

WELCOME  
PARENTS!



**Presentation Secondary School  
1<sup>st</sup> Year Information Night**

**2019/2020**

**“Our Best, Always”**





- **Principal – Mr William Ryan**
- **Deputy Principal – Ms Mary Dooley**
- **Deputy Principal – Ms Caroline Ryan**
- **Guidance Dept. – Ms. B Kavanagh**
- **Mr D Nugent.**
- **Special Education Team - Ms. M Curran,  
Ms. R Stenning, Ms. A Carr, Ms. T  
Bradshaw, Ms. E Sunderland**
- **Year Head – Ms. V Whelan**

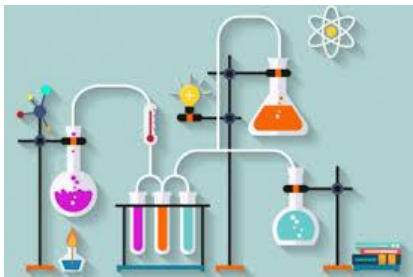
# 1<sup>st</sup> Year Classes



- Year Head – Ms. V Whelan
- Base classes and tutors
- Rang Aoife – Mr. S Gaynor
- Rang Brigid – Ms. R Stenning
- Rang Cliodhna– Ms. D Leacy ( Mr. C Doyle)
- Rang Deirdre– Mr. J Rolston
- Rang Etain – Ms. L Mahon

# SCHOOL BUILD

- DUE TO EVER INCREASING NUMBERS THE SCHOOL WILL BE BUILDING NEW FACILITIES TO START SOON.
- A NEW SCIENCE LAB AND PREP ROOM
- 2 NEW CLASSROOMS



# Environment of Care, Growth, and Belonging

---

- **Tutor**
- **Year Head**
- **Meitheal Leaders**
- **Student Council**
- **Parents' Council**
- **Guidance Counsellors**
- **Learning Support/Resource**
- **Anti-Bullying Policy**
- **Code of Behaviour**
- **Journal**
- **Uniform**

# Extra Curricular Activities

- Basketball
- Handball
- Football
- Athletics
- Camogie
- Equestrian
- Outdoor Pursuits Days
- Deep Green
- Computer Club
- Couch to 5K club
- Games Club
- Library Club
- Feminist Society
- Drama
- Exchanges
- Creative Writing Club
- Senior and Junior Choir
- Liturgical services
- Positivity Group



# POSITIVE RE-INFORCEMENT



**TEACH**  
encourage  
instruct  
MENTOR  
**PRAISE**  
influence  
**GUIDE**  
INSPIRE

- Online system
- Vsware
- Parental access
- Behaviour
- Attendance
- Reports
- Well done cards





<https://preswex.vsware.ie/#fid=64900&lid=757635&pg=Learners&sm=Timetable>

Advanced Search 2016/2017 Hi, W. Ryan Sign Out

Dashboard Groups Classes Students Teachers Settings Attendance Assessment Notifications Room bookings

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	Science (JC) LAB5 C. Ryan 2Sci-2.6 09:00 - 09:35	Religious Education (JC Exam) R28 N. Cullen 2Rel-A 09:00 - 09:35	German R12 T. Killackey 2Ger-A 09:00 - 09:35	Religious Education (JC Exam) R28 N. Cullen 2Rel-A 09:00 - 09:35	History R62 H. Burke 2His-A 09:00 - 09:40
10:00	English R10 D. McCarthy 2Eng-A 09:35 - 10:15	Science (JC) LAB5 C. Ryan 2Sci-2.6 09:35 - 10:15	Home Economics HEC33 F. Devereux 2HmEc-1.4 09:35 - 10:15	English R10 D. McCarthy 2Eng-A 09:35 - 10:15	S.P.H.E. R38 A. Conway 2SPHE-A 09:40 - 10:20
11:00	Geography R27 V. Redmond 2Geo-A 10:15 - 10:55	Science (JC) LAB5 C. Ryan 2Sci-2.6 10:15 - 10:55	Mathematics R17 AM. Croke 2Mat-3.5 10:15 - 10:55	Irish R57 M. Sinnott 2Iri-4.2 10:15 - 10:55	German R12 T. Killackey 2Ger-A 10:20 - 11:00
12:00	Business Studies R13 B. Brophy 2Bus-A 11:10 - 11:45	Home Economics HEC33 F. Devereux 2HmEc-1.4 11:10 - 11:45	Irish R57 M. Sinnott 2Iri-4.2 11:10 - 11:45	Business Studies R13 B. Brophy 2Bus-A 11:10 - 11:45	Human Growth and Behaviour LIB/CAR M. Jensen 2Hum-A 11:15 - 11:55
12:00	Mathematics R17 AM. Croke 2Mat-3.5 11:45 - 12:25	Geography R56 A. Murphy 2Geo-A 11:45 - 12:25	Business Studies R13 B. Brophy 2Bus-A 11:45 - 12:25	C.S.P.E. R13 B. Brophy 2CSPE-A 11:45 - 12:25	Mathematics R17 AM. Croke 2Mat-3.5 11:55 - 12:35
13:00	Irish R57 M. Sinnott 2Iri-4.2 12:25 - 13:00	History R62 H. Burke 2His-A 12:25 - 13:00	Geography R27 V. Redmond 2Geo-A 12:25 - 13:00	History R62 H. Burke 2His-A 12:25 - 13:00	
14:00	Home Economics HEC33 F. Devereux 2HmEc-1.4 13:55 - 14:30	Business Studies R13 B. Brophy 2Bus-A 13:55 - 14:30	Science (JC) LAB5 C. Ryan 2Sci-2.6 13:55 - 14:30	Mathematics R17 AM. Croke 2Mat-3.5 13:55 - 14:30	English R10 D. McCarthy 2Eng-A 13:30 - 14:10
15:00	Home Economics HEC33 F. Devereux 2HmEc-1.4 14:30 - 15:10	Irish R57 M. Sinnott 2Iri-4.2 14:30 - 15:10	English R10 D. McCarthy 2Eng-A 14:30 - 15:10	PE SPORT D. Colfer 2PE-A 14:30 - 15:10	German R12 T. Killackey 2Ger-A 14:10 - 14:50
15:00	Religious Education (JC Exam) R28 N. Cullen 2Rel-A 15:10 - 15:50	German R12 T. Killackey 2Ger-A 15:10 - 15:50	Mathematics R17 AM. Croke 2Mat-3.5 15:10 - 15:50	PE SPORT D. Colfer 2PE-A 15:10 - 15:50	Irish R57 M. Sinnott 2Iri-4.2 14:50 - 15:30
16:00					

