



Powerstown Educate Together NEWSLETTER I

Thursday 15th September 2011

Welcome

A big welcome to all our parents, families and friends to Powerstown Educate Together National School. To help keep you updated on what is happening in the school, we will produce a newsletter every week.

Teachers:

As you all know, Katie is our Junior Infant teacher. Lorraine is our English as an Additional Language teacher. Lorraine supports the language development of our pupils. She does this through in class support and at times also works with small groups in her room. Orla started with us on Tuesday. Orla is our Learning Support Teacher. She is with us for an hour a day and provides in class support to pupils and at times works one to one with pupils to enable them to reach their potential.

Parents' Meeting

Thank you for returning your forms about the Parents' Information Meeting. The majority of parents have asked for an evening meeting. Therefore the meeting will take place on

WEDNESDAY 21st of September @7pm.

During this meeting we will discuss

- Primary school curriculum; including Jolly Phonics, Ready Set go Maths & Learn Together.
- School Policies
- Homework
- Green school
- Parent Teacher Association
- Board of Management.

Please try your best to attend.

English: Jolly Phonics Programme

So far we have done the letters s, a, t, i and p. The boys and girls are enjoying the songs we are learning to help us with the letters. Please remember to take out your child's sound book every night and practice the **letter sounds**. (We will learn the letter names later). Please ensure their folders are brought into school every day. Thanks

Maths - Ready Set Go Maths

In Maths, we have been very busy sorting. We have been sorting one property sets e.g. sorting by colour, or shape, or size and also two property sets e.g. sorting by colour and shape, or colour and size.

Green School Flag

This year we are hoping to apply for a Green Flag. This requires us to focus on waste management in the school. This involves recycling paper, plastics, creating a compost bin and looking after our environment. We have set up a Green Notice Board in the corridor. To promote this we really need your support.

Here is how you can help;

- Use lunch boxes for sandwiches
- Do not use cling film or tin foil as they cannot be recycled.
- Please do not bring in Capri-suns as they cannot be recycled.
- Try to use a re-useable bottle/container for drinks rather than cartons to reduce waste.

P.E.

Our P.E. days will be Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child wears **SUITABLE footwear**, e.g. runners (NO shoes, wheelies, flip flops or sandals please). This will help prevent your child from getting injured.

Art

Art day is Friday. If you have any old shirts or aprons at home that you would like your child to wear to protect their clothing (from poster paint/glue etc) please put it in your child's school bag.

Lunches

Please note that a child in Junior Infants has a nut allergy, therefore **nut products cannot be in the classroom.** We now have two lunch breaks. For small break a yoghurt/fruit/cracker is lots for the boys and girls to eat. For lunch a sandwich is sufficient. We are trying to promote Healthy Eating within the school. Please try not to give your child chocolate, biscuits, cereal bars, crisps or fizzy drinks. Thanks

Irish Classes

Irish (Gaelic) classes for parents start on **Wednesday September 28th @8.30am - 10am**. This class is **FREE to ALL** parents, guardians, family and friends. It will start at a very basic, easy level, suitable for all parents. Please see form attached.

Shared Reading

We are hoping to start Shared Reading next **Friday September 23rd**. This will be fun for 4 weeks from 8.30am - 8.40am. This will involve parents coming in for just 10 mins to read to a group of children. We need parents to volunteer for it to be a success. If you are interested, please see form attached.

Parents Noticeboard

We have set up a Parents' Noticeboard in the reception area. It is on the right hand side. Please have a glance at this when you come into school. It will let you know of events that are happening and may contain information that will be of interest to you.

We will also stick up a notice if your child has a letter for you in their school bag

Cross Care

Cross Care are running a 6 week training course for parents of pupils with Special Needs, aged between 6 - 12. If you would like more information, please drop into the school.

Family Literacy Event

On 21st September, the National Adult Literacy Agency is holding a free information morning for parents on the topic of family literacy. There will be lots of top tips from other parents, libraries and schools, as well as practical, fun demonstrations. It's completely free and to reserve a place please call 01 4127900 or email info@nala.ie. It runs from 11am - 1pm in The ARK, Temple Bar, Dublin

School Website & Class Blogs

We are in the process of creating CLASS BLOGS. As you may appreciate, it takes time to get all the necessary content together to create a Blog, but we are hoping they will be live by Friday 23rd of September. You will be able to access the blogs through our school website www.powerstownet.com

Contacting the School

The school now has a landline number 01 8262552. The school mobile number is 086 4038901. We can be contacted via email powerstownetns@gmail.com