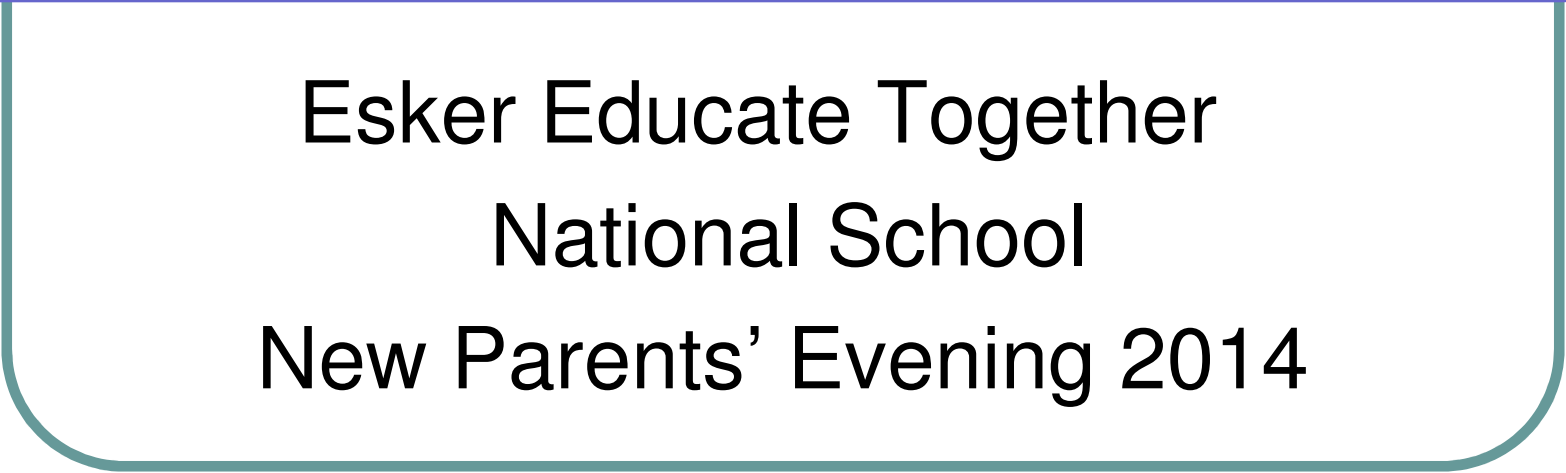




# Welcome



Esker Educate Together  
National School  
New Parents' Evening 2014

# Welcome Pack

- Welcome Booklet: Esker ETNS
- Code of behaviour booklet
- Attendance Booklet: Don't let your child miss out
- Educate Together Booklet
- Invitation for New Junior Infants: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
2.15pm
- Booklist
- Calendar 2014-2015 School year
- Map

# Information Booklet

- Day to Day Practical Information
- Enrolment policy
- Code of Behaviour
- School Management Structures
- Communication
- Advice on how to prepare your Junior Infant for school
- Uniform: There is none

# The School Day



- School begins for all children at **9.20 am**
- Gates open at **9.10 am**
- School finishes for Junior and Senior Infants at **2.00 pm**
- School finishes classes 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> at **3.00pm**

# The First Two Weeks in September

- School finishes for Junior Infants at *12.20 pm for the first two weeks.*
- From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014, times revert to normal and your children go home at 2:00pm
- 2:00 pm closing for rest of school year
- 3:00 pm closing 1<sup>st</sup> Class to 6<sup>th</sup> Class

# The School Year



- Term 1: 1<sup>st</sup> September– 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014
- Term 2: 5<sup>th</sup> January –27<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- Term 3: 13<sup>th</sup> April - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Also mid-terms and other closures

October Mid term 27<sup>th</sup> October- 31<sup>st</sup> October  
inclusive (Monday to Friday)

- Full school calendar is in your school pack and will also be available on our school website [eskeretns.ie](http://eskeretns.ie)

# Communication

- Important to have good communication between parent and teacher.
- Informal
- Formal. Make an appointment so teacher can be freed up to talk to you.
- Home circumstances that we should know about. Let us know in confidence.
- Notes in the school bag
- Text-a-parent: Make sure you let us know if it changes
- Website *[eskeretns.ie](http://eskeretns.ie)*
- *Mobile number for Tom Costelloe HSLT 086 0261061*

