

# C.B.S. SCHOOL NEWS

## OCTOBER 2025

### Halloween School Holiday

School will close on Monday, 27th of October and re-open on Monday, 3rd of November.

### Normal school closing hours on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October (No Half-Day)

#### Attendance

We want to remind parents that the Attendance Policy and strategy are being updated, and our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) is Ms. Sinead McCourt. Attendance is being monitored, and issues will be raised early to try and reduce absenteeism. We are also encouraging families to please take holidays during school holiday periods and not during term time. The loss of school days due to holidays throughout the year is significant.

#### School Absence Procedure

When a child is absent from school, parents/guardians are asked to please send a note of explanation to the class teacher using the **Aladdin Connect System** only. This is essential to complete the Daily Attendance Roll.

#### Bí Cineálta/KiVa

We had our Anti-Bullying week, it focused on increasing awareness and understanding around the term 'bullying' and our focus on repairing relationships and being kind. The term bullying can sometimes be overused, and it helps when everyone understands what bullying is, how to identify it and also what steps to take to prevent it. If you haven't already read our policy, please do so when you can, it is available on our website. This helps us ensure that our message is being shared throughout our school community.

#### Mobile Phones

Please remember that there is a **ban** on mobile phones at our school. Phones are not permitted under any circumstances, any abuse of this rule will be dealt with under our Code of Behaviour and AUP policy.

#### Junior Infant Enrolment

Our enrolment process is open for Junior Infants 2026. If you or a friend would **like** to register a child, please fill in the pre-enrolment form as soon as possible. This online form is available through our website. [Enrolment - CBS Primary School \(cbsprimarydundalk.ie\)](https://www.cbsprimarydundalk.ie): The child must be 4 by 1st of July 2026. Places are limited, therefore please fill in the pre-enrolment form which is available on our website.

#### Parent/Teacher Meetings 2025

We plan to have our Parent-Teacher meetings on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> & Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> of November. We will use the **Aladdin Connect System** to organise the meetings; you can book a slot through the app and arrange meetings for siblings. More details on these meetings will be provided closer to the time. We understand that some parents require individual meetings rather than joint meetings. If you need a separate meeting this can be arranged for you.

#### Important Notice: Child Safety & Traffic Congestion

Parents are kindly asked to observe the ONE-WAY SYSTEM in front of the school and **not** stop in the middle of the road, as this causes long tailbacks. **Please park up and collect your child/children.** Also, **do not** park in front of the barrier or on the hatched box. The safety of the children, especially in the mornings and after school, is vital. Please also advise your child to cross at this place, we have had a couple of children run between parked cars which is very dangerous. The Park 'n' Stride scheme is open please apply [Park N Stride - Louth County Council](#)

#### Home School Liaison Co-Ordinator

Our H.S.C.L. Mrs. Maria Doyle is available to help, her details are available on our school website.

### Winter Weather

With the seasons changing, we ask that children come to school with a warm coat/raincoat. We will try to take children outside as often as possible throughout the winter season, and a coat will keep them warm and dry.

### CBS Flag Day

This year, our Annual Flag Day Collection takes place on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of November. This event raises vital funds for our school sport/games & equipment. If you are available, even for an hour, please volunteer your time to help collect. Mr. Jones is organising this Flag Day, and we would appreciate your help and support. We used last year's funds to buy P.E. equipment.

### First Holy Communion & Confirmation Dates 2026 (In St. Patrick's)

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| ✚ Confirmation    | Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> of April at 11 am |
| ✚ First Communion | Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> of May at 11 am     |

### Early Collection

Parents are asked not to collect their child/children from school before their home time, as it disrupts the class and unsettles the children; please make appointments for after school. **A form must be completed at the office before a child can leave the school and a copy of the child's appointment must also be provided.**

### Care of Hair

Please check your child's hair for head lice regularly, as head lice is a national problem. Pupils who are infected should be treated at home. We insist that long hair is tied back or plaited because it is difficult to control head lice, and keeping hair tied back is the best way to reduce infection. Also, can we remind you that extreme hairstyles and highlighting are not permitted.

### Shoebox Appeal 2025

We will be taking part in the Christmas Shoebox Appeal again this year. Shoeboxes can be donated in school or online, we will have more details when we return after the break. Details on getting your Shoebox ready can be found at: <https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/ways-to-build-a-shoebox/>

### School Lunches

We are in the process of tendering for our school lunches. The Student Council are helping us with this. They will be bringing questions to the companies and sampling the food. We are delighted that our School Council are having an active part in choosing the right lunch company for our school.

### Halloween Dress Up Day

Children are encouraged to dress up for Halloween on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October. As previously communicated children are welcome to wear their own clothes or PE uniform instead of dressing up. No implements are to be brought to school as part of costumes, please read the previous letter regarding Halloween celebrations sent out last week.

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN EVERYONE**

