INFORMATION EVENING

Welcome to Coláiste Bríde

Introduction

Kiera O'Sullivan Principal

Julie Duggan Year Head

Niall Moynihan Deputy Principal

Coláiste Bríde

- First Year Information Evening

  May 1st 2019
- Phone: Email: office@colaistebride.ie
- Website: www.colaistebride.ie

Mission Statement

"We are working to promote a secure and caring community environment, where respect, responsibility and Christian commitment grow; drawing forth the positive potential of each individual."

Basic Information

- 697 Students
- 60 Teachers

Supporting your Child in their Transition to Post Primary

First Year Support Team:

- Year Head: Julie Duggan
- Assistant Year Head: Deryck Connelly
- Guidance Counsellor: Aishling McDonald
- Learning Support Co-ordinator: Louise Murphy
- Class Tutor & Subject Teachers
- Principal: Kiera O'Sullivan
- Deputy Principal: Niall Moynihan
- Meitheal Leaders

Assistant Year Head

- Your daughter's Assistant Year Head, Mr Connelly, will monitor attendance and conduct academic tracking for the Year Group.
- If your daughter has not presented an absence or late note to the office they will be called to the office to explain the situation to Mr Connelly.

Special Educational Needs

- Our SEN support team is led by our SEN co-ordinator Louise Murphy and learning support co-ordinator Niamh Duggan
- The team is supported by class teachers and our SNAs Avril Lynch, Mary Wickham and Bride Kinsella.
- If your daughter/ward has any special educational needs, and if you have not done so already, please contact our SEN co-coordinator, Louise Murphy, as soon as possible.

Subjects for First Year

Your daughter is part of the first year group who will take all subjects as part of the new Junior Cycle.

- English (4 class periods)
- Irish (4)
- Maths (5)
- History (3)
- Geography (3)
- Religion (3)
- Art (2)
- Business (2)
- French (3)
- German (3)
- Home Economics (2)
- Music (2)
- Science (2)
- Well-Being (Well-Being, PE, SPHE & CSPE) (5)

Junior Cycle Wellbeing

There is a requirement on all schools to provide students with 300 hours of timetabled Wellbeing classes over the three years of their Junior Cycle.

Wellbeing is made up of:

- 2 classes of PE each week,
- 1 class of Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)
- 1 class of CSPE
- 1 class with their class Tutor.

Wellbeing: Class Tutor

The Tutor will provide a pastoral care support for the student and will help them with the transition from Primary to Secondary.

In the first few weeks students will follow a Transition to Secondary School programme in their Wellbeing/Tutor class.

The Tutor will also monitor your daughter's school journal and provide guidance and support in relation to their journals.

Timetable 2019/2020

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45					
9:25					
10:05					
10:45 to 11:05	Break				
11:05					
11:45					
12:25					
13:05 to 13:45	Lunch				
13:45					
14:25					
15:05					
End of Day	15:45	15:45	15:45	15:05	15:05

Lunchtime Activities

This year the following lunchtime activities took place:

- Book Club
- Move it Monday
- Maths Club
- Library
- Rounders
- Knit-n-knatter

Sport at Coláiste Bríde

- Camogie
- Football
- Soccer
- Hockey
- Basketball
- Athletics

We also support participation in:

-Golf

-Swimming

-Equestrian

Meitheal in Coláiste Bríde

The **Meitheal Programme** is an anti-bullying & mentoring programme. Fifth Year students receive training to equip them with the skills to become mentors for incoming First Year students. It is a programme based on pro-respect within the school community, and one that enables students to take responsibility for the happiness of others and for the safety and well-being of all who share our school environment.

Applicants who are chosen to become Meitheal Leaders undergo a two day training programme in the summer prior to their return to school the following September.

Three Meitheal leaders are assigned to each First Year class and will support first years from their first day in Coláiste Bríde.

Meitheal Activities

- Assist the Year Head with the induction of First Years on their first day.
- Organise a tour for the year group in September
- Meitheal leaders spend time in the 1st year base area during morning break, especially in the first weeks
- Organise Friendship Week
- Organise in school activities such as quizzes
- School Tour in May

First Day at School

- First Years will start school on Thursday the 22nd of August.
- On the first morning all First Years will have an assembly with their Year Head in the Lunch Hall.
- The Year Head will provide them with their Locker, Journal & Timetable.
- After the small break the First Years come meet their Meitheal leaders.
- Their Meitheal leaders will give students a tour of the school and help students to become familiar with their class group.
- Ice-breaker games are played within each class to help them to bond and to get to know each other.

