



Get them excited for school!

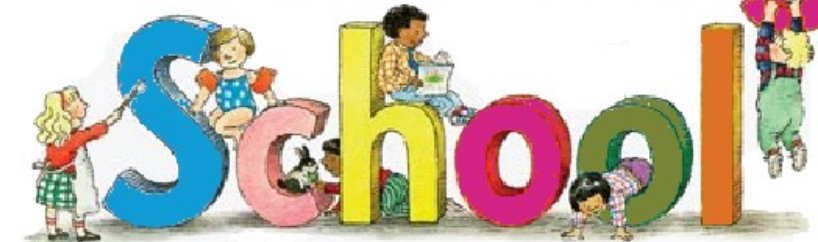
Toilet Train- so they can use the toilet independently, if possible



Read to them- foster a love of books



Give them opportunities to practise taking turns and also to play independently



Help them to use a knife and fork



Teach them how to put their shoes on (velcro is best!)



Teach them to put on and take off their own coat

Make sure they can open their own lunch box



Practise taking off and putting on PE kit



How to prepare your child for starting Primary School



Show them how to hold a pencil correctly.

Start teaching them to write their own name



Start practising how to use scissors safely.

Label everything with your child's name, including shoes!



Newport | NS

OPENING TIME:

9:20am

CLOSING TIME (Infants):

2:00pm

CLOSING TIME (others):

3:00pm



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Dear Parent / Guardian

Welcome to Newport National School.

We are delighted that you have made the decision to enrol your child in our school.

Newport NS is a kind, caring school with a great reputation for enabling all children to meet their potential. In this booklet you will find some advice which should help your child get off to a great start!

Eóin Browne
Principal



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There is no need to teach letters and words to your child before they start school; however, you can help stimulate your child's learning abilities in the following ways:

- Talk to your child and listen.
- Read to your child and enjoy the stories. Don't try to get them to read. They will do that when they are ready.
- Nursery rhymes are a great help and are enjoyable.
- Scribbling and colouring with chubby crayons (on paper of course).
- Playdough, Jigsaws, Lego, Duplo etc.
- Playing with sand and water.
- Cutting out—using safe scissors.
- Setting the table—counting the spoons etc.
- Sorting and matching—socks etc.

PROBLEMS

If your child has a problem with any aspect of school life, either classroom or playground, please talk to your child's teacher. You are always welcome, but the best time is after 2.00pm when the children are gone home. Please make an appointment with the school secretary.

FOLLOW UP

When Junior Infants are happily settled in to school life, the class teacher arranges to meet all parents to give an overview of the programme being covered. He/she will address any question that you might have.

WEBSITE

Our website is updated regularly and all details on policies and events can be found there.

UNIFORM/CLOTHING

Pupils must wear school uniforms at all times.

Our generic uniform consists of:

- a white shirt, navy jumper/cardigan, grey trousers, pinafore or skirt, striped tie and dark shoes. Our school uniform is widely available. Ties can be purchased directly from the school for €3 each.
- NOTE—Pupils in the ASD Explorers Class who are part of our Early Intervention programme do not wear the formal uniform, but wear navy tracksuit bottoms and plain white polo shirt

P.E. gear:

Children wear blue polo shirts, navy sweatshirt and plain navy tracksuit pants on P.E. days.

Please label all items of clothing clearly with your child's name.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

School Lunches are provided, free of charge, to all the pupils of our school. The daily lunch consists of a sandwich or bread roll (with choice of filling), a piece of fruit and an additional item such as ayogurt drink, bag of raisins or carrot sticks. Water is available from a water cooler in each classroom - your child should bring in a suitable beaker or bottle, and should also bring in a lunch box, to bring home any uneaten items.

For health and safety reasons the following items are not allowed:

foods that contain nuts/nut products or eggs/egg products, confectionery, chewing gum, fizzy drinks, crisps and glass bottles.

**The first day at school
Can be hard for Mum and Dad.
Part of you feels excited
The other part feels sad.
For many years you've held their hand
And have been their loving guide.
Now the time has come
To leave them at our side.
But it is only for a little while
As your child will learn and grow,
And at the end of every day
They will share with you all they know.
So as you walk away,
Don't worry anymore.
We'll take care of those precious gifts
When you leave them at our door.**



GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Try to make your child as independent as possible by helping him/her to:

- (a) be able to use the toilet, clean himself/herself and wash & dry hands without help;
- (b) be able to put on and take off coats and to manage zips etc.;
- (c) be able to open and close schoolbags, lunchboxes, drinks containers;
- (d) be able to recognise their own belongings;
Please label all clothing, bags, lunchboxes etc., as many of them look identical;
- (e) be able to use a tissue.



THE FIRST DAY

Please bring your child to the class on time. Give a hug and say that you will be back at the proper time to collect. Then leave! Do not hang around as this can upset a child. Almost all children are busy and happy within minutes of their parent leaving.

Please be back on time to collect your child. For the first few weeks your child will have a short day in school, finishing at 12.30pm for an initial settling-in period. After two weeks, the children will go on to the full infant day—9:20am—2:00pm. We would ask that parents take special care when driving on school grounds, and only use the parking area in the left hand playground, and always accompany their children between the car park and the school itself.

BOOKS and STATIONERY

All school books, copy books, workbooks and basic stationery items are provided for each child by the school, courtesy of the new Government Book Grant. These will be ready for the children on their first day of school

PLAYGROUND

Infants generally share a yard space with the Senior Infants children.



Regular movement breaks are scheduled for children during the day.

Breaks are from 11am to 11:20am and from 1pm to 1:20pm

HEALTH

Please inform teacher in September if your child has any health problem we should know about—e.g. eyesight, hearing, toilet, asthma, allergies etc.