



Hansfield

Educate Together National School
Barnwell Road, Hansfield, D15.



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The first two school terms in Hansfield 2016/17 have been really fantastic! The children have learned so much and have progressed in such a happy way. Their progress of course is due to the many helpers that we have in our school; Parents, Bernie, Cuiditheoiri, Teachers, Students' Council, SNA's, Cleaners, Aleks our Caretaker, Bus Escorts, Bus Drivers, Maria, our Lollipop lady, BOM, GAA, Fingal Mobile library and our PTA. Well done to everyone! We are still short a few helpers with traffic at "Drop off" and "Pick Up" times and we would love to have more parents coming into the classes helping out with the children's learning. If you would like to help in any way, please talk to Fergal.

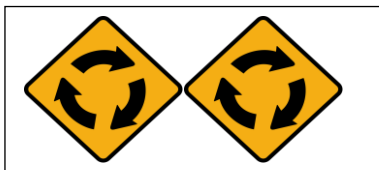
Our **ATTENDANCE RECORD** in Hansfield is super and parents really do make a huge effort that making sure that their children are in school every day - unless of course that the children are ill! During the past term we have improved hugely with both attendance and punctuality. Attendance for our school is now at 92% overall and we are aiming to be the same as the best schools in Ireland who are at 96%. Look at our chart in the hall to see the attendance of your child's class.

Punctuality has improved hugely also - Well done mums and dads! There were NO "late Letters" sent home for the past 2 months! Remember the 3 things that you can do to be on time every day 1. Give jobs to your child to do in the mornings. 2. Set your alarm clock for 10 minutes earlier. 3. Prepare lunches before going to bed.



In preparation for the new school year 17/18, we will be sending out **RESOURCE MONEY** envelopes this month. The children will have all their textbooks and equipment in place for the first day back in September and parents are saved the headache of visiting bookshops! The amount remains at €150 for Junior/Senior Infants and €200 for all other classes (6 X swimming classes). The envelopes will be handed out on Thursday April 27th and we would ask you to return them please to your child's class teacher before Friday 9th June. We can set up a payment plan to make it easier for parents who have more than one child in school. Arrange a meeting with Fergal to organise this. Many thanks everyone.

We ask parents to PLEASE show good example to the children by using the **pedestrian crossing** in our school. **Motorists cannot see people** crossing the main gates because the gate pillars are in the way. It does take longer to use the pedestrian crossing but it will also take a long time to recover from an injury if you are struck by a car. Please think also about the car driver's feelings if they knock down a child or a parent/minder. Let's keep up our "Perfect" safety record by thinking of others.

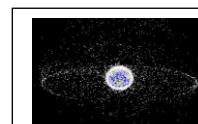
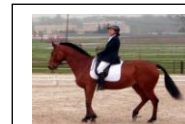


Some parents like to park around the roundabout at the end of our Set Down zones and there is no difficulty whatsoever in doing this. We would ask you however, to please consider the other parents trying to get past your car by leaving enough space for them to do this. And if you are "stuck" for a few minutes, please be patient or . . . better still, why not help out by becoming a traffic volunteer?

The children from Busy Bees, the primary school, all the staff members and 6 painters (who accidentally set off the alarm!) lined up safely at the Assembly Points in less than 4 minutes during **this term's Evacuation Drill**. This is an incredible achievement for a primary school - congratulations to teachers and pupils. Have you an evacuation plan in place in your home in the event of a fire, carbon monoxide alert, security or other emergencies?

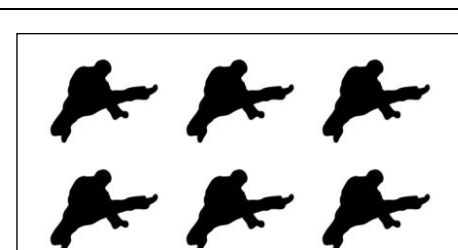
Term 2 ends this Friday 7th April at 12 noon and reopens for Term 3 on Monday 24th April @ 8:30am

Our wonderful PTA have done it again! They organised some lovely family fun events during the first 2 terms and raised enough money to invite interesting visitors into our school to help the children have a lot of fun learning different things; Astronomy Ireland, learn-It-Lego, Horse riding, Mobile Reptile Zoo, Woolly Wards Pet Farm, Singing Workshop, Skipping Workshop and “Briks-4-Kids. Each class will see 3 visitors. Go raibh Maith agaibh PTA ☺



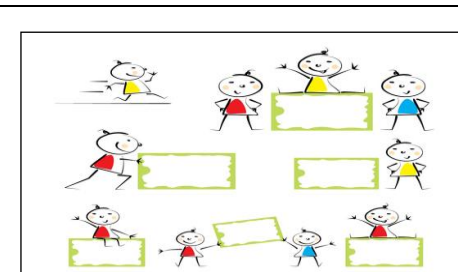
A big “Thank You” to all the teachers who are delivering the “**FUN FRIENDS**” programme to Stephen, Joe and Roseanne’s second classes this term. This programme trains the children how to solve difficulties that they may come across, how to recognise their feelings and deal with them in a confident way. This programme will be followed up next year in 5th class with “Friends For Life”.