# Parent Teacher Meetings

- October : Curriculum meeting for Junior Infants classes
- February: Individual parent/teacher clinic meetings (November for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> class to 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Literacy initiative: Calling parents in to presentations about reading to/with your child
- All extremely important meetings
- Written report on your child's progress and development sent in the post in June



# New School Building

- Opened in 2007 with 73 pupils, sharing with Adamstown ETNS
- Grew very big very quickly, 16 classes in September, 400 pupils
- Used to have a bus; No bus in future
- September 2014: Our own brand new school, Esker Lane, see map in welcome pack
- Plans are for very exciting new building and grounds



# Working hard on the site!



# Plans

# Website

- [eskeretns.ie](http://eskeretns.ie)

# Our School: Infant Classes

- **2 Junior Infant Classes**

Junior Infant **Red: Karen Morrissey**

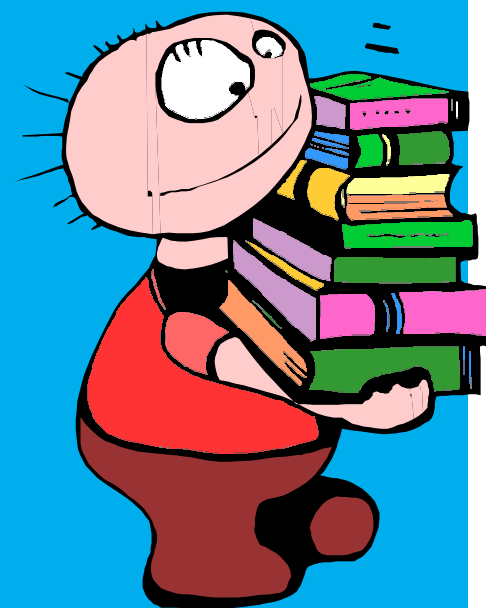
Junior Infant **Green: Aoife Burke**



Welcome  
to  
Junior Infants!

# Getting Ready for school!

- Allow children to practise taking their coats on and off
- Encourage them to use the toilet properly
- Begin to tidy away crayons, books and toys
- Encourage turn taking and sharing at home
- Play construction games, painting and colouring to improve visual, hand eye coordination
- Encourage them to “help you” to encourage them to follow instructions
- If reading a story, track the words with your finger –left-right orientation
- Encourage independence in preparation for September





# Life in the day of a Junior Infant

- Comfortable clothing/footwear
- Lots of activity and games
- Learning through play
- Aistear
- Going outside to explore
- Nature walks/outdoor classroom
- Hands on “work”
- Encouraging independence
- Development of social skills
- Informal learning – they won’t be aware of work – singing, story, drawing, environmental learning



# What is an Educate Together school?

- Non fee paying state primary schools
- Teach National Curriculum
- Staffed by professionally qualified teachers
- Have Boards of Management with strong parental representation

# What makes Educate Together schools different?

- Ethos: spirit, character, policies and procedures.
- Educate Together schools ethos based on equality, human rights and respect
- Motto :Learn together to live together
- Co- Educational
- Child Centred
- Democratic/Parental Involvement
- Multi- Denominational

# Multidenominational Education

- No child is ever placed in a position in which they feel themselves an outsider. No child an outsider
- Enables school to address the religious rights of all families without favour or discrimination
- Responsibility for religious formation is with the parents not the teachers
- ET school depends on parents who are happy that their child is exposed to other religions
- Parents who observe strict guidelines around their child's exposure to artwork, music or sport may be advised to choose a denominational school of their choice.

# Religious Education/ Ethical Education

- Ethical education programme taught in all Educate Together schools
- Learn Together Programme
  - 1) Moral and spiritual development: Right and wrong, informed moral decisions
  - 2) Equality and Justice: human rights, equality and democracy
  - 3) Ethics and the Environment: responsibility and stewardship
  - 4) World Religions and Belief Systems: explored in an educational, factual manner, celebrations, key figures, respect .

