



Loreto Secondary School Clonmel

Coleville Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Tuesday 15th August 2023

Letter re: Start of School Year for First Years
First Day in School: Friday 25th August 2023

Dear First Year Student and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to all our new **Loreto First Year Students**. On Friday 25th August, the first official morning in school for First Years, students will get to know people they have never met before. So, each of you will be in the same position - **feeling nervous and excited on your first day**.

Information about the day you start in Loreto

Friday 25th August (morning only)

8:50am to 9:48am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear either your pinafore uniform or your trouser uniform.You will meet your Year Head, Class Tutor, Cairde Team (6th Year student leaders).During this time, you will have a "getting to know each other" session and meet staff, SNAs, students, and also find classrooms and bathrooms.<i>Note 1:</i> the earliest you may arrive is 8:30am and the Cairde Team will meet you at the gate and accompany you into the school.<i>Note 2:</i> Parents/Guardians are asked to park in Suirside Car Park and walk across the bridge to school as there is no car parking on the site.
9:48am to 10:46am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Working with our IT team of teachers and student Cairde Team.
Break Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will bring your snack to Lower Tinsley Hall with your Cairde Team.
11:01am to 11:59am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Working with our IT team of teachers and Cairde Team.
11:59am to 12:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tours and locker allocation.
12:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be COLLECTED FROM SCHOOL by your parent/guardian (as you will have a heavy load of books to bring home with you!).<i>Don't forget to bring a school bag <u>plus an additional supermarket bag</u> with you to carry the books home!</i>Parents/Guardians will meet their daughter at the Sports Hall door.

Arrangements for Monday 28th August to Thursday 31st August

All First Years are in class each day from 8:50am to 3:33pm. *Note:* students who have registered for Afternoon Study: Study does not happen this week (it begins the following week).

Friday 1st September

First Years **ONLY** have a day off.

Year Head	Ms Niamh Barry reception@loretoclonmel.ie or 052 6121402
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School Day	Monday to Thursday 8:50am to 3:33pm	Friday 8:50am to 2:25pm
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What to bring to school

On Friday 25th August First Years will **only** need to bring the following **clearly labelled with their name**:

- Device that Wriggle will have delivered to you (you may wish to consider putting a protective cover on this before your first day in school). **Please ensure that the device is fully charged before arriving to school on the first day** and then leave the charger at home so that it does not get lost.
- Two Copies (no particular number of pages).
- Pencil case (with basic supplies, for example: pens, pencil, sharpener and eraser).
- Spiral key chain (or key ring) to keep your locker key safely (perhaps attached to pencil case or uniform).
- **Reusable water bottle** and a snack for break time.
- You will be bringing books home with you so you will need to bring a school bag plus an additional supermarket bag for this!



From Monday 28th August onwards please bring the same as above but include your lunch. Then over the next few weeks teachers will explain what you will need to bring each day.

Afternoon Study

Students can opt-in to afternoon Study. To opt-in you simply pay for this on the [Easy Payments for Incoming First Years](#) section of our website. Any student who is registered must also sign up to the Afternoon Study's Code of Behaviour. This form will be available for students and their families on our first week back.

Cost of Study 2023-2024 (approximately €2.80 per day)				
There are 3 options possible for 2023-2024				
Start Date	End Date	Monday to Friday	Monday to Thursday	Friday Only
Monday 4 th September 2023	Wednesday 20 th December 2023	€190	€152	€38
Monday 8 th January 2024	Thursday 30 th May 2024	€253	€202	€51
Note: Reflected in our costs, there is no study the day we break up for October Midterm, Christmas Holiday, February Midterm, Easter Holiday, May Bank Holiday and Summer Holiday.				

Study Times 2023 - 2024					
Days	School Ends	Session 1	Break	Session 2	Pick-up time
Monday to Thursday	3:33pm	3:45pm to 4:40pm	4:40pm to 4:50pm	4:50pm to 5:45pm	5:45pm sharp
Friday only	2:25pm	2:40pm to 3:35pm	3:35pm to 3:45pm	3:45pm to 4:40pm	4.40pm sharp

School Expenses

These fees are now due and include (but are not limited to): the cost for the school of *personal accident insurance, photocopying, consumable classroom materials, printing, communications, SPHE materials, careers, assessment tests and wellbeing activities*. These are also available to pay on the [Easy Payments for Incoming First Years](#) section of our website. A school contribution is also on the website and can be paid at any time during the school year.