Status: No Filter

- Personal
- Household
- Attendance
- Term Reports
- Timetable
- Fee
- Behaviour
- Discipline
- Docs
- Notes
- SEN
- Classes & Groups
- Medical
- Account
- Enrolment History

13:07 21/09/2016


















### Behaviour View

Actions

Total Points:  
**+185**



- No Filter
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 5	Incident date: 12/09/2016 Role: Primary Note: [redacted] did very well in her interview with the French magazine Okapi. Ms Pac-Kenny	Type: Positive Attitude	Subject:	Raised by: Sandrine Pac-Kenny	 
 5	Incident date: 26/05/2016 Role: Primary Note: Graduation mass	Type: Team Work	Subject:	Raised by: Valerie Redmond	 
 5	Incident date: 20/05/2016 Role: Primary Note:	Type: Excellent Effort	Subject: English	Raised by: Joseph Rolston	 
 5	Incident date: 13/04/2016 Role: Primary Note: Organising and running 5th year breakfast club	Type: Civic Spirit	Subject:	Raised by: Mary Dooley	 
 10	Incident date: 13/04/2016 Role: Primary Note: most dedicated student award	Type: Award	Subject: Home Economics S&S (New Syllabus)	Raised by: Jacqueline Hartnett	 

# Attendance

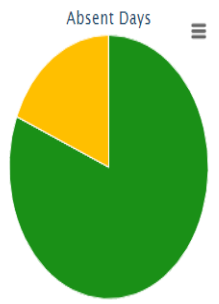
Actions

Status:

No Filter

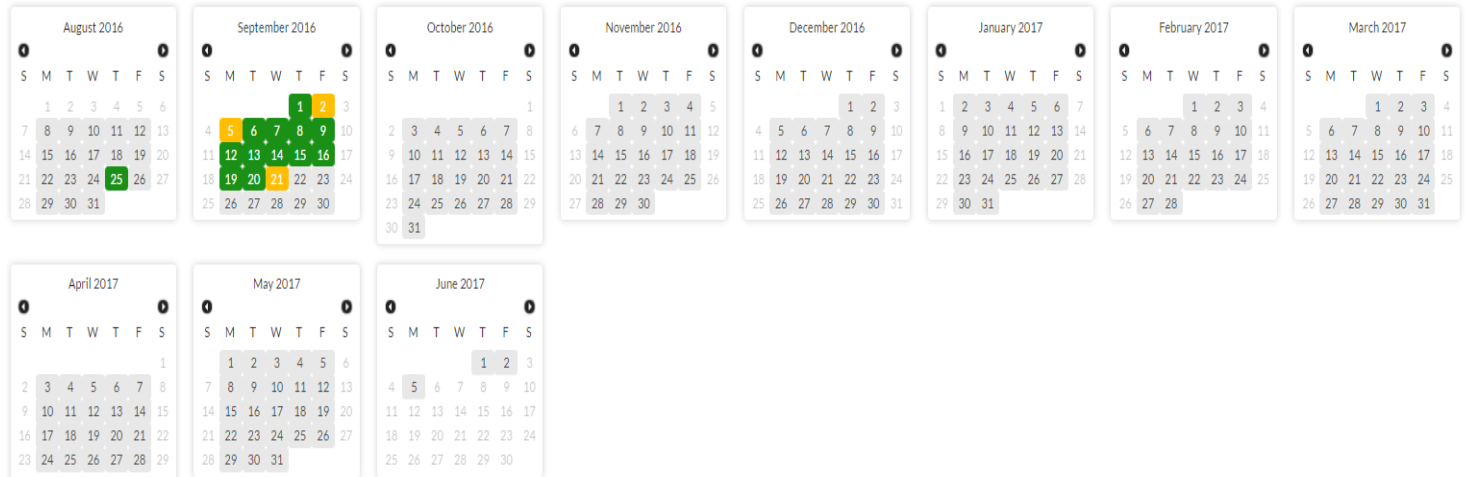
- Personal
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Academic Years 2016/2017