Second Day at School

- Friday, August 23rd.
- In response to student and parent feedback we have decided to introduce a second induction day for First Years.
- This will help to alleviate anxieties that students have around the whole process of starting in secondary school.
- This day will involve going through our procedures, expectations and rules in more detail.

Education Passport

Over the next few weeks your daughter's primary school will complete an Education Passport for your child.

This will assist us in making the transition as smooth as possible.

The *Education Passport* materials are available to view at www.ncca.ie/transfer and include a

- *6th Class Report Card My Profile* sheet for children
- *My Child's Profile* sheet for parent(s)/guardian(s)
- A *Special Educational Needs Summary* form will be added to support the sharing of information for those children who have identified learning needs.

Education Passport
Pas Oideachais
Supporting your child's transition from primary to post-primary school
Ag tacú le haistriú do linbh ón mbunscoil go dtí an iarbhunscoil

My Child's Profile

To be completed by **parent(s)/guardian(s)**

Your child will soon be moving from primary school to post-primary school.

As part of your child's Education Passport we invite you to add information about your child by completing this form.

Please complete and return to your child's primary school principal **within five working days.**

This is my/our first experience of a child starting in post-primary school. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

Child's name _____ **Primary school name** _____

Child's home language(s) _____

1. In school, my child enjoys... / **Ar scoil, baineann mo pháiste sult as...**

2. Outside school, my child enjoys... / **Lasmuigh den scoil, baineann mo pháiste sult as...**

3. My child sometimes needs help with... / **Teastaíonn cúnamh ó mo pháiste ó am go chéile le...**

Uniform

- Navy jumper with red stripe approx. €40
- Plaid school skirt cost approx. €65 - €75 or school trousers €35 - €40
- School Jacket €50, Initials €5
- Each of the above are available from Burke O' Leary's and Mat Mernagh's, Enniscorthy.
- White shirt
- Red Tie
- Navy socks or navy tights
- Plain navy or black shoes (runner or canvas shoes are not allowed)

Uniform continued

- Uniforms will be available to order from 15th June.
- School trousers must be ordered before July 1st.
- The skirt can be bought second-hand.
- PE uniform consists of a navy tracksuit and white t-shirt.
- A school crested hoodie is **not** part of either the school or PE uniform and students are **not** permitted to wear a crested hoodie in school.

Book Rental

- The cost of Book Rental for First Years is €145.
- If you are in receipt of a medical card it is €110.
- The total cost if you were to purchase all the books yourself is €283.39.
- Complete the Book Rental application form and return by Friday June 7th.

Book Rental

- The book rental scheme is available to all incoming first years. It includes most of the books and materials that the student needs for her first year in Coláiste Bríde.
- The bundle includes a number of workbooks e.g. History, Irish, Science and Business. These books do not need to be returned.
- The art pack includes sketch pads, pencils etc. – everything the student needs packed in a convenient art box.
- The maths pack includes a calculator, mini-white boards and maths set which the students keeps as her own.

Locker & Journal

All students require a locker and a school journal:

