



Scoil Naomh Fhionáin

New Pupil Information Booklet



**St. Finian's N.S.
Spunkane, Waterville
Co. Kerry, V23 AX51
Tel: 066 9474685**

**Email: office@stfiniansns.ie – Website: www.stfiniansns.ie
Roll No. 16014A – Registration Charity No. RCN 20123444**

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to all pupils joining us in 2024 and to you, their parents/guardians. Starting school is an exciting stage in your child's life as they take their first step on the journey of primary school life. It is a milestone filled with enthusiasm and excitement and sometimes an element of trepidation!

During this school year your child will make new friends, enjoy new experiences and develop and acquire many skills. Working together with you, the parents/guardians, the staff of St. Finian's NS, aim to provide your child with a happy and positive experience, laying solid foundations for your child's continued education.

Preparing for the 'Big Day'

Talk about school casually and positively – as a happy place, where he /she will be welcomed and will meet new friends.

- Your child will require a school uniform, see Uniform Policy on website under tab policies/booklists.
- A school bag big enough to comfortably hold an A4 folder.
- Lunch box and water bottle.
- We recommend shoes/runners secured with **either straps or Velcro**, as laces regularly come undone.
- Your child's books will be supplied by the school. Stationery list is available on the school website under the tab Policies/Booklists.
- Please clearly label any removable items – coats, tracksuit tops, jumpers, stationery etc.
- Please contact the school office to ensure contact details and relevant information are up to date.

Please read the helpful hints and tips from the National Parents Council Primary to supports your child's transition from Preschool to Primary School.

https://www.npc.ie/images/uploads/downloads/HINTS_TIPS_8PP-am.pdf

Developing Independence

Please try to ensure that your child is as independent as possible. It will help your child greatly if he/she is able to:

- Button and unbutton his/her coat and hang it up.
- Use the toilet independently.
- Will flush the toilet and wash his/her hands without reminding.
- Can open and close the lunchbox as well as drink from a bottle.
- Share toys and play things with others and take turns.
- Tidy up and put away his/her play things.

The Big Day

School opens on:

***Thursday, 29th August 2024
9.00am-12.00pm***

Arrival

On the very first day of school, you are welcome to accompany your child to Ms O' Sullivan's classroom. From then on, all the children will line up in their class lines in the basketball court at the rear of the school. Parents are to drop children at the front gate and the children then walk to their class line.

Going Home

Please be on time for collection as children can get upset if you are not there to collect them. The teacher will bring the children to the front door. The teacher will signal to the parent when their child is ready to be collected. The child will then walk to the school gate.

If at any time the collection routine has to be changed, please tell the child and inform the class teacher by email in advance.

School Transport

Applications for bus transport or Remote Area Grant (for driving pupils) must be made directly through www.buseireann.ie

Lunches

The school observes a healthy eating policy. We encourage the children to include a piece of fruit in their lunch daily. Several items including fizzy drinks, crisps, sweets and chocolate are not allowed. Please see Healthy Eating Policy on our website for further information.

School Calendar

School calendar can be found on the school website under the tab Policies & Booklists and also on the Eolas App under Calendar tab when the new school year starts.

Special Arrangements

Thursday, 29th August – Friday, 6th September 2024

For these days Junior Infants will start at 9am and go home at 12 noon, as a full school day can be very tiring for them. The shortened day also helps them to settle in. Children will only require a small snack for these dates.



Attendance/Absenteeism

All pupil absences must be logged on the Databiz Eolas App. If withdrawing your child during the school day, parents are required to contact the school or email the class teacher in advance and to 'sign out' their child in the book on the table inside the front door.

School Uniform

School Uniform can be purchased at any Department Store. School uniform to be worn on the first day. Velcro Runners are preferable for infants, see the Uniform Policy on our website for more information.

Information regarding Back-to-School Clothing & Footwear Allowance can be applied for at services.mywelfare.ie.

Parents Association

The school's Parent Association operate a school parents Facebook page. Search for 'St Finian's NS Parents Association' and send a request to join.

Correspondence/ Fee Payment

St. Finian's National School's Admin System is provided by **Databiz Solutions**. All texting and correspondence from the school are done through this system. After pupil enrolment, you will receive notification from the school to download the Databiz Eolas App which will allow parents to receive school correspondence, arrange payment of fees, log pupil absentee reasons and give permission to travel to organised events.

Contact Details

Telephone: 066 9474685

Email: office@stfiniansns.ie

Website: www.stfiniansns.ie – Password: *stfinian*

Infant Teacher's Email: *yvonneosullivan@stfiniansns.ie*

Regular School Timetable

9.00-School starts

10.45-11.00-Morning Break

12.45-1.15-Lunch Break

1.45-Home time

Dates to remember:

- *Infant Induction Day: Thursday 9th May, 2024*
(Children from 2:00-2:45pm and Parents Talk in the Library at 2:30pm)

- *First day of school: Thursday, 29th August, 2024*
(9.00am-12.00pm)



“The more you read, the more things you will know, the more that you know, the more places that you will go...”.

For more information, please see school website www.stfiniansns.ie - password *stfinian*

St. Finian's N.S. Motto

Déan do dhícheall i gcónaí
Always do your best



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