TUSLA Return

0 Lates this year



# Creating the Right Environment

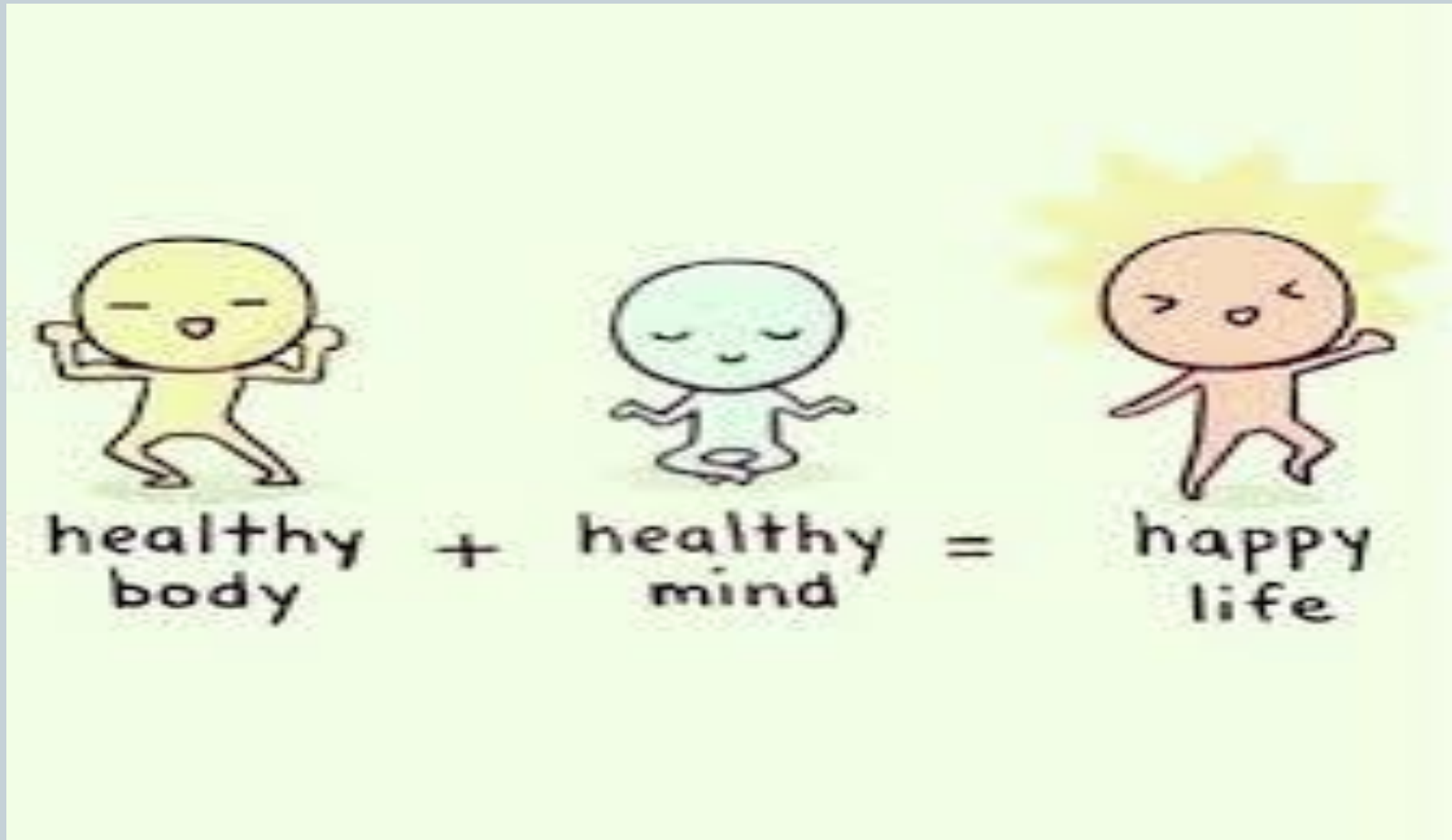
## Partnership

- *School*
- *Student*
- *Home*
- *Wider Community*



- *We want our school to be the best school in which to learn, to play, and to grow*
- *Academic excellence and achievement is high on the school's agenda & School Focus*

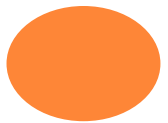
# Balance



# STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY



- We want each student to receive a Holistic Education.
- We want you to be:
- Be ambitious
- Always do your best
- Have respect for people and proper
- Be prepared
- Be in school every day – attendance and punctuality are crucial
- Abide by the Code of Behaviour



# Huge Change



- *A lot more subjects*
- *A lot more teachers*
- *A lot more peers/people to deal with*
- *Bus*

**All happening at a time when adolescence is starting to kick in**

# TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Triple transition:
- From very familiar school environment to much larger school and new subjects;
- From one set of peer group and friends to another peer group;
- From childhood to adolescence.

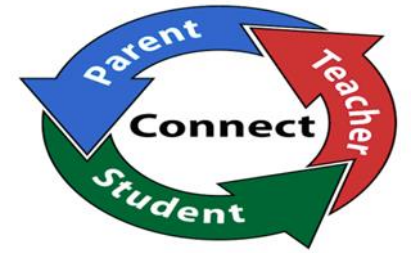




## FROM ONE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT TO ANOTHER

- ▶ Physical effort of carrying copies & heavier bags
- ▶ Mental exhaustion of new and varied subjects
- ▶ Lockers can cause stress.
- ▶ Different homework expectations.
- ▶ Focus on exams (particularly from 2<sup>nd</sup> year on)





# PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY

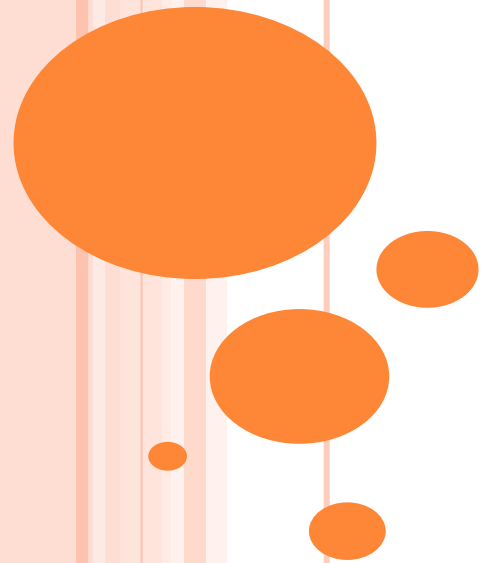
- We have a very good working relationships between our parents and the school.
- Please do not hesitate in making contact.
- It is a big change from Primary to Secondary School.
- If in doubt at all, please make contact.
- The sooner we know about issues the better
- Some advice tips for parents of new 1<sup>st</sup> years.
- **Help , Support ,Encourage, Protect, Set Boundaries**
- **Be vigilant**



# ATTENDANCE

- Pupils must have regular attendance. If you know that your daughter will not be coming into school, please telephone the school immediately and give explanation for her absence.
- If a student misses 20 days in a school year the school is obliged to contact the Education Welfare Officer.
- If your daughter is not marked present, and we have not be notified, an automatic text message will be sent.
- Holidays should not be arranged during the school year.
- Students should be punctual and if late a note of explanation should be written in the school journal.
- Students may not leave the school during the day without a note from their parent/guardian and the permission of the Tutor.





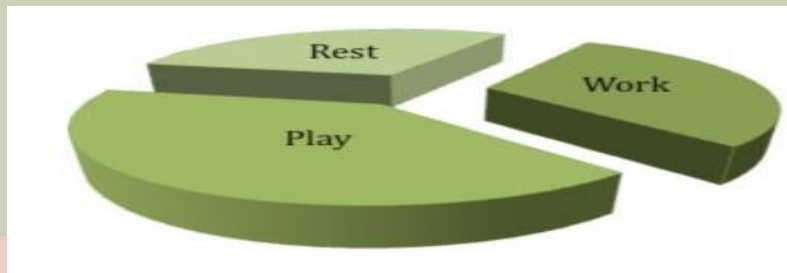
**MS MARY DOOLEY**

**Deputy Principal to First Years 2019/2020**

# LIVING A BALANCED LIFESTYLE

ORGANISED ROUTINE: ALLOW TIME FOR EVERYTHING.