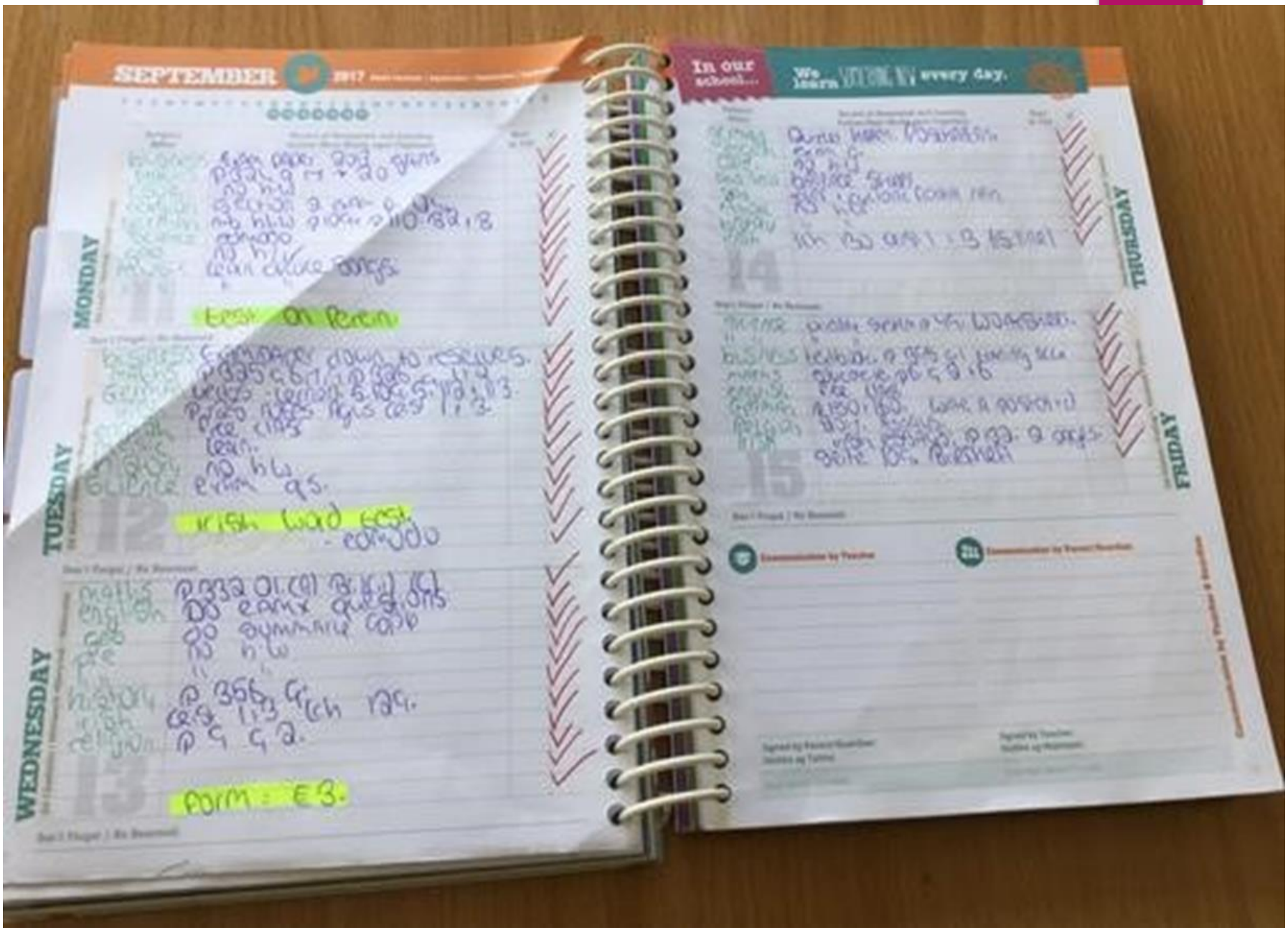
- €35 to be paid on the first day of the school year to the Year Head.
- €10 will be refunded at the end of the school year if the students locker is returned clean and undamaged.

Communication

- School Journal: main form of communication between home and school
- Texting system to parents
- Phone calls and appointments
- Due to teaching commitments the Year Head or teachers may not be in a position to contact you back immediately.
- School Reports
- VS Ware
- Digital Newsletter,
- www.colaistebride.ie...information on our school and all our school's policies are available on our website

School Journal

- The school journal is the main form of communication between home and school.
- Students use it to write in all their homework and as a calendar for upcoming events such as tests.
- Towards the back of the journal is a section where teachers record discipline issues such as a student having no homework or no books.
- Notes in relation to absences or lateness should be written in the appropriate sections of the school journal. These notes must be dated and signed to be accepted.
- The journal should be signed each week by a parent/guardian. This will be checked and countersigned by the class Tutor.


SEPTEMBER
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
In our school...
We learn every day.

Signing Out

- Students are not allowed leave the school grounds or absent themselves from class without permission.
- Breaches of this are dealt with very severely as it is extremely important that your daughter is where she is supposed to be at all times.
- We have a duty of care to your daughter and it would be negligent of us to not enforce this.

