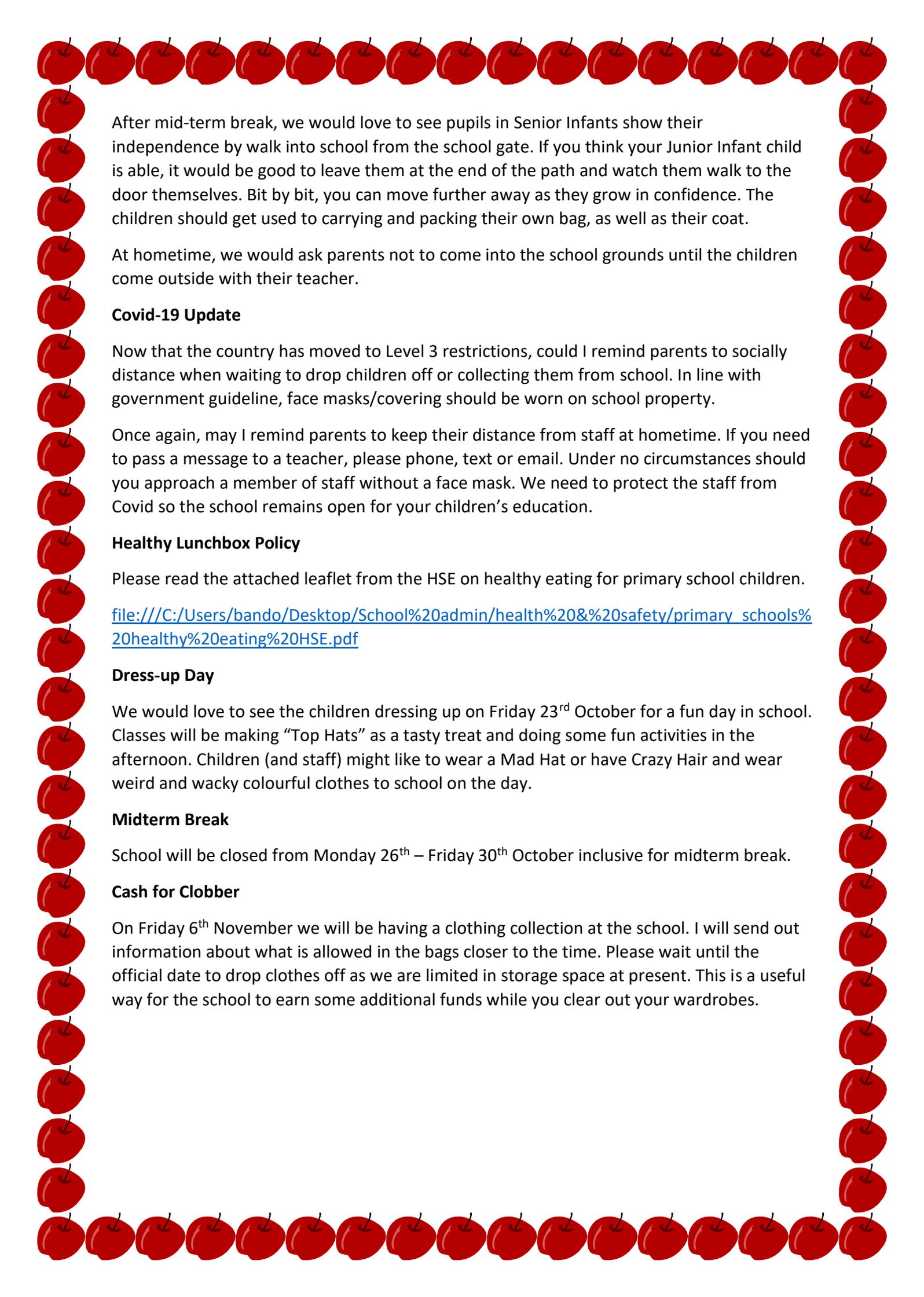
Some class teachers are using Seesaw as an online platform for homework and classwork too. If your child/ren's teacher has sent you an email regarding this, please complete the online permission form if you haven't already done so.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms. O'Sullivan and her husband, James and daughter, Lily on the birth on Baby Harry last Tuesday. He looks a beautiful healthy baby.

Congratulations to Ruby Daraban, in 4th class. She was a runner-up in this year's Fire Service Drawing Competition. Well done to all the children who took part.

Infant Arrival and Hometown



After mid-term break, we would love to see pupils in Senior Infants show their independence by walk into school from the school gate. If you think your Junior Infant child is able, it would be good to leave them at the end of the path and watch them walk to the door themselves. Bit by bit, you can move further away as they grow in confidence. The children should get used to carrying and packing their own bag, as well as their coat.

At hometime, we would ask parents not to come into the school grounds until the children come outside with their teacher.

Covid-19 Update

Now that the country has moved to Level 3 restrictions, could I remind parents to socially distance when waiting to drop children off or collecting them from school. In line with government guideline, face masks/covering should be worn on school property.

Once again, may I remind parents to keep their distance from staff at hometime. If you need to pass a message to a teacher, please phone, text or email. Under no circumstances should you approach a member of staff without a face mask. We need to protect the staff from Covid so the school remains open for your children's education.

Healthy Lunchbox Policy

Please read the attached leaflet from the HSE on healthy eating for primary school children.

file:///C:/Users/bando/Desktop/School%20admin/health%20&%20safety/primary_schools%20healthy%20eating%20HSE.pdf

Dress-up Day

We would love to see the children dressing up on Friday 23rd October for a fun day in school. Classes will be making "Top Hats" as a tasty treat and doing some fun activities in the afternoon. Children (and staff) might like to wear a Mad Hat or have Crazy Hair and wear weird and wacky colourful clothes to school on the day.

Midterm Break

School will be closed from Monday 26th – Friday 30th October inclusive for midterm break.

Cash for Clobber

On Friday 6th November we will be having a clothing collection at the school. I will send out information about what is allowed in the bags closer to the time. Please wait until the official date to drop clothes off as we are limited in storage space at present. This is a useful way for the school to earn some additional funds while you clear out your wardrobes.