- **Sleep:** 7/8 hours per night
- **Diet:** Healthy and balanced
- **Exercise:** Sports/ walking/  
swimming
- **Part-time work:** Keep to a minimum: e.g.  
Saturdays (few hours). Not during the  
week or Sunday nights or none at all.
- **Social life:** Not during the week or  
Sunday nights.



# LIVING A BALANCED LIFESTYLE

Each Student is unique and needs to develop a balance that works for them regarding school life, study and their life world



# ROLE OF PARENTS

- Motivate- Encourage, Recognize Progress, Reward.
- Monitor- Take interest, Check, Talk to other parents, P.T. Meetings, Take exam results seriously.
- Try to be aware: Of what's going on in school re: tests, work etc.

**I.**

The Role Of A Parent Is To  
**Be a Parent, a Friend, a  
Mentor**





# SIGNS OF STRESS

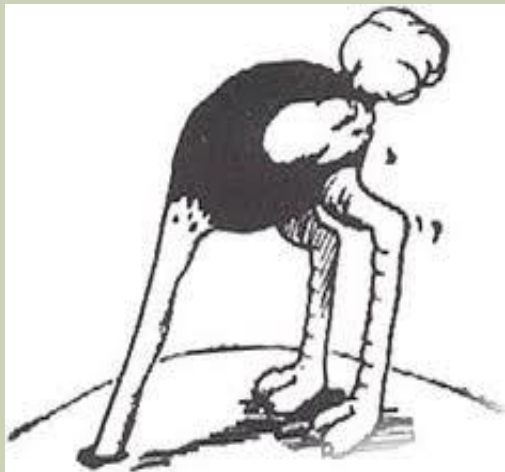
## ■ Try to be aware of SIGNS OF STRESS



- Tiredness
- Irritability
- Too much or too little sleep
- Negative talk
- Lowering of ambition
- Change in Appetite
- Lack of concentration

# SIGNS TO WATCH FOR....

## ■ Avoidance      Excuses for not studying



- “I have no work to do”
- Regular patterns of sickness and absence from school



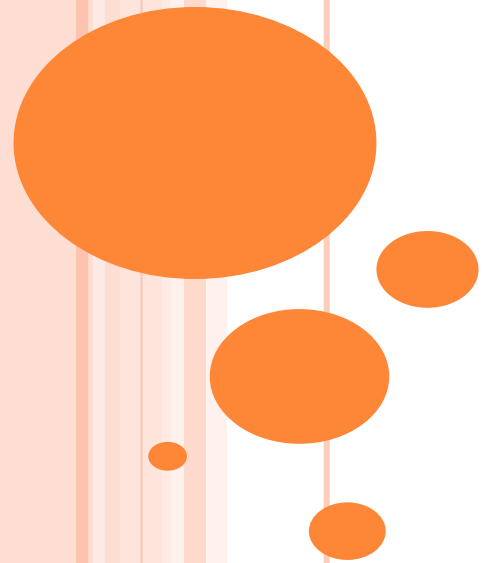
# BUSINESS OF SCHOOL DAY

- **Attendance and Punctuality**
- **Code of Behaviour**
- **Ladder of Referral**
- **Illness – Going Home**
- **Medication**
- **Appointments**
- **School Journal –Notes/Communication**

- Please make sure that we have correct phone numbers and contact details for you.
- Please regularly check your child's journal
- All students must be collected if going home early or sick. With a signed note where possible.
- Permission slips for any outing or trip must be signed
- Please encourage your child to put away phones and other devices at night before bedtime.

# MOBILE PHONES

- These may only be used at break time & lunch time.
- The phone should be used for essential calls and should be locked in the locker.
- Failure to observe these guidelines will result in the confiscation of the phone for one day.
- Mobile phones may not be used for taking photographs. No exception to the rule.



**MS CAROLINE RYAN**  
Deputy Principal

# THE CLASS TUTOR

- Each class has a Class Tutor - a teacher who will meet them each morning for the assembly period for 8 minutes.
- This constant contact means that new students have a person in the school with whom they have contact each day and to whom they can talk if there is any problem with which they need help.





# THE YEAR HEAD



- Each year group has a Year Head Teacher who has overall responsibility for the year group.
- They deal with pastoral and behaviour issues in the year and have a great deal of contact with the students.
- We also have an attendance officer with special responsibility for attendance.
- If there is any difficulty with attendance or a student requires a prolonged absence from school - the attendance officer should be informed by note.



# THE MEITHEAL MENTOR SCHEME

- We have a student mentoring programme in Presentation Wexford where three students from sixth year meet with new first year students in small groups, at lunchtime, once a week for the first months of the year.
- It is an excellent opportunity for first year students to get to know some of the older students and to ask for their advice on issues.
- The small group structure of the meetings allows students to get to know other first years in a structured environment.



# LOCKERS

- Each student will receive a locker in the school. Lockers will be allocated at the start of the academic year. We recommend that students leave any valuables they have in the locker.
- You will be aware, from the Behaviour Code, that mobile phones must be switched off on arrival at school.
- Students should also use the lockers as much as possible for their books as this cuts down on the considerable weight of the bags.
- Students should get into the habit of going to lockers at break times to gather the books for the classes in the next session as students are not allowed to go to lockers between classes.