Signing Out continued

- If your daughter is feeling unwell she should inform her teacher and go directly to the office.
- The office will contact you immediately.
- If your daughter is feeling unwell and needs to go home then she will have to be collected from the school.
- If a parent or guardian is unable to collect her and you make alternative arrangements you should inform the school of who will be collecting your daughter.
- This is important to ensure the health and safety of your daughter.

Signing Out continued

- If your daughter has to sign out for an appointment, etc they must show this note in their journal to their Year Head to be countersigned before 11:00 am each day.

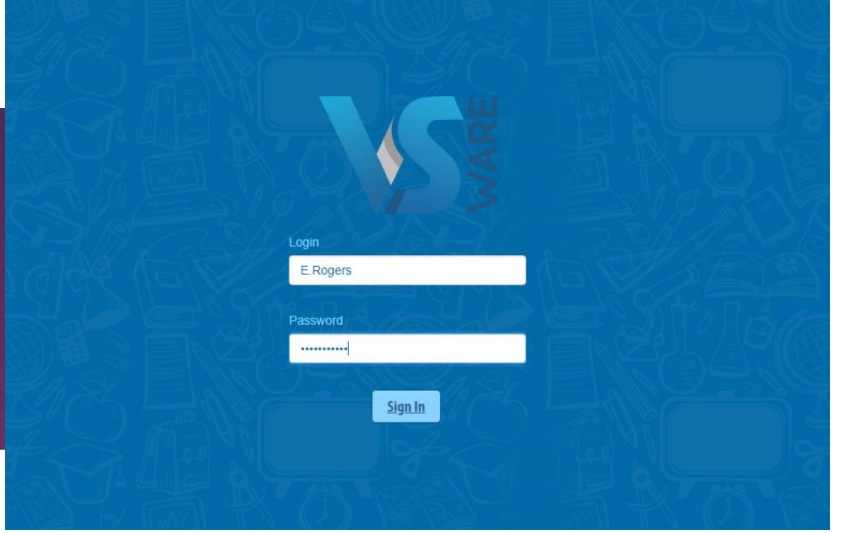
Mobile Phones

- Students are permitted to bring mobile phones to school.
- Phones can only be used before school, at break, lunch and after school. They are not be used between classes.
- Phones may used in some classes to support learning under the supervision of a teacher but only with that teacher's permission.
- To help First Years to socialise and to make friends they will **not** be permitted to use their phones at break or lunch for the first two months of the school year.
- The focus of this new rule is not to punish but rather to encourage students to talk to their new classmates.

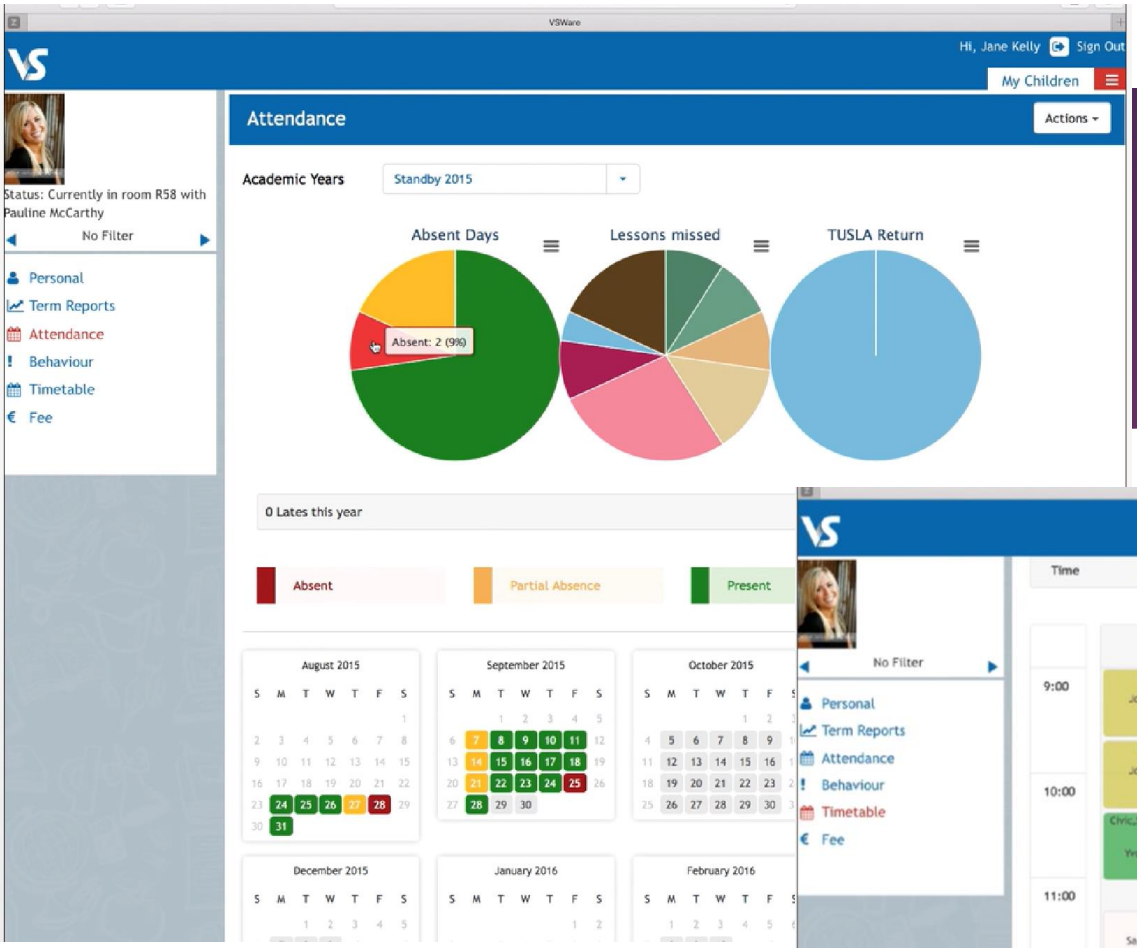
Mobile Phones continued..