Hansfield’s **STUDENT COUNCIL** meet every month and did a great job recently with Emily delivering the “Food Dudes” boxes to each class. The Council is an essential aspect of our school’s ethos as it encourages our students to become Lifelong Active Citizens in any community to which they may belong. Helping with the Educate Together AGM and organising the Green Schools initiative are the next projects for the SC.



All the children attending **TAE KWON DO** classes in our school were recently awarded their YELLOW BELTS following their first grading. Well done and congratulations to all the children, their parents and their coaches. This is a great hobby to learn balance, rhythm, discipline and an awareness of our body’s potential and limits. If you would like your child to take part in the classes during Term 3, you should phone Gerard on 087 7587032 for more details.

Fingal CoCo visit our school every second Tuesday in their **MOBILE LIBRARY BUS**. Every child visits the bus and chooses an interesting book to read in school. There is also a library trolley in every class and a school library upstairs which will receive an exciting “facelift” soon. Parents should encourage their children to read at home EVERY day and visit Blanchardstown library. Remember that there is a direct link between regular readers and successful learning.



Every pupil in Hansfield ETNS is entering an ART COMPETITION this week. “**Having fun learning in school with our friends**” is the theme and the winning entry in each class will have their work of art posted on our school’s website. The overall winner will be really delighted with the prize because his/her entry will be published in our 17/18 Students’ journal for all 500 pupils, 1,000 parents and 50 staff members to see! **That’s 3,100 eyes** admiring the winning entry!

If you have an hour to spare after “Drop Off” time in the morning or before “Pick Up” in the afternoon, you might like to get some fresh air and do some weeding/litter picking around the school. Because our school’s site is elevated and exposed, the wind constantly blows litter around the grounds. We can give you a litter picker, gloves and



Chairperson: Brian Campion Principal: Fergal Collins Acting Deputy Princip

a bag and you could be out in the open air for a peaceful hour while helping the school at the same time ☺

Each class will be going on an educational excursion during Term 3. Parents will be given the itinerary beforehand and asked to discuss with their child the importance of behaving in a safe way on the bus and at the venue. While there will be a small charge to cover the cost of the bus, the cost of the venue is included in this year's Resource Money. We will post photos of the all the exciting activities on our website. Bon Voyage everyone!



The parents and their children beginning Junior Infants in September are invited to visit our school on Thursday 18th May from 3pm - 4pm for our **OPEN DAY**. While the children are playing in the classroom supervised by teachers, Fergal and Lisa will go through a few important points with the parents in the hall on how best to prepare during the summer holidays so that everyone will be ready for school on Thursday 31st August. Any outstanding documentation can be given to Bernie on that day and our PTA will also be in attendance to take school tracksuit orders.



Because "End of Year" learning Progress Reports are confidential documents, we will only **hand the reports to PARENTS**. These will be handed out at "Pick Up" time on Wednesday 14th June. Parents can collect their child's report from Bernie's office after that date. Please keep your child's report in a safe place for future reference.

Our school has been asked to host the Educate Together AGM on Saturday 20th May and we are very excited that representatives from every Educate Together school in Ireland and the UK will be visiting us. We are really proud of our teachers, pupils, parents, our building and the fantastic learning that takes place. The AGM is a great time to celebrate everything we do so well and we are going to have our building sparkling inside and out on the day. If you would like to help before or on the day, please contact Sali or any member of the PTA who will be delighted to make you part of their team. 087 4690912



You may have noticed that there are some weather instruments fixed to the walls at various points inside and outside our school. These are very interesting because with the information that they give us, we can predict the weather and then we can plan what clothes to wear, what food to eat and which activities to do - thermometer, barometer & hygrometer. Very soon, Aleks is going to install our school's very own weather station. It will sit on top of the canopy over the front door and it will be connected to a tablet in the library from which we can read all the information such as wind speed, rainfall, wind direction, temperature, pressure, moisture etc. WOW! It all sounds very exciting and so interesting.

There are only a few places left for the famous **MEGAMIX Spring Camp**. It runs from Monday 10th April to Thursday the 13th April - 4 days of fun for €50 with the second child from the same family only costing €25. It runs from 10am to 2pm each day with a Megamix of Sport, Art and games. Please return forms to Joe by Friday 7th April.



We would like to welcome our new teacher **Bernadine** and all the new pupils who have enrolled in our school recently. We hope that you will have fun learning with your new friends and your teacher - **Liam** in Niamh C's 1st Class, **Nirmith** in Gillian's JI Class, **Jake** in Niamh's 3rd Class, **Harika** in Sophie's 1st Class, **Adam** in Gillian's JI Class, **Evan** in Stephen's 2nd Class, **Justin** in Jennifer's JI Class and **Abin** in Elaine's 4th Class. **Céad míle fáilte romhaibh go léir agus tá súil againn go mbainfidh sibh an-taitheamh as an tam a mbeidh sibh in ár dteannta.**