# CODE OF BEHAVIOUR



- **Good discipline in the school is required to create an atmosphere where each student feels secure and is taught to accept responsibility for her actions.**
- **In co-operation with parents the school is committed to working to build a sense of pride in the school and to foster respect for the whole school community.**
- **Expectation + Sanctions = CODE**
- **Code is signed by student and parent(s)**
- **Detention – Lunchtime/ Evening Time**
- **In School and Out of School Suspensions**



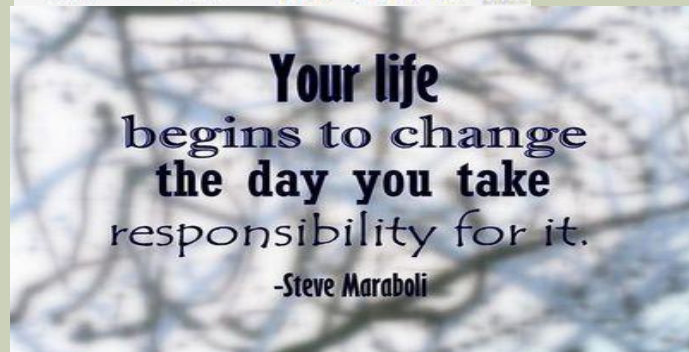
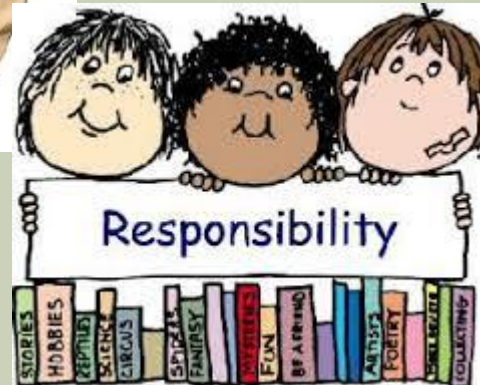
# BEHAVIOUR

- School is a community and all must act together to make it work successfully.
- To further this all members of the school community should be treated with courtesy and respect.
- Smoking is not permitted on the school premises or at any time while in school uniform. Any pupil under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or drugs will merit immediate suspension.

- Persistent offences may be punished by detention.
- Other offences may be dealt with by the tutor and dean.



# CODE OF DISCIPLINE PROMOTES..



In a SAFE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT



# PARENT MORNING

- Opportunity for parents/guardians to come into the school and see the type of work your child is engaged in in school.
- Stands for different subjects and extra-curricular activities – manned by first year students.
- Chance to catch up with other parents and meet some first year teachers informally over a cup of tea.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 11:30-12:30**





# Guidance Department

MR D NUGENT & MS B KAVANAGH,

***“Our Best, Always”***

**Students  
as  
Learners**

# More Homework

**It May Take A While To  
Adjust To New Levels**

**Try To Be Organised**

**If You Are Struggling Tell  
Your Teacher Or Tutor**

**PLAN IT....**

**DO IT....**

**REVISE IT...**

# Homework Issues for 1<sup>st</sup> year



- **10 subjects**
- **Catching up if absent**
- **Recording homework**
- **Planning of homework**
- **Homework at weekend**
- **All forms of homework are important**
- **Time management at home**

# What the experts- the students say!

## Students who seem to achieve their best stated:

- *“My mam checks my homework and sometimes asks me questions”*
- *“My dad helps test me after I have done my learning homework”*
- *“I am not allowed to go online until I have done all my homework”*
- *“I do it early..”*
- *At weekend --I always do my homework when I come home ....I never leave it until Sunday night”*

# What students say!

## Students who struggle to achieve their best stated:

- *“I leave my homework until around 8.00pm after I have relaxed, watched TV and spent time online... I have no planned time to do weekend homework.. it varies ..but mainly Sunday night.*
- *“I am allowed one hour online before I do my homework”*
- *“When I go to bed I spend an hour or so online using my phone ”*
- *“My parents don’t check my homework”*
- *“we don’t get much except when we have tests”*
- *“I learn only for tests”*

# Learning at Home

be organised & have a routine

✓ **Plan it** .. When.. Where.. How..

✓ **Do it** .... Stay on task









✓ **Revise it**.... Remember it

# HOMework

- **WRITTEN**
- **ORAL**
- **LEARNING – TO REMEMBER**
- **REVISION**-going back to learn again for a test- “**OVER LEARN**”



STUDENTS

-  I WILL RECORD MY HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK IN MY JOURNAL
-  I WILL ASK IF I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE HOMEWORK ASSIGNED.
-  I REALISE THAT THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF HOMEWORK  
READING, WRITING, REVISION, RESEARCHING, STUDY.
-  I WILL DO MY OWN HOMEWORK
-  I WILL RECORD THE TIME ALLOCATED BY THE TEACHER FOR  
THE HOMEWORK ASSIGNED.
-  I WILL GET MY JOURNAL SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN IF IT TAKES  
MORE THAN THE ALLOCATED TIME.
-  I WILL MAKE MY BEST EFFORT AT HOMEWORK.
-  I WILL CATCH UP ON ANY HOMEWORK MISSED.

