

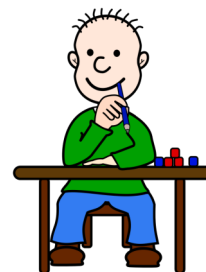


Dear First Class Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

In years gone by the biggest change in a young child's life was the day he or she started school. It often brought tears and a reluctance to leave the safety of home. Today our children experience education at a young age in pre-school settings and the transfer to primary school is more of a small hop than a big jump!

**Your son has now started first class and he is experiencing the biggest change in his education to date. This note will explain to you the new challenges that he now faces in his first year in a senior class.**

1. The school day is one hour longer and it can be very tiring. Sleep patterns can change.
2. The class work moves away from "play centred" to more formal work and the pace of learning speeds up a bit.
3. Teacher encourages our 1st class boys to be more independent and responsible. They are encouraged to look after their own books and belongings. Please continue this work at home.
4. The boys need to write down their own homework. This will usually be a small amount of reading, spellings and Maths. Encourage your son to keep his homework in a button down folder. **The Homework Journal should be signed nightly by parents.**
5. There is an emphasis in class on writing down answers to questions.
6. They learn a lot of new words in their Reader. The Maths jumps from only counting from 1 - 10 to 10 - 100 by Christmas.
7. First class are now on the Senior Yard. However because of Covid control measures they have their own sectioned off yard and soccer pitch supervised by an SNA /teacher at each break.
8. They will usually have one regular P.E. slot a week supplemented with ventilation breaks throughout the year.
9. 1st class will have representatives on the Green Schools Committee.
10. 1st class will also attend our Senior Assemblies each term with all other senior classes.



All in all it is a big change in the life of a small child. Some children adjust quickly while it may take others most of the year to adapt, mature and become more independent. At home please encourage as much independence as possible, make sure you stick to bedtime routines and do help and show an interest in your son's homework. Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours Respectfully,

Class Teacher - Mrs Sloan / Ms Monahan  
Class Support Teacher - Mrs McGrory  
Principal - Mr McGee