

Tel: 0539366998



29.08.17

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2018/19 School Year!!!

On behalf of all the staff of Boolavogue National School, I would like to welcome you all back to a brand new academic year! It is an exciting day for our school community as we open our new building. Fifth and Sixth class will become the inaugural set of students to occupy the mainstream room while Miss. Mullery's new support room also opens its doors for the first time. Our school first opened in 1958 and here we are, sixty years later continuing to grow in so many ways. Many thanks to all members of the school community for your patience during this building project and we hope our new students are very happy here!

Our enrolment figure continues to grow for the 2018/19 academic year, with 108 pupils now enrolled at our school. To all our new families joining us today, I would like to welcome you to our school community. We look forward to getting to know your child and working with you to develop each student socially, emotionally and academically in their primary education

It is our desire to keep parents fully informed of all that is taking place in our school. Our twitter page is regularly updated and our monthly newsletter will keep parents up to date on daily life at Boolavogue N.S. Our website also posts bulletins and regular updates at www.boolavoguens.ie. Attached, I have a 'Welcome Memo' which aims to serve as an update to parents regarding staff, general protocol and health and safety reminders as we begin the new school year.



Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office on 053 93 66998 or alternatively at principal@boolavoguens.ie. As a teaching principal, I will endeavour to reply to each email/call as soon as possible but often this will be after 3p.m. depending on the circumstance and I greatly appreciate your patience.

On behalf of all the staff at Boolavogue N.S., I wish you all a fruitful year and we look forward to working alongside you in the year ahead.

Kind Regards,

Avril Mullery

Principal



Welcome Memo



Change in personnel

Zara Gallagher	Junior and Senior Infants Assistant Principal II
Michelle Richardson	First and Second Class
Aoife Doyle	Third and Fourth Class Deputy Principal Deputy DLP
Mairead Boyle	Fifth and Sixth Class
Karen Cowman and Aishling Doyle	SET (Support teachers) *Job Share
Avril Mullery	SET (Support teacher) Principal **DLP- <i>designated liason person</i>
Emma Doyle/Sinead Dunne (Job Share) Loyola Meireles A.N. Other**	SNA Team
Sabrina Walsh	Secretary
Tom and Cathy	Caretaker/Cleaner

**Recruitment Procedures to be completed in coming weeks.

Opening of New Classroom

It is a monumental day today in Boolavogue N.S., after almost two years of contact with the Department of Education and almost 8 months of on-the-ground work, our new classroom, support room and P.E. storage room is now open. Fifth and Sixth class will lay claim to the title and become the inaugural class to occupy the building. Miss. Mullery will occupy a new classroom for support teaching in this building also.



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The structure also comprises of a filing room and p.e. storage room creating extra space around the school for our fantastic teaching resources.

What else has changed in school over the summer?

- A mobile interactive touchscreen whiteboard installed in the new classroom. This unit is on wheels and can be moved from point to point around the classroom/school with ease.
- Wireless Access Point installed in new building to provide better internet quality for students and staff.
- Archive room created in the new building for school files/teaching plans.
- A set of new blinds installed in the 1st/2nd classroom
- Two new laptops purchased for teacher planning.
- A set of 5 chromebooks bought for the school to aid teaching of groupwork activities i.e. group projects / scratch
- STREAM ROOM- round tables and ample storage makes a brilliant space for whole class group activities. The STREAM room also houses a library area for all classes. This will continue to be a work in progress over the coming academic year.
- Awards Display at school reception
- Fire proof filing cabinet bought for Child Protection files in line with new CP procedures.
- Painting of barriers on either side of school.
- School garden tidied and awaiting planting of daffodil bulbs in September.
- Additional seating purchased for students for lunch/break times.

Supervision

Please note that morning supervision begins at **9.10 each morning**. Children who are on school grounds before 9.10 are ***unsupervised and uninsured***. Therefore, we ask that children do not enter school grounds until 9.10 each morning as to do so poses a health and safety risk for children. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Parking

A reminder about road safety around the school – please do not obstruct the entrance to the car park or the sight lines at the entrance to Sunset drive when collecting or dropping children at the school premises. Please note that the pedestrian crossing is not a safe area to drop students and caution should be exercised around this area. Please use car parks as main point of drop off/collection and accompany your child to/from the school gate for health and safety reasons.



Electronic Bell timings for school year 2018/19:

- **9.20am** – school begins.
- **11.00am** – Break
- **11.10am** – Break Ends.
- **12.30pm** – Lunch.
- **1.00pm** – Lunch Ends.
- **2.50pm**- Preparation to go home.
- **3.00pm** – School finishes

New Mobile Phone Policy

The Board of Management of Boolavogue N.S. wishes to remind parents that a new mobile phone policy was ratified in the final term of the last academic year. Students are no longer permitted to bring mobile phones to school, on school trips or any extra curricular activity. This change came as a result of our schools child safeguarding statement in line with Child Protection Procedures. These policies and all other policies are available on our school website.

Healthy Eating Policy

A reminder that our school implements a healthy eating policy Monday- Thursday each week. Therefore, no sweets/chocolate/fizzy drinks are allowed on these days. Children are permitted to bring a small treat on Friday.

Uniforms

Many thanks to St. Cormacs' Parents Association for co-ordinating and ordering uniforms for the coming academic year. Again, it was a huge success and wouldn't run as successfully without the support of the Parents Association. Your hard work is greatly appreciated!!!

NEWB Attendance

If your child misses more than 20 days in the school year, it is a mandatory requirement that the information is forwarded to the National Education Welfare Board. We would ask that a short note be sent to your child's teacher with a brief explanation as to why your child was out of school e.g. illness/appointment be sent in with your child when they go back to school. Generally, there are good reasons why a child is missing school and it is mandatory that these notes are kept on file.



Garda Vetting

As you may be aware, new GardaVetting procedures were implemented over the course of the last three years. As a result, if you wish to help out on school/sports trips in the coming school year you must be Garda Vetted through the school. If you would like to help out with school activities please contact the school office to commence the vetting process. If you are Garda Vetted through the school from a previous year, please contact the school office to check if this is still valid.

Student Council

Here at Boolavogue N.S., pupil voice is very important to us. We look forward to an exciting year ahead as the school's first student council works alongside school management to improve various areas of the school community. Our student council was formed in Term 3 of the last academic year after an election campaign! Our staff are eager to hear what wishes the students have in the months ahead.