# SCHOOL JOURNAL

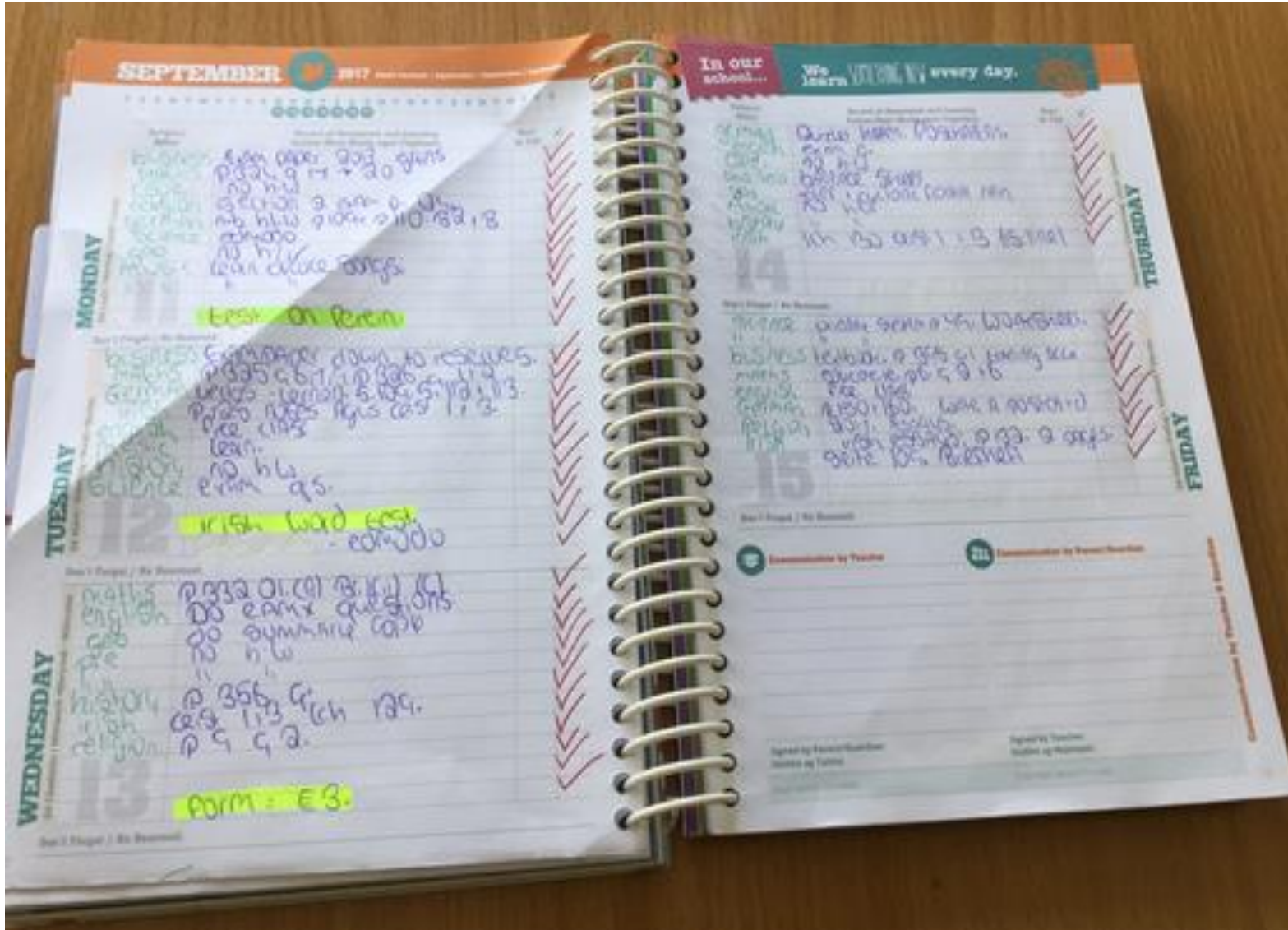
- Always have it with you
- Key to success
- **Not private**
- Subjects written in advance
- **Record every class**
- Students encouraged to use code (W) (L) (R) (O)
- ‘Homework Buddies’
- Indicate time taken
- **Parents monitor & check EACH NIGHT**
- **sign once a week**



# STUDENT JOURNAL

	SUBJECT	HOMEWORK	DATE Done	
	Monday			
	<b>French</b>	learn(L) verb / (W) pg21 Q1-3		
	<b>Maths</b>	pg 4 Q5-10 (W)		
	<b>Bus</b>	pg 25 (L) key points		
	<b>Geog</b>	<b>Free Class</b>		
	<b>Rel</b>	paragraph pg 7 (W)		
	<b>Drama</b>	word games		
	<b>Home Ec</b>	ingredients for scones(P) /pg 10 ,11,(L)		
	<b>SPHE</b>	My talents		
	<b>English</b>	<b>Test</b>		