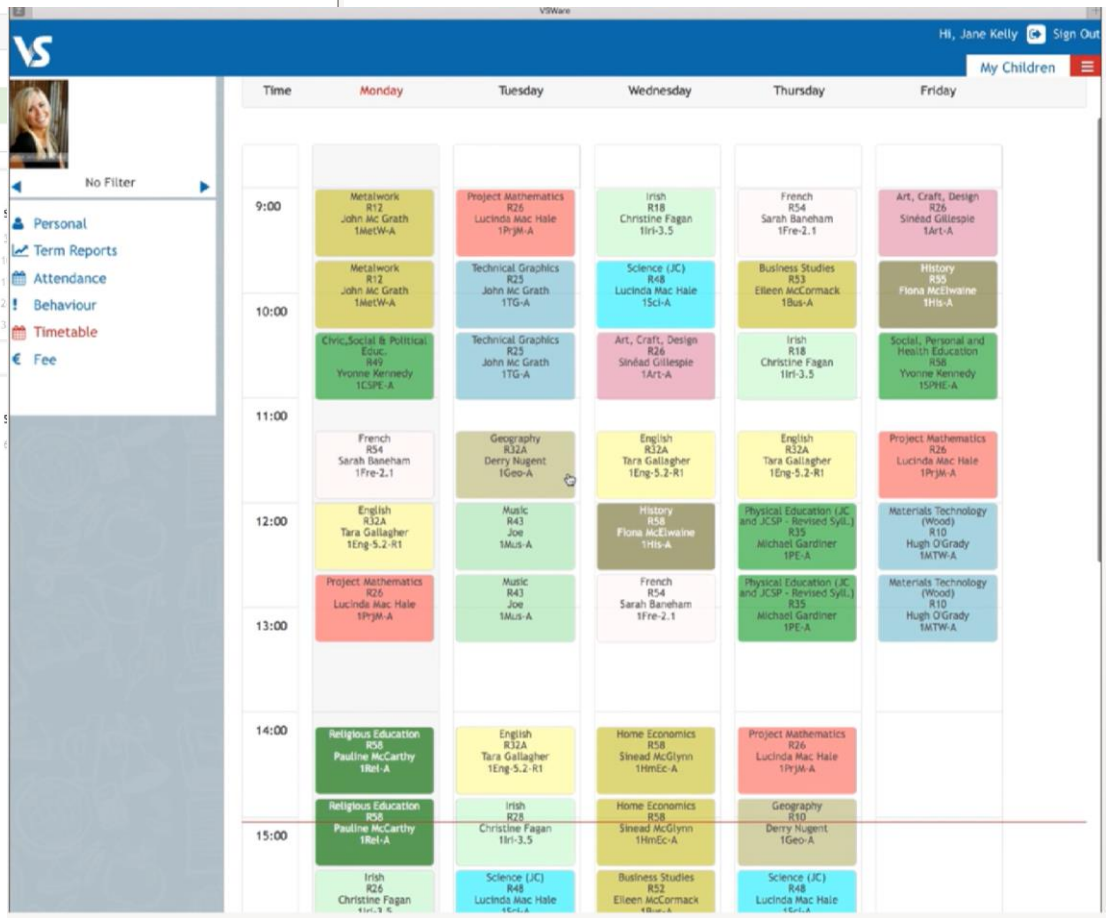
- We would encourage parents to **not** text students during the school day. If there is an emergency contact the office.
- We would also encourage parents to not allow students to have devices in their bedrooms at night, this has impacts on their sleep and on their general wellbeing.

