



# Assumption Junior School

## Newsletter September 2025



### Welcome to our New Pupils!

We were very excited to welcome 5 new classes of Junior Infants and lots of boys and girls across the other year groups, to the school this September. A big thank you to all our children's parents for making a great effort to have the children ready to come into school independently from the very first day. This is something that we have found has led to the children making the transition to "big school" much easier than in the past. On the first day our HSCL Coordinator Ciara Cole and our wonderful Parents' Association organised a lovely coffee morning for all our new Junior Infant children and their parents in the school hall. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend and there will be more opportunities during the year for parents to visit the school.



*Some of our new Junior Infant pupils busily working on their patterns.*



### Healthy Eating in School

We have a number of children across the school with severe nut allergies. For this reason, all our classrooms are nut free zones. We would ask you to consider this when planning your child's lunch for the week as products containing nuts will have to be sent home uneaten.

If your child is availing of the free school lunch, there is no need to send extra food to school with them. If you have an issue with your Glanmore App please contact Glanmore Foods at:

[customerservice@glanmorefoods.ie](mailto:customerservice@glanmorefoods.ie) or on 01 897 6026.

You can find our Healthy Eating Policy on our website here: <https://www.assumptionjns.com/healthy-eating-policy.html>



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### Safety in the School Grounds

It is great to see so many of our pupils walking, cycling, and scooting to school. We have provided bike and scooter racks at the front of the school and are currently having a second large bike rack installed. We remind you that all cyclists and people on scooters must dismount when on the school grounds. Due to the number of children on the grounds cycling and scooting pose a very real safety threat, especially to our younger children. Thank you for respecting this.

**Pedestrian and vehicular traffic have separate gates. Pedestrians should not enter through the gate nearest the Long Mile Road with the traffic barrier on it. This is only for cars.** We have a growing number of taxis transporting children to our special classes in both schools daily and they need to be able to enter and exit through this gate without encountering pedestrians.

**Our dedicated pedestrian gate is opposite the local Church and is the only safe way to enter the grounds.** A path from this gate leads directly to the school yard when the children enter and exit the school each day. Last term the Boards of Management funded the widening of this pedestrian path to further increase pedestrian safety and comfort, and we would ask that you respect this arrangement and continue to put pupil safety first.

Please never allow children to swing on the traffic barriers or to walk under closed barriers and never cross the perimeter wall to get into the school grounds. It is extremely dangerous and has led to serious injury in the past.

### Parents' Association AGM – Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Our PGA (Parents' and Guardians' Association) plan to hold their AGM in Assumption Junior School on **Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and contribute in a very practical way to the success of the school. The PGA will be holding committee elections on the night, but any parent can join in a voluntary capacity and help out in any small way during the school year.

There is not a huge time commitment involved in being a member of the PGA but an element of flexibility to attend termly meetings or help out at occasional events would be very welcome. PGA events are not held at weekends but more predominantly during school hours. This does not preclude anyone from volunteering as there are often other ways to help even if people are working. Our current members are a mix of working parents/guardians and stay at home parents/guardians.

If you wish to express interest in taking part or would like to ask any questions ahead of time, you can email the [pga.assumptionjns@gmail.com](mailto:pga.assumptionjns@gmail.com) or Ciara Cole our HSCL - Home School Community Liaison Co-Ordinator (parent support teacher), at [HSCL@drimnaghwalkinstown.com](mailto:HSCL@drimnaghwalkinstown.com)

### Punctuality

All children should enter the school through their designated doors up until 9am when the doors are closed for security. School staff are stationed on the class entrance doors up to 9am each morning. Please do not bring children to the front door before 9am. If you are collecting children early in the afternoon, please note that we cannot take children from class 10 or 15 minutes before bedtime as they will be in the middle of



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their tidy up routine and it will be quicker for you to collect them from their line. If you have an appointment, you will likely know this in advance so can message your child's teacher the day before and they can make sure your child is sent to the office for their collection time.

### Spooktacular Sponsored Walk!

Our annual Fancy Dress Sponsored Walk will take place on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (weather permitting). All children and staff are welcome to wear fancy dress to school that day. We will send home sponsorship cards on October 1<sup>st</sup> with all children. This is our big fundraiser for the year, and we appreciate any small contribution that families can make. However, we do not want any family to feel pressure to contribute if they are not able to do so this year. Further information will be sent via Aladdin. Thank you for your continued support.

### Communication with Teachers

Parents may message their child's class teacher using the Aladdin Connect App. This is a useful way to arrange meetings and pass on information. Absences should not be sent in messages to teachers but rather recorded in the attendance section of the app. In accordance with the EU Working Time Directive Aladdin messages to teachers will only be delivered between 8am and 4pm on school days. Please note that due to teaching time and meetings teachers may not see messages until after the school day has ended. If you have any urgent messages, it is best to contact Jenny in the school office about this.

### Upcoming Events

- **Optional Pupil Flu Vaccinations: October 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Please see your Aladdin noticeboard messages for information on how to book a vaccination for your child.
- **School Photographer: October 6<sup>th</sup>.** Lafayette Photography will be in the school taking photos of all the Junior Infant and Autism Class pupils. No obligation to purchase, further information will issue.
- **Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> the school will close early for staff training:** 11:30am for our autism classes and 11.45am for our mainstream classes.
- **Assumption Junior Maths Week: October 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>.** We will be looking at all things maths in a fun way this week. Lots of Halloween themed maths learning experiences for all the children.
- **Fancy Dress Day: October 23<sup>rd</sup>.** All children may come to school in fancy dress on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please ensure that your child is wearing something warm and has suitable shoes (runners for example), to wear on yard.
- **Spooktacular Sponsored Walk:** Our annual sponsored walk will take place on **Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Sponsorship cards will be distributed early in October. This is our main fundraiser for the year. Please return all sponsorship cards by October 23<sup>rd</sup> and a big thank you for your continued support.
- **School Closed for Polling:** The school will be closed on **Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>** for the Presidential Election.
- **Halloween Midterm Break:** The school will close at the normal times on **Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>** for the midterm break. It will **reopen on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the normal times.

*A copy of our school calendar can be found on our website: <https://www.assumptionjns.com/calender-202526.html>*