



## **End of Year Letter – June 2015**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of yet another school year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your help, support and interest this year. We have had another very busy and successful year in school and you, as partners in the education of your children, deserve much of the credit for that.

Please read the following letter as it contains important information for next year. Throughout the summer you can also keep checking the website: [www.robertsonns.ie](http://www.robertsonns.ie). I hope to keep it updated during the holidays.

You can also keep up to date by following updates on our Facebook Page.  
[www.facebook.com/robertsonns](http://www.facebook.com/robertsonns)

### **Dates**

Last day of term	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June (School closes at 12.00 noon – <b>Barbecue &amp; Fun Night @ 6 p.m.</b> )
School re-opens	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Half-Term	School will be closed for the week beginning Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October
Christmas Holidays	Last day of term – Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December (closing at 12.00 noon)
Term 2	School will open again on Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January

### **Class Arrangements for September/Staffing**

At present this is how I expect the classes in school next year to be arranged:

Mrs Patterson:	Junior Infants, Senior Infants & 1 <sup>st</sup> Class (21)
To be decided:	Second & Third Class (17)
Mrs. Somerville:	Fourth, Fifth & Sixth Class (25)

As soon as I possibly can, I will let the parents of the children in Second and Third Class know about arrangements for the coming academic year.

Mrs McMorrow will be leaving us this year as she has been redeployed to Sligo. We thank her for all her work and support over the past two years.

We also thank Miss Browne for her hard work and all she has brought to our school this year.

### **Infant Day**

Until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, the Junior Infants will go home at 12.30 p.m. From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September, the Junior Infant Day ends at 2.00 p.m. Senior Infants will go home at 3.00 p.m.

Thank you to all our Junior Infant parents this year for their prompt pick ups at 2.00 p.m. It has made a huge difference to the other children in the room and I know that their Senior Infants will benefit greatly from that extra hour of attention next year.

### **Book Rental Money**

Thank you to everyone who has already paid their book money. It would be much appreciated if all book money was paid before the end of term. We have tried very hard this year to ensure that the book rental costs have not increased. Thank you also to the children who have taken such good care of their books this year.

### **Volunteers**

We were fortunate to have many volunteers in the past year who gave of their time to help with activities in school. In particular, I would like to thank Leah Love and Jackie McGlinchey for their regular help in school.

I would also like to thank Mrs Esther Russell for her help with R.E. in the Senior Room and also for the other activities she has supported us with in school this year.

For the new school year, we are again looking for people who would like to help. In particular, those who would like to do some reading activities/craft work/cooking etc. would be very welcome.

### **Uniform**

Please ensure the children have navy trousers or skirts and **black shoes (no trainers or shoes with white soles or trims)** to wear with their burgundy jumpers. Thank you for your support of this during the year.

On P.E. days, the children should wear their navy P.E. sweatshirts and plain navy tracksuit bottoms (**no stripes or logos please**).

Please make sure all uniform items are clearly labelled. There are several jumpers and sweatshirts at school which have not been claimed by anyone.

We are also asking that, for Health and Safety reasons, jewellery is not worn at school. (Exceptions to this rule are tasteful stud earrings and wristwatches).

### **Attendance/Absences**

The average attendance in school this year was 97.6%. Your help in ensuring that appointments etc. are arranged outside of school hours when possible and bringing children into school before and after appointments is much appreciated.

If a child is not coming to school, please ring or send a note with a sibling. It is school policy to contact parents at 10 a.m. if we have an unexplained absence.

Please note that parents are **legally obliged to provide a written explanation** for children's absences. A written note is required even when we have been informed by telephone or by a sibling.

**As Principal, I have a legal obligation to report all children who are absent for more than 20 days in a school year and also those children whose attendance is erratic or giving the school cause for concern, whether they have missed 20 days or not.**

## **End of Year Show**

Thank you for your support of the End of Year Show – you were a great audience. We hope you enjoyed the evening. There are photographs in the Gallery. DVDs of the show are available for a donation of €5 to school funds.

## **Photographs**

You may have noticed lots of photographs of the children on display around the building last week. Please feel free to take them home for your albums and photo frames. All we ask in return is that you would make a small donation to school funds to cover the costs of having them printed.

## **Sports Day**

Thank you to everyone who came along to watch the races and take part in the activities on Sports Day. We had great fun. There are photographs in the Gallery.

## **Thank you**

We are very fortunate to have a number of people who work tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that our school is able to do its best for your children. All of these people give their time, energy and enthusiasm, often working unseen, unnoticed, above and beyond what is asked of them and to them we say thank you:

The teaching staff, not only for their dedication to teaching, but also for the care they give the children and their own individual contributions to creating a warm, welcoming and vibrant school community;

Mrs. Cathrena Duncan, for the support she has given the staff this year and for all the work she has done in the school office;

Mrs. Muriel Mitchell not only for her outstanding work in keeping our school clean but also for the many little things which she has helped with this year;

Mr. Ezra Mitchell for all the many things he has volunteered and helped with throughout this year;

Mr. John Barnett for his continued help in the garden and for all the support he gives us in school;

Mr. Noel Given for his work in the school grounds this year;

The P.T.A. for the fantastic efforts they have made on behalf of all the children this year;

The members of our Board of Management for their help and support.

We are very grateful for all you do for us. Thank you!

## Congratulations & Best Wishes

Congratulations to all those who have had new additions to their families this year.

## Head Lice

We have had few outbreaks of head lice this year and we would love to keep it that way so can I please ask that every child is checked and treated over the holidays? The chemists have a range of shampoos that will successfully clear up any infestation.

**Please do not send your child to school if you suspect they may have head lice and please bear in mind that it is very frustrating for everyone if untreated heads are re-infecting other children on a regular basis.**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Class

Good luck to all of our 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils as they leave to start at their new schools.

So, to...

**Laura, Michaela and Karl** who are starting Coláiste Cholmchille, Ballyshannon,

**Ryan and Drew** who are starting the Abbey Vocational School, Donegal and

**Louise** who is starting Drumragh Integrated College, Omagh

...we send our very best wishes and will look forward to hearing how you are getting on.



Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer holiday. Have a great time making memories with your children.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Somerville  
Principal