VS Ware



- VS Ware is the administration software programme the school uses.
- Details about your daughter such as their timetable, attendance and Christmas & Summer test results will be available on VS Ware.
- Payments can be made through Vsware but online payments include a Vsware administration charge .
- In your pack you have been provided with an individual login and temporary password.
- VSWare is accessed through the school's website.


VSWare
Hi, Jane Kelly
Sign Out
My Children
Attendance
Actions
Academic Years
Standby 2015
Absent Days
Lessons missed
TUSLA Return
Absent: 2 (9%)
Status: Currently in room R58 with Pauline McCarthy
No Filter
Personal
Term Reports
Attendance
Behaviour
Timetable
Fee
0 Lates this year
Absent
Partial Absence
Present
August 2015
September 2015
October 2015
December 2015
January 2016
February 2016


VSWare
Hi, Jane Kelly
Sign Out
My Children
Time
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
No Filter
Personal
Term Reports
Attendance
Behaviour
Timetable
Fee
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
13:00
14:00
15:00

Division of Classes

- Secondary school provides your daughter with an opportunity to make new friends in a new learning environment. It is a fresh start in a new class, with new girls from a large number of primary schools.
- First years adapt really quickly to their new classes and classmates.
- However, if you feel that it would be absolutely vital to your daughter's well-being and happiness, we can place her in a class with a friend.
- Alternatively if you feel that it would be absolutely vital to your daughter's well-being that she **not** be placed in a class with someone we can address this also.

Voluntary Contribution

- Parents are asked to contribute an annual voluntary contribution to make up the shortfall in the funding that the school receives.
- Parents' generous support plays a vital role every year in ensuring that our students benefit fully from the high quality teaching and learning environment in the school.
- Contributions from parents allow us to provide services such as our student wellbeing area, the school library, retreats & wellbeing days, internet safety talks, study skills talks, extracurricular activities, class set of ipads, etc.
- The voluntary contribution costs for next year are as follows:
    - One daughter €100
    - Two daughters €150
    - Three or more €200

What happens next?

- Book Rental Forms returned with payment by Friday 7th of June.
- You will receive a reminder text in August regarding the first day of school and the €35 for lockers and journals.
- This can be paid online through VSware
- Thursday 24th of August First Year Induction Day 1.
- Friday 24th of August First Year Induction Day 2.
- First Years are off school until Thursday 29th of August, on that date all year groups are back in school.
- In September we will have an information night for parents on how to support students after the initial few weeks.

Student's Responsibility

- Be in school every day – attendance and punctuality are crucial
- Always do your best
- Be prepared for each class
- Abide by the Code of Behaviour
- Our school's ethos places great value on being respectful to every member of our school community. It is expected that students treat their fellow students, staff and guests with respect and courtesy at all times.

Final thoughts

- Support your daughter by checking the school journal regularly.
- If there are problems contact the specific Class Teacher or the Year Head.
- Information may be found on the School website
- Encourage your daughter to get involved in as many school activities as possible.
- Be positive! Try not to worry about the transition.
- We really look forward to welcoming your daughter here and we will do everything we can to help your daughter enjoy her time in Coláiste Bríde and to achieve her academic potential.

Mission Statement

"We are working to promote a secure and caring community environment, where respect, responsibility and Christian commitment grow; drawing forth the positive potential of each individual."

Questions