

Useful School Information from Cairde- Parents Association

Break times (in case they forget their lunch etc): Children eat 10.20am. Yard time is 10.30pm. They eat again at 12.10, in yard at 12.20. Bring lunch and other forgotten items to the office.

There are at least 2 fancy dress days per year (St Patricks day and Halloween) - make sure costumes are warm and comfortable and that kids can manage them (e.g no Halloween face painting if they are going swimming that day etc)

The school operates Paired Reading and Paired Maths with mixed age classes. Very popular with the children.

Swimming: starts in 1st class. One term per class – kids should have long hair tied up, and a warm hat for afterwards.

School sports teams start from 3rd class,

Music – tin whistle classes in school from 1st Class, extra-curricular music lessons from 2nd class. Always keep tin whistle in bag in case the day of the lesson changes.

Each classroom has a fully stocked library with Irish and English books (Irish only in Jr Infants this year)

Books are sent home at the beginning of term in September to be covered - clear book covering is available in Easons and the Book Station in the Mill – don't forget to include your child's name on each book in Irish!

The slightly bigger triangular pencils are great for the little ones learning to write.

The schoolbag needs to fit the folder which is slightly bigger than A4 size (lots of branded little bags that children choose don't fit it!)

Parent teacher meetings are held in November and school reports are issued in June

The school calendar/ school policies etc. is available on the school website (www.gaelcoilnacamoige.ie)

Sign your child's homework journal every day.

Important People:

School Secretary: Éilís

Caretaker - Harry

Lollipop Lady – Phyllis

The school requests that parents make an appointment if you wish to talk to your child's teacher, even if it is a small matter or to pass on a message – Just contact Eilis in the office and she will help you further.

Homework Club: 1st – 6th class Mon-Thurs 2.30-3.30. Info available from the school office

Siblings waiting in the yard at 1.30/2.30 must stay at the gate with parents so as not to disturb children working in the classrooms. They are not allowed to run behind the prefabs.

The preferred method of payment for books, swimming, Hall and sports etc is by bank transfer to the school account – Details will be provided at the beginning of term, just make sure to use your child's name and class as the reference

Parking:

There is limited parking around the school and there is no parking in either the Aras Chrónáin car park or by the yard railings at any time. Please consider our neighbours if parking in the surrounding housing estates. There are double yellow lines in many roads and the Gardai police these areas regularly.

The gate to the school lane from Orchard Rd is open in the morning from approx 8.30- 9am, and in the afternoons 1.20- 1.40pm and 2.20-2.40pm. You can park in Dunnes car park and walk to and from the school, using the lane.

Read the Newsletters!! Every Second Monday on the website www.gaelscoilnacamoige.ie

Uniform- tips/recommendations from our parents

Put name tags on EVERYTHING especially school jumpers, tracksuit tops and jackets. This is particularly important in N.Bheaga and N.Mhora as the children can easily end up with another child's items. Putting your phone number as well as the name is another good idea.

Put a bobbin or keyring on the zip of the child's school jacket, its then instantly recognisable.

Buy more than one tie

Name tags can be purchased in Marks & Spencer and online

Marks and Spencer do a great non-iron shirt with a Velcro top button.

Girls can wear a jumper or cardigan.

Dunnes sell the wine colour tights so much cheaper than the uniform shop.

Do not use fabric conditioner on the school tracksuit

Do not put school jumpers or tracksuits in the tumble dryer and iron inside out.

Only give yogurts for lunch on Wednesdays and Fridays (uniform changeover days!)

Beware of giving fruit juices for lunch – any spillages will ruin the books. Water is recommended

Summer shorts – available in the Schoolwear House, or cut down old tracksuit bottoms- school will notify parents when shorts are permitted

Find a leakproof drinks bottle that your child can open and close easily themselves (see above note regarding spillages!)

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CAIRDE