# THE FIRST STEP!







# CREATE A LEARNING -FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

**Same place if possible every night**

**Quiet room**

**Table and chair**

**Good lighting**

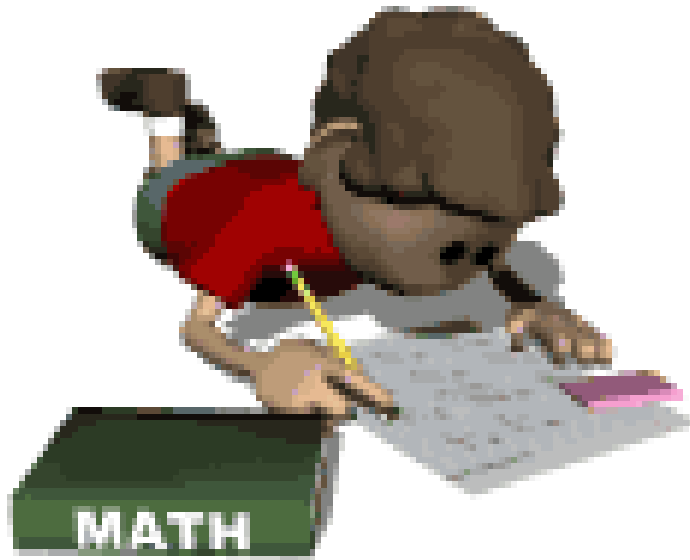
**Not too comfortable**

**Background music?**

**Eliminate distractions-phones!!!!**

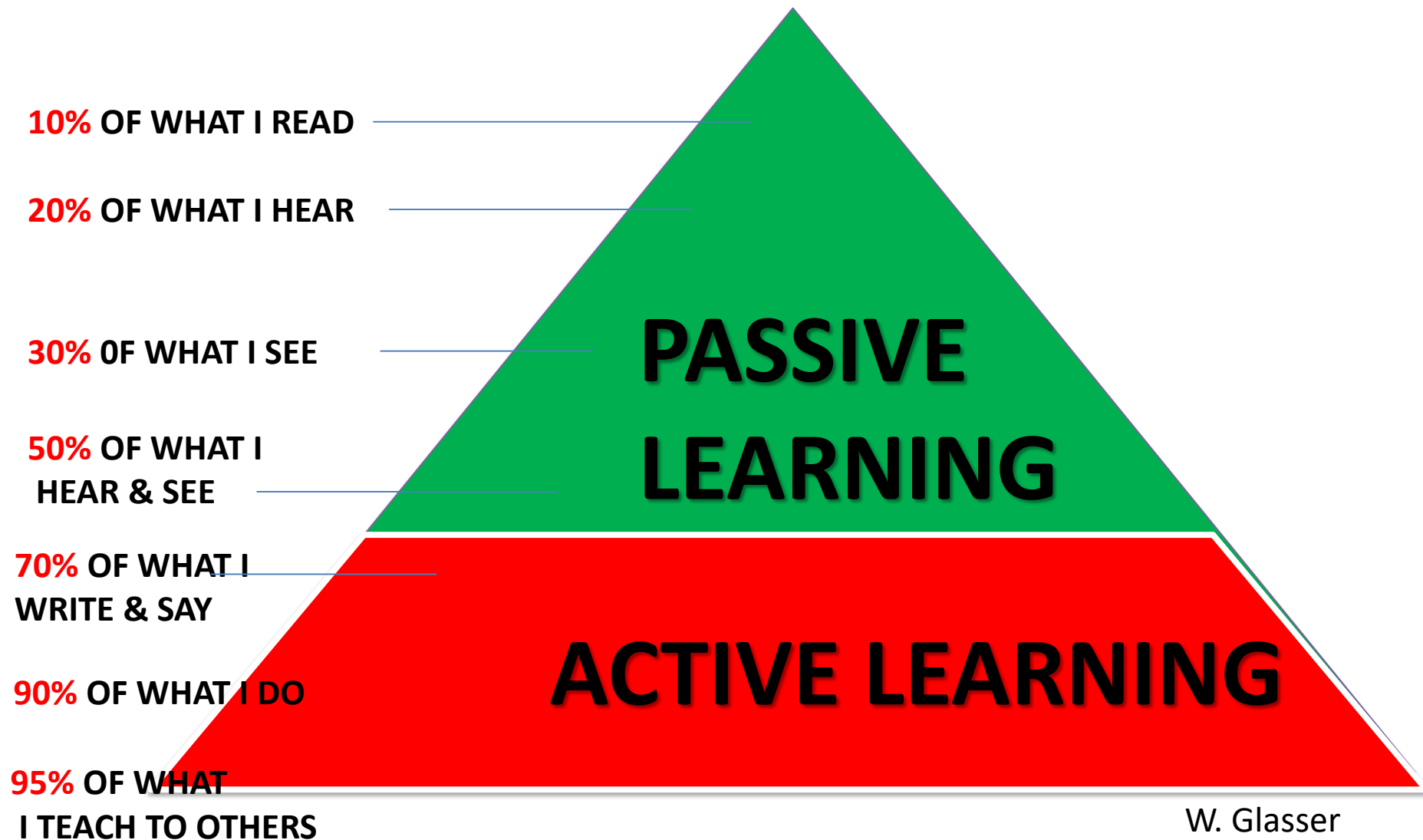
**They do not need the internet to complete most of their home**

# Homework Routine



- **Have a routine-**
- **Do on the night it is given**  
**Do favourite subject first**  
**Do difficult subject next.**  
**Keep easy /enjoy subject to end**  
**Mix type of subjects**  
**Mix activities –don't do all written first then all learning**
- **Packing bag for next day part of homework**

# I REMEMBER...



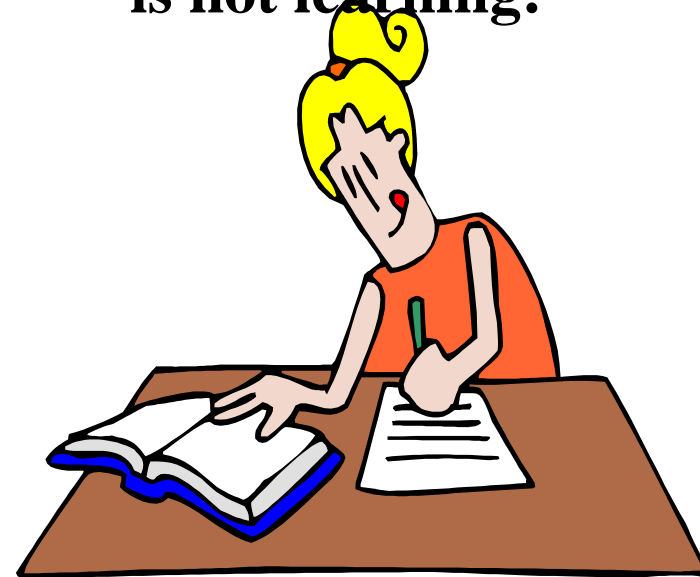
W. Glasser



# Learning to Learn-‘POKER’

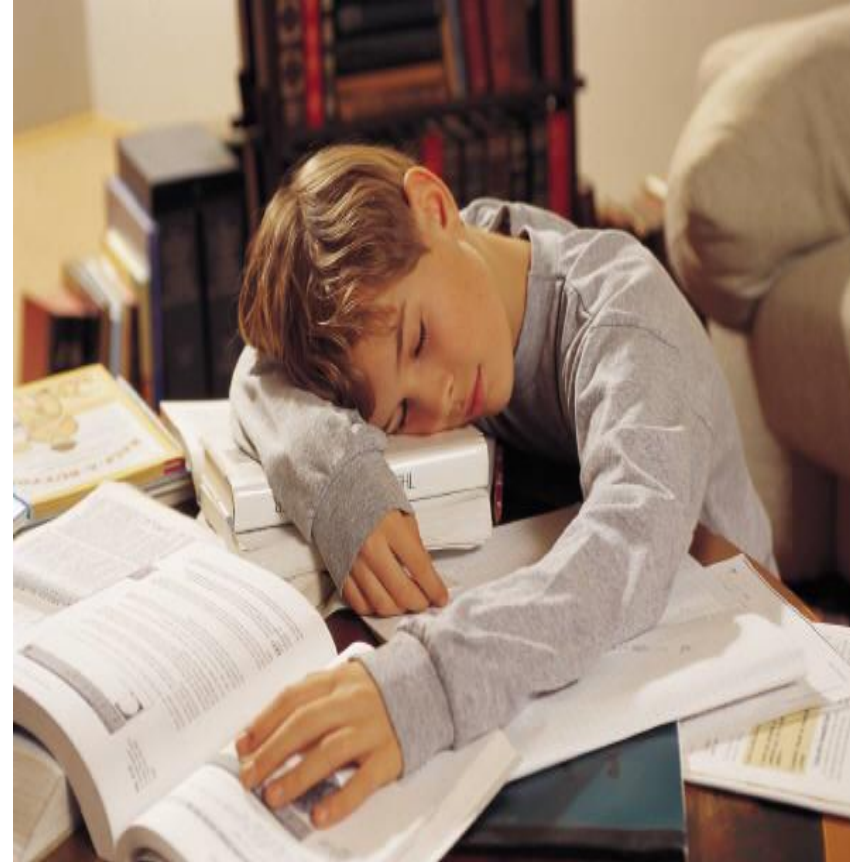
1. **P**re-test(what do I know?)
2. **O**verview -read-scan(what is this about?)
3. **K**ey words+key diagrams
4. **E**tch & Sketch -make notes/mind maps/flash cards =**be active!**
5. **R**etest-write /hear/ draw  
Check/circle mistakes

