

Robertstown National School

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Newsletter No 18

3rd February 2021

Admissions

The closing date for applications for enrolment in September 2021 is tomorrow, Thursday February 4th. Late applications will be considered where there is space in the class. Application forms are available on the school website or you can email the office at <u>robertstownns@gmail.com</u>

Zoom Calls

The staff and Board of Management have considered the use of Zoom as a tool for delivery of live sessions between students and teachers in the school during this period of remote teaching and learning. Following a serious hacking incident in a school within the county, which resulted in a Garda investigation last week, Zoom calls were suspended until we considered the safety risks attached to the use of Zoom within a school context. We have provisionally decided that we will resume Zoom calls between teachers and children after the Midterm break to allow for additional staff training. There will be changes in the manner that parents log into calls to enhance security of calls to the highest levels and minimise the threat of any hacking. Parents will be required to give permission on Aladdin for their children to use Zoom this week. Further guidance will issue next week but all parents are asked to set up their own Zoom account this week. When calls resume, you will only be able to log onto the call if you have a Zoom account of your own. We are aware that both children and staff really enjoyed the class and individual / group calls and don't wish to lose out on this opportunity for connection and support in the weeks ahead. Parents have the right to decide if they wish their child to join in class Zoom calls or not. Communication will continue on Seesaw as it is at present.

You are advised to check out information about Zoom on this link before you give permission for your child to use Zoom going forward. You can also set up your own free Zoom account at this link.

https://zoom.us



William O'Donoghue Acting Deputy Principal

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Grainne's Art Activities

Gráinne is putting together a fun-filled pack of activities for St. Valentine's Day for all pupils. The activities will be posted to the school website in the morning.

Children are invited to send in photos of their creations for our website by Wednesday 3pm. Please indicate that you wish the photo to be posted to the website. Have lots of fun and feel free to add your own twist to your masterpiece.



School Re-opening

We are still awaiting news from the Government about when school will reopen. Details were issued last week about special schools reopening and special classes attached to mainstream schools reopening but we have no details about the reopening of mainstream school yet. I will update you when we receive any further information.



William O'Donoghue Acting Deputy Principal