

Welcome to  
St. Colman's B.N.S.

*Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*

2018/2019

## **WELCOME:**

In September your child will complete an important milestone in his life – his first day in the Boys’ School. You and your child may meet this day with excitement or apprehension (or a little of both). We hope this booklet will help you to become familiar with some of our school policies.

## **SCHOOL STAFF:**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Principal                   | Eilish Finnegan   |
| Class Teachers:             | Mary Boyce<br>Deirdre Linehan<br>Áine O’Sullivan<br>Eileen O’Connor |
| Special Education Teachers: | Margaret McLoughlin<br>Eilish Finnegan                              |
| Special Needs Assistant:    | Elizabeth O’Mahony  |

## **SCHOOL ETHOS:**

We are a Roman Catholic School and our aim is to promote the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the pupil; intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual, including a living relationship with God and with other people.

We aim to provide a happy, secure, caring, respectful and co-operative atmosphere in our school. We take pride in providing a stimulating learning environment and in fostering a love of learning in the children, so that they can develop their abilities and talents to their full potential. We see each child as being unique and special and we aim to develop in the children a sense of pride in themselves, their families and their school.

## **CURRICULUM**

All subjects are taught very well in our school and have been adapted to fulfil the requirements of the revised curriculum. English, Irish, Maths are the core curriculum subjects in conjunction with Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE), Social Environmental and Scientific Education (Geography, History, Science), Visual Arts, (Art and Craft, Music and Drama) and Physical Education.

## **PARENT – TEACHER COMMUNICATION:**

The school welcomes parents but the days' work must not be interrupted unnecessarily. Each lesson is timetabled and any interruption is therefore a loss to your child.

For general information your child will be given a note, on **yellow paper**. It is important you check your child's bag regularly for notes. If the information is relevant to every class, the eldest child in your family will be given the note.

If you do have any cause for concern please do not hesitate to contact the school. Please send the teacher a note and an appointment to meet can be arranged.

Please tell the class teacher about any problems your child may have.

- Illness e.g. asthma, diabetes etc.
- Physical e.g. speech, eye or hearing problems.  
physical handicap.
- Emotional e.g. accident, death, separation, new baby.
- Other e.g. kidney problems.

Note regarding telephone calls – as we do not have a full time secretary please leave a message and your call will be dealt with as soon as possible.

A **Parent- Teacher meeting** is held during the school year to discuss your child's progress, attitudes and behaviour. It is important that your child sees you are interested in his progress at school.

If your child has experienced any difficulties with any subject area in the past, please inform the class teacher.

School plans/ policies may be viewed at the school on appointment with the Principal. They are also on view on our school website [www.kanturkbns.com](http://www.kanturkbns.com)

### **SCHOOL TIMETABLE:**

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 9.00 a.m.          | School opens     |
| 9.10 a.m.          | Classes commence |
| 12.30p.m.-1.00p.m. | Lunch Time       |
| 2.50 p.m.          | Home Time        |

Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his success. Please see that your child attends everyday except in cases of illness or emergency.

After 20 days absence, The National Education Welfare Board **must** be notified by The Board of Management. A note of explanation, signed and dated by parent or guardian or telephone call will be required for all absences.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

- School Uniform consists of grey trousers, grey polo shirt and wine jumper. These can be purchased in Central Stores.
- Full school uniform is worn daily
- Children wear track suits on their P.E. day.

### **HOMEWORK:**

Your child will have homework every day except Fridays. A homework routine should be established early in the school year.

1. Set aside a quiet regular time.
2. Homework time should include time for oral as well as written work.

3. Encourage your child to keep books and copies clean and tidy.
4. When your child is working independently, be available to help and show an interest in what is being done.
5. If your child is having problems with homework or if he takes a long time, please discuss this with the teacher.
6. If for any reason, homework cannot be done, let the teacher know.

**N.B.** Never do your child's homework for them.

Avoid comparing them to others. Each child is different.

### **Homework Notebook:-**

This should be checked and signed each night, when parents are satisfied that both learning and written work is completed to the best of the child's ability.

### **Library Books:**

Your child will get library books from the school. In first and second classes, the books will only be changed when you have signed the accompanying book sheet. Please return any school library books inadvertently left at home.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

1. Chewing gum, fizzy drinks, crisps and glass bottles are not allowed in the school.
2. Mobile phones are not allowed in school or school outings. If a phone is found in school it will be confiscated and parents will be required to come in to the school and collect it. Should your child wish to contact you during the school day he may seek access to the school phone.

3. The wearing of jewellery is not permitted in school.

4. Accidents & Illness

If a child is injured or becomes ill in school, parents will be contacted by telephone. It is essential that the school has your home and work telephone numbers, as well as that of a responsible person chosen by you to act on your behalf in an emergency.

If it is impossible to make contact, we presume the parents' permission to have the injury treated by a doctor.

5. Labels

It can save trouble by putting labels on all of your child's belongings e.g. lunch box, coat, school jumper.

**6. Give your child the habit of checking his bag every morning to see that they have pencils . Children need to have pencils in class every day, as not having them causes the most disruption in the class.**

7. We are a Health Promoting School fostering

- physical activity and exercise.
- healthy lunches are encouraged. i.e. fruit or extra sandwich instead of a chocolate bar.
- Sandwiches, crackers, fruit, salted popcorn, yogurt, cheese, raisins, vegetables, milk, water, fruit juices, diluted juices are recommended for your child's lunch.
- The following items regarded as treats are not recommended for your child's lunch. These are sweets, chocolate bars, crisps, biscuits, cereal bars, buns, croissants, cakes, lollipops , fruit winders, fizzy drinks, energy drinks, chewing gum.

- As we have a child enrolled with an allergy to nuts, children will not be allowed to eat nutella or any products with trace of nuts found in them.
- You may include a treat in your child's lunchbox on Fridays only!
- If a staff member finds a treat in your child's lunchbox on Monday – Thursday he will be asked not to eat it until 3p.m.
- We hope you understand our philosophy behind this plan. We want to develop healthy eating habits among our pupils, help the children enjoy healthy foods, reduce the risk of potential medical problems and curtail the problem of obesity (a growing problem among Irish children).
- Anti Bullying Policy in place.

8. Birthday Invitations

Children are not allowed distribute party invitations in school, because in the past children who have not been invited to parties have been upset and thus disrupted schoolwork.

9. We have a very active Parent's Association, which is very supportive of all work done in the school. They have helped organise book fairs, school quizzes and participate in many fund raising activities for the school. They have very generously subsidised the costs of various activities, e.g. swimming, music, school tours. They also help on Holy Communion Day and Sports Day with catering duties. New members are always welcome! We encourage you to join the group and as far as possible participate in their activities.

10. All our school policies can be viewed on our school website [www.kanturkbns.com](http://www.kanturkbns.com) . Please take the time to read them. The Policies include Code of Behaviour, Child Protection, Antibullying, Internet Use, Enrolment, Health & Safety, Data Protection.

We look forward to working with your child and helping him to achieve his full potential.

**St. Colman's B.N.S.  
Percival Street,  
Kanturk,  
Co. Cork.**

**Tel: 029-50768**

**School website: [www.kanturkbns.com](http://www.kanturkbns.com)  
Twitter: [twitter@colmansbns](https://twitter.com/colmansbns)  
Email: [colmanbns@hotmail.com](mailto:colmanbns@hotmail.com)**