**Active –  
reading/’looking over’  
is not learning!**



# Coping with Tests

- Coping with anxiety
- Set realistic targets
- Avoid ‘cramming’
- **Do a little –often**
- **Make out own notes**
- Train memory
- **Practice recall by self testing-write it down!**



# Parents Role

- **Stay involved-monitor-negotiate & advise**
- Encourage **doing their best** / organisation for school
- **Check & monitor**

School journal

Learning environment at home

How they manage their time

Learning and self testing

Presentation of work

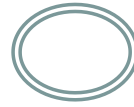
Eating patterns & habits

- **Track Progress** in school- test results/v s ware
- Subject Level –to do their best
- Monitor school work at home
- **Focus on the positive-** effort, developing skills, move from dependence to independence
- **ASK!**
- Gradual move to personal responsibility & own homework space.
- **‘Homework & Study Skills Workshop’ Jan 2020-**

# Parents Council



# Our Standards



- Happy students and staff
- Caring and supportive towards each other
- Support
- High quality learning
- High personal standards
- Christian ethos
- Respect and manners
- Care and support
- High quality teaching
- High standards of behaviour
- Positive Reinforcement
- Homework
- Prefects and leadership
- Professionalism and respect



Photo Courtesy of Shutterstock



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iStockphoto.com



# The Experience of First Years

## 1. What has been the hardest thing about the change from Primary to Secondary School?

**“Leaving my old friends and going from a small school to a bigger school”**

**“LoNgEr DaYs”**

**“The weight of the school bag”**

**“The homework, the new school, the new friends (and the people you don't really click with) and the lockers.”**

**“the hardest thing was the first day I was so nervous but after an hour I felt so comfortable there hasn't been anything too hard :) I love this school”**

**“the tests are a lot harder and more frequent”**

**“The teachers expect too much from you :( We're only in first year and we get well too much homework :(“**

# The Experience of First Years

2. What has been the best experience for you so far in the school?

**“The best experience is meeting new friends and the Meitheal group is nice too and gets the class closer.”**

**“I really liked induction days and my iPad”**

**“Making my new best friends, trying out all the different subjects we never had in primary school e.g. business, art and home economics”**

**“Just being in the school and being accepted here”**

**“I have enjoyed every minute and I hope it stays that way!”**

## Meitheal:

means 'a collective effort for the greater good of the community'.

**“Meeting new friends and people,, basketball, the online safety talk, camogie blitz, the choir, basketball”**

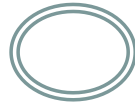


# Fears and worries will decrease with time



- “I worried I won’t have any friends in my class.”
- “I worried my old friends will act differently.”
- “I worried because everybody else will be bigger.”
- “I worried I will be crushed.”
- “I worried about being organised.”
- “I worried about being late for class.”
- “I worried about not knowing where to go.”
- “I worried about teachers being too strict.”
- “I worried about the content of the new subjects.”
  
- We are here to help in any way possible

# FINAL HINTS

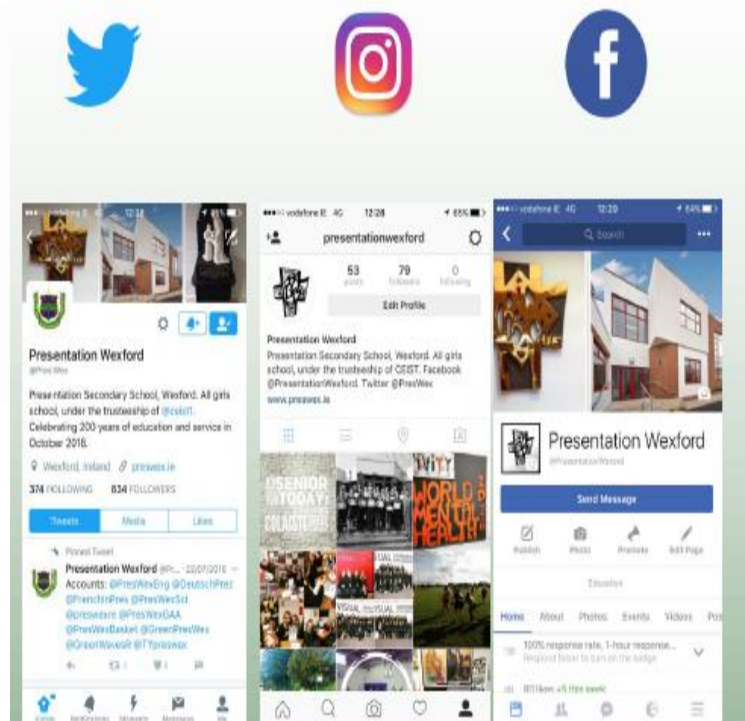
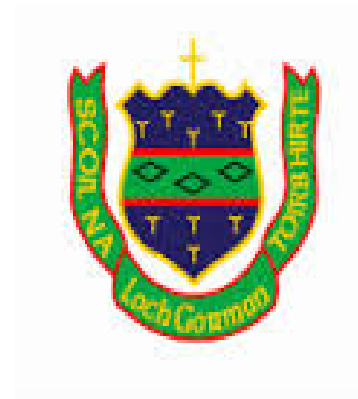


- Use the school journal
- If there are problems contact the Teacher, Tutor or Year Head.
- Information may be found on the School website principals page and much more.
- Follow us on twitter, facebook, instagram
- Encourage your daughter to get involved in as many school activities as possible.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME,  
PATIENCE & ENGAGEMENT.**

