



Information for parents of new Junior Infant Pupils

Welcome

San Carlo is a Catholic school but we welcome children of all religions and none.

Motto

Step To Success With Confidence

School Team

Board of Management, Administrative Principal, 10 mainstream class teachers, 5 Special Education Teachers, 6 Special Needs Assistants, 2 part-time secretaries, 4 part-time cleaners, one part-time caretaker. Parents Association.

Safety

You may not drive into the school car park, at any time, unless you have a permit.

Preparation for the big day/ helping to make your child independent

- Talk about school – positive things only
- Dress themselves, do buttons/zips
- Use the toilet, wash hands, share toys, tidy up
- Practice opening/closing lunch box, drink bottle.

On the day

- Bring your child to the classroom at 10.00 am on the 1st day and 9.30 am for next two weeks (The doors will not be opened for you before this time because we need to get all our other pupils safely to their rooms before there are other adults on the corridors). Leave quickly. Don't go to the window to wave goodbye.
- Lunch – we are a Health Promoting School so healthy food only. No chocolate, crisps, sweets or fizzy drinks. No nuts or spreads like Nutella because of nut allergies. No Frubes. If giving a yogurt you must give a spoon.
- Timekeeping – you or an appropriate adult known to your child must **collect on time**. If you are going to be late for any reason you must notify the school.

Helping them settle in, make friends, get used to school routines

- Talk to them – develop language, ask questions, don't use teacher or Principal as a threat.
- Develop their attention span – jigsaws, lego, colouring
- Children learn through play – dress up, small world, group games, limit ipads/tablets
- Listen to them, read to them, help them practice Nursery Rhymes
- Play games such as ball/catch to develop hand eye co-ordination skills
- Use of playdough /marla to develop strength in their fingers
- Organise play dates to promote friendships

No birthday invitations can be given out on school grounds.

- A list of emails of parents who wish to be contacted re birthday invitations will be compiled for each class .
- When asked for this please make the letters easily recognisable to avoid mistakes.
- Don't wrap in cotton wool: your child will get bumped into in yard, or pushed.
- Build resilience i.e. teach them to stay "Stop it, I don't like it when you do that. If you do that again I will tell teacher"

General information

- If your child is absent you must send in an explanatory note on the child's return.
- The Education Welfare Board must be notified by the school if your child is absent for 20 days or more over the whole school year.
- Uniform is generic and ties are available from the school at a cost of €5.50. Label everything.
- Homework – will be given later in the year.
- If you need to speak with teacher you must make an appointment. You cannot stop her at the top of her line. If it's a simple message e.g. child has a cold, just give a note
- Check your child's bag every afternoon/evening as there may be a note from teacher or the School
- Check hair frequently for head lice.
- Name and cover books. School bag to be big enough.
- Filling in the **contact detail form** correctly is very important.
- When the children are being collected from their line in the yard please stand well back so that I, or my Deputy Principal, can watch the lines. Please do not follow your child's line to their class room or cut through another teacher's line. This is upsetting for our young charges.
- **Discipline**
- We promote positive behaviour. The school has "Golden Rules" for the general school area and classroom rules as well. Our "Code of Behaviour" is up on our website sancarlojunior.org
- Teacher deals with discipline within her class. Teachers ask advice from Principal if a situation is ongoing. Teacher will speak to parents to see if light can be shone on why poor behaviour is happening. Some teachers operate a "Time out" or a "Thinking chair" option. Make an appointment to see teacher if you have a concern but know that teacher will be sending for you if there is any issue.

The Komeer App

This is how the school sends general messages home or sends alerts. Please sign up to San Carlo Junior school (senior school also use it)

Once again you are very welcome. And if you need anything at any time or want to speak to me, the Principal, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards

Catherine Diggins
Principal.