

# SECOND YEAR NEWSLETTER

October 27th, 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM YEAR HEAD

Welcome to our Second Year Newsletter. It's that time of year again where students, staff and parents are all looking forward to the mid-term break. It's been 9 weeks of hard work and plenty of activities to enjoy along the way. The 2nd year students have done exceptionally well to navigate their way through their new timetables, adjusting to new teachers and picking up where they left off in their subjects from last year.

A reminder to parents that:

1. Absent notes need to be uploaded on VShare so that they can be authorised by us.
2. If a student is leaving for an appointment or returning to school from an appointment, they need to sign-out and sign-in at reception. It should also be recorded by the parent on VShare.
3. All behaviour issues are now recorded on VShare -parents/guardians should check this feature regularly to keep track of how their child is doing.

On return from the October Mid Term break, students need to get into a good routine of completing all homework and learning and studying their subjects each night in preparation for their upcoming exams at Christmas.

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## HOMEWORK

In terms of Homework, we expect that there is a genuine attempt made by the student to complete the homework to the best of his/her ability and to submit the work at an agreed time. Homework is a very important part of learning. It helps us;

- build on what we have learned in class
- practice skills
- ensure we understand new topics/concepts
- prepare for the next class
- prepare for examinations

The Homework Journal:

Is the place where all homework is recorded. Homework is recorded at the end of each class and students have been reminded that there are many different types of homework. Parents and guardians should ensure that the student completes all homework to the best of his/her ability and should sign the students journal each week.

Second year students should be completing approximately 1.5 hours of homework a night.

If there is a problem completing homework parents/guardians should inform the teacher of any difficulties by means of a written note in the journal.

There is no such thing as no homework - students are encouraged to revise what they would have covered in class that day. The topics/concepts covered in class should be written into the journal as a reminder.

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## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AND THEIR LEARNING

St. Caimin's Community School has a number of resources on their website that might be useful to parents/guardians in supporting their child and their learning and their wellbeing. These include:

Learning 2 Learn Resources: Learning to Learn aims to strike a balance between the development of subject knowledge, thinking abilities and key skills enabling students to develop a number of essential learning habits such as:

- Checking and Reflecting (making links, setting targets, question and extend learning)
- Framing Learning (identify learning and make connections)
- Collaboration (Give and receive help, listen actively, express opinions and be a leader)
- Problem Solving (spot patterns, take notes and research)
- Working Independently (organise information, be accurate, use resources and persist at a task)

Learning to learn is supported through a variety of activities in St. Caimin's Community School. For more information follow this link: [Learning 2 Learn | St.Caimin's CS \(saintcaimins.ie\)](https://www.saintcaimins.ie/learning-to-learn)

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Resources: The SEN Department have created a Padlet wall with information and supports available for various learner and in particular those with additional needs. To access these resources please follow this link: [SEN | St.Caimin's CS \(saintcaimins.ie\)](https://www.saintcaimins.ie/sen)

Wellbeing: The school's wellbeing committee have gathered resources to help with mental health and the promotion of student wellbeing. Information on the various initiatives coordinated by the wellbeing committee will also appear on this page. To access these resources please follow this link: [Wellbeing | St.Caimin's CS \(saintcaimins.ie\)](https://www.saintcaimins.ie/wellbeing)

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## Homework Club

St. Caimin's homework club is up and running. Students attend this club 1 and a half hours after school Monday to Thursday. The club is facilitated by staff. Peyton and Megan attend the club every day and are benefitting in all subjects.



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### **William is back!**

The highlight of the school year for 2023 was the return of our wonderful classmate. During the 2022 school year William spent a long period of time in the children's hospital in Dublin. We are all so happy that he is back and is in good health, enjoying school life with all his friends.



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### **Silverware for our students!**

Congratulations to the Newmarket on Fergus GAA U14's boys team for winning their County Final on Saturday the 21st of October! Some of our 2nd year students had big contributions on the day as Newmarket were crowned U14 B Champions beating a valiant Broadford side 5-10 to 2-13. Pictured below are some of our 2nd year students from the day.



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## Maths Week 2023

Last week we had our annual maths week in the school! We had a variety of activities for the students to participate in such as bingo and guess how many! We had a lot of students take a guess at how many treats were in the jar which was located outside of Ms Dalton's and Ms McSweeney's office by reception. Plenty of students were close but there could only be one winner.... 2nd Year's Eoin Murphy! Congratulations to Eoin on guessing the correct amount of treats in the jar and thank you everyone who participated throughout the week! Pictured below is Eoin Murphy and Principal Ms Sheehan posing with the jar of delicious treats!



Wishing you all a great mid-term and a happy Halloween!!



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