



St. Farnan's Post Primary School
Prosperous, Co. Kildare



WELCOME TO ST. FARNAN'S!!!

We hope to share with you
some thoughts on how
parents/guardians and the
school can work together to
help 1st years settle in.

THINGS STUDENTS FIND DIFFICULT WHEN MOVING FROM PRIMARY TO POST PRIMARY!

- ✓ The number of teachers they have.
- ✓ New subjects.
- ✓ Changing subject every 40 minutes.
- ✓ Managing a locker and combination lock.
- ✓ Finding their way around the school building.
- ✓ Bringing all their books, copies and equipment to each class.
- ✓ Following a timetable.
- ✓ A longer school day. They will be tired!
- ✓ Larger amounts of homework and homework at the weekend.

WHAT CAN YOU AS A PARENT/ GUARDIAN DO TO HELP?

- ✓ Encourage your son/ daughter to make a good start to each and every day. Arrive on time to school each morning and keep good attendance.
- ✓ Each evening talk to them about their day/ school and how they are getting on.
- ✓ Encourage good behaviour and know the code of behaviour for the school.
- ✓ Set a regular time that your son/ daughter will do their homework each day. This includes a place that quiet for them to work.
- ✓ Show an interest in their work and give them praise.
- ✓ Encourage your son/ daughter to attempt any homework they find difficult and to ask the teacher to explain it again the next day.
- ✓ You should check your child's journal each day and initial the day once they have completed their homework. The journal should then be signed at the end of the week. Keep an eye out for notes from teachers and merits.
- ✓ Get to know your child's Tutor, Yearhead and the Home School Community Liaison Coordinator. All of these individuals are there to help you and your child during their time in St. Faman's.

HOW TO GET YOUR CHILD OFF TO A GOOD START!

- ✓ Get off to a good start in the morning
- ✓ Get up at the same time each school day.
- ✓ Have a good healthy breakfast.
- ✓ Bring enough packed lunch for small break and lunch.
- ✓ Make sure they have all their necessary equipment with them each day.
- ✓ Encourage an early regular bedtime.
- ✓ Clearly label all of your son/ daughter's school items; books, copies, jumper, jacket etc.
- ✓ It is the school policy that mobile phones are not allowed. If your child has to bring their phone they must hand it up to the office on arrival to school and collect it on departure. For those that don't need it Leave it at homeit makes life easier for everyone!



HOW TO GET YOUR CHILD OFF TO A GOOD START! (CONTINUED...)

- ✓ Encourage involvement in one of the many teams and extracurricular activities that are on offer in St. Faman's... This is a great way of making friends!!!
- ✓ As a parent you should consider joining the Parents Association. It's a great way to have an impact on your child's school life.
- ✓ Why not check out all the free parents courses and information talks the Home School Liaison (HSCL) Coordinator puts on for parents/ guardians. It's a great way to meet other parents!! Courses range from maths to first aid to parenting to lowering teenage anxiety. If you have, any ideas of courses you would like provided let the HSCL Coordinator know.



SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: WHAT TIME DOES SCHOOL START AT?

A: School starts at 8:50am each morning. Registration takes place from 8:52am until 9:00am.

Q: WHAT TIME DOES SCHOOL FINISH?

A: School finishes at 4:00pm Monday to Thursday. On a Friday school finishes at 1:20pm.

Q: WHAT TIME IS BREAK AND LUNCH?

A: Break time is at 11:00am and students have 20 minutes. Lunchtime is at 1:20pm and students have 40 minutes. Breaktime and lunchtime are supervised by teachers each day. Food can be purchased in our school canteen or students can bring a packed lunch.

Q: HOW LONG IS A CLASS PERIOD?

A: Each class period is 40 minutes in duration. Some subjects have double periods which would be 1 hour and 20 minutes.

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SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (CONTINUED...)

Q: HOW DO I KNOW WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS?

A: Each subject has a unique equipment requirement. Your timetable will tell you what subject you have. You will be given an equipment list before you start in St. Farnan's and this tells you what you need for each class.

Q: WHO CAN I ASK FOR HELP?

A: Your teachers are always there to help. You also have a class tutor that looks after you and a yearhead. Also, don't forget your class Prefects (students from sixth year) they have been in your shoes once and know how you are feeling and can be a great help. You can also ask Mr. Little (Home School Coordinator), Caroline (School Completion Coordinator), Annette (Counsellor) or Ms. Cleary (Guidance Counsellor) for help.

Q: WHAT DO I DO IF I AM LATE?

A: Don't worry we are all late at times. Just make sure it doesn't happen all the time !!! If you are late you go to the main office and sign a book called the 'sign in' book. This lets us know you have arrived. You must remember to sign in for health and safety reasons.

Q: HOW DO I SIGN OUT TO GO HOME EARLY?

A: If you are feeling unwell or have to go home for an appointment you have to sign out of the building. You need to bring a note in your homework journal if you have an appointment and show it to your yearhead. Your yearhead will then sign you out in the 'sign out' book. You must be collected in the office by a parent/guardian.

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

School Phone Number	(045) 868 152
School website	www.stfarnans.ie
Andrew Little (HSCL Coordinator)	087 755 4770
Caroline Cooke (SCP Coordinator)	087 249 9734
My Child's year head is...	