# The Curriculum

- 12 subjects taught in all National Schools In Ireland  
English, Irish, Maths  
History, Geography, Science (SESE)  
Music, Visual Arts, Drama (Arts Ed.)  
Physical Education  
Social, Personal and Health Ed. (SPHE)  
Religious Education (RE)

All Subjects taught at all levels: Big drive nationally to improve literacy and numeracy: Our school chose numeracy to highlight on for school year 2014-2015

Copies of the Primary School Curriculum available at [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie) and public libraries:

# Safety outside the school

- **If you are driving, go to Esker Lane rather than Castle Road**
- **No U-turns at or near the school gate.**
- **No double parking.** You must park legally, not at an angle and no double parking.
- **No parking that would block residents' gates**
- **If your children are small,** get out of your car and walk them down the path and through the school gate.
- **Teachers car park** is reserved for teachers and other members of staff only
- **The school is doing everything we can to keep your children safe, make sure that you are doing the same**
- **We will monitor the situation when we are on site and we ask that you co-operate with us when asked**

# Your Child's Teacher

- Junior Infants Red: Karen Morrissey
- Junior Infants Green: Aoife Burke
- Senior Infants Red: Gemma Stokes
- Senior Infants Green: Emma Stewart
- 1<sup>st</sup> Class Red: New Appointment
- 1<sup>st</sup> Class Green: New Appointment
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Red: Niamh Gallagher
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Green: New Appointment
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Red: Grainne Ring
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Green: Fiona McGreevy
- 4<sup>th</sup> Class Red: Liz Lehane
- 4<sup>th</sup> Class Green: Leah Burke
- 5<sup>th</sup> Class: Red: Paula Murphy
- 5<sup>th</sup> Class Green: Noeline Morgan
- 6<sup>th</sup> Class: Red: Evan Heneghan
- 6<sup>th</sup> Class: Green: Robert O'Brien



# Board Of Management /PTA

- Chairperson of the Board of Management: Ms Peggy Masterson
- Runs for four years, a new BOM was appointed in December 2011. This will run until December 2015
- PTA. All parents welcome to all meetings. Take place about once a month in the Parents room downstairs, usually mornings
- Run coffee mornings, treat sales book sales for kids, buy equipment for yard, womens' meeting, class photos

# Other School Staff

- Colette Kavanagh: Principal
- Tom Costelloe: Deputy Principal/HSLT
- 2 Assistant Principals Catherine and Gemma
- 5 middle management teachers
- 16 classroom teachers
- Two Learning Support/Resource teachers: Grace, Catherine and Deirdre
- Language Support Teachers: Carmen, Rebekah, New Appointment
- Three Special Needs Assistants: Catriona, Mary, Jayne, Jenny
- Suzanne: School secretary
- Barry :School Caretaker
- Daniela : Cleans the school

# What can I do to help my child do well in school

- Support your child's learning. NCCA website [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie) excellent tips
- Read with your child and to your child every day. Research shows leads to academic success
- Visit the library regularly
- Teach your child songs and nursery rhymes, in your home language and in English(if different)
- Do their words and reading with them when they start to bring them home
- Come to workshops and meetings when called by your child's teacher.

# More tips

- Involve your child in **everyday activities** like cooking, shopping, working in the garden, going to the launderette, and travelling on the bus. Talk to your child about what he/she is doing, sees, and how he/she feels.
- Give your child opportunities to use his/her **senses**—to see, smell, taste, touch, and hear different things.
- **Sing songs, tell stories** and **play games** with your child. Have **fun** together.
- **Talk** to your child. Encourage him/her to ask questions. Let your child know you don't always have the answer. Find things out together.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends watching **television**. Talk to him/her about what he/she watches.
- Look at ***Aistear: the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework*** for ideas about what you can do to support your child's learning and development.

# Invitation

- Invitation to new Junior Infant children (and their parents) to the school on Wednesday June 18<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm - 2.40pm
- Children will meet the teacher and the other children who will be in his/her class.

# Thank you

- Thank you for your attention
- Questions for me
- Looking forward to meeting your child on the Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June!
- Tom Costelloe: Home School Community Liaison