



## Parent Bulletin

14<sup>th</sup> August 2024

### Dear Parents and Guardians

We hope that you all had a pleasant summer, and we look forward to welcoming your children back soon.

Please see some important information before the start of the school year:

### School Books

A reminder that **first, second and third year** students will be provided (on loan) with their books and most of the stationary that they need for the school year. Exam papers will also be provided. They will need to get their own pencil case, pens, rulers, erasers, calculator etc. (Book grant/rental scheme is no longer in operation for junior students as all books will be provided. Students can collect their pack of books and stationery on the first day they return to school.

Parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> years- please can you donate your child's first year maths and Irish books if you haven't done so already. Thank you.

**TY, LCA, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year** students will need to buy their books as normal.

### VShare App

We will be communicating with all parents and guardians via the VShare app from now on. Please ensure that you have the VShare app downloaded onto your mobile devices. You should also ensure that you have given VShare permission to send you notifications so that you receive pop ups from the app for events like reports etc. You can fill out absences on vshare app also. You can access guides on how to set up VShare here: <https://support.vshare.ie/en/guides-for-parents>

If you face any issues with logging in or remembering your username, please contact the school and we'll be happy to help you.

First year parents will receive log in details over the next few days.

## **Uniform**

Thank you all in your support regarding the school uniform. If anyone needs spare uniforms, please get in touch with the school.

## **Lockers**

Lockers will be available for any students who wish to rent one for the year (€20) this can be paid on the school's website. Easy payments.

## **School food fobs**

Students who already have a fob can reuse these this year. First year students will get their fobs when they start. Anyone who has lost their fob may purchase one from the school canteen (€5)

## **School lotto**

Our school lotto prize fund is now €2500.

We would love if parents could support us with this by signing up to buy one line a week for €2.50 or three lines for €5 through the following link:

<https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/ramsgrangeecs>

The funds raised will be used to improve our facilities and your child's learning experiences through investing in exam furniture, upgrading the walking track and improving our school's technology. Please share this with family members and friends of our community.

## **Heating upgrade**

Our heating upgrade is currently underway, it will be finished by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Please note there is **no access to the school building** before then.

## **New and updated policies**

Please see our new **Administering of Medication** policy on the school website. If this policy is relevant to your child, please fill out the form at the end of the policy and return it to the school's office.

Our new homework policy is also available on the school's website.

## **PE Uniform**

The PE uniform is a plain White t-shirt and a plain navy tracksuit bottoms/ shorts.

PE uniform can be worn only during PE class, students must change before and after PE class. (note change from 2023 policy).

## **Dropping off times**

To minimise traffic and maximise safety we are asking that parents stick to the car drop of times of 8.30 to 8.45. Buses will drop off between 8.10 and 8.30 each morning. Please do not stop on the yellow boxes or park on double yellow lines. Please reverse park where possible.

## **Phones**

Mobile phones are banned throughout the school day. This is having a hugely positive impact on the atmosphere and interaction between students. Please phone the office if you urgently need to contact your child during the school day. If your child must leave early for an appointment, please fill out the section in the school journal the morning before they come to school or use the vsware app.

## **Vaping**

Vaping is strictly forbidden anywhere on the school grounds. Students found vaping will be sanctioned and parents will be notified of same. We will be running information campaigns throughout the year on the dangers of vaping. Please can you speak to your child about these dangers also.

## **Nut allergy**

There are several students with nut allergies in the school. Please be mindful if sending food in with you child.

## **Buses**

Bus Eireann will operate from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. We would suggest that 1<sup>st</sup> year students may need a lift home that day as they will be given all of their books and equipment that day. Any bus related queries please contact Bus Eireann school transport directly.

## **Student services charge**

Please can all parents/ guardians pay the student services charge on the Ramsgrange Community School website. This charge is vital for the running of the school. €60 for one child, €110 for two children and €150 for three children.

**Student 24-hour Insurance**

This cost €5 and can be paid on the website also.

**Important upcoming dates**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 1<sup>st</sup> years 8.50 to 10.50 (snack provided) 1<sup>st</sup> year Parents coffee morning at 10am (Library)

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, LCA 2 years 8.50 to 10.50 (please bring snack)

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, TY, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Years 8.50am until 1.10pm  
(Canteen open from today)

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August LCA 1 will start. All other year groups as normal. 8.50am until 1.10pm

Best wishes for the coming year,

Kind regards,

Tracey Edwards

Principal