Note: Only two staff members are involved in fee payments: the Principal and the Financial Secretary. Therefore, if you wish to discuss a payment plan or you need to discuss your personal circumstances you can phone the Principal in complete confidence at 052 6121402.

Therapy Dog for Loreto

Here we are introducing you to Gino, our Irish Setter Doodle, who is a Therapy Dog. His role is to provide physical, therapeutic and educational benefits for our staff and students here in school.



Thanks to Ms Deirdre Kirby and her family who have welcomed Gino into their family. The family continued to attend training in Cork with *My Canine Companion* across this summer.

Gino will continue his training in Clonmel with us for the next school year, guided by *My Canine Companion*, Ms Kirby and her family.

We believe that Gino's presence provides comfort and support within our community.

Pastoral Care and First Year Classes

We acknowledge the importance of parents/guardians in providing a safe, secure, supportive and happy environment for our students. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to provide us with any important information (which can be given in confidence) before the end of this week. This will allow us to properly support your daughter. Please note that First Year class lists will be published for our First Years on their first day in school. Once published these lists may not be changed.

Supervision

Please note that while the main school building is open at 8am **supervision does not begin until 8:35am** and so students who are onsite prior to 8:35am are here at their own risk.

Calendar

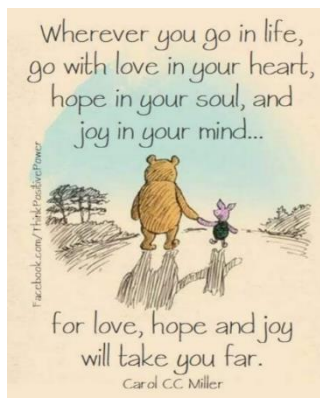
Please see *pages 4 and 5* for an outline of our school calendar.

We are very much looking forward to meeting all our new First Years again. Please see below our start of school year prayer for every member of the Loreto School Community, of which you are now part.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Mc Grath,
Principal

Sarah Rice,
Deputy Principal



Our start of school year prayer:

May our school community be a place of **love, laughter and learning**.

Open our minds to the possibilities that this year holds.
Open our eyes to the wonder of each new day.

Fill each of us with love, hope and joy so that we have a fresh enthusiasm and a heart that is excited to learn and grow.

Provisional Loreto Clonmel Calendar 2023 – 2024

August		September		October		November		December		January		February		March		April		May		June	
Mon										1	Bank Holiday					1	Bank Holiday				
Tue	1									2						2					
Wed	2									3	Christmas Holidays					3	Easter Holidays		1		
Thurs	3						1	Mid-Term		4		1	Mock Exams			4			2		
Fri	4		1				2		1	5		2		1		5			3		
Sat	5		2				3		2	6		3		2		6			4		1
Sun	6		3		1		4		3	7		4		3		7			5		2
Mon	7		4		2		5		4	8		5	St. Brigid's Bank Holiday	4		8		6	Day Off	3	Bank Holiday
Tue	8		5		3		6		5	9		6	Mock Exams	5		9		7	Day Off	4	
Wed	9		6		4		7		6	10	3rd Year P/T	7		6		10		8		5	
Thurs	10		7		5		8		7	11		8		7	1st Year P/T	11		9		6	
Fri	11		8		6		9		8	12	Day Off	9		8		12		10		7	
Sat	12		9		7		10		9	13		10		9		13		11		8	
Sun	13		10		8		11		10	14		11		10		14		12		9	
Mon	14		11		9		12		11	15		12		11		15		13		10	
Tue	15		12		10		13		12	16		13		12		16		14	TY House Exams	11	
Wed	16		13		11		14		13	17	6 th Year P/T	14	Mid-Term	13		17		15	(Provisional)	12	
Thurs	17		14		12		15		14	18		15		14		18		16		13	
Fri	18		15		13		16		15	19		16		15		19		17		14	
Sat	19		16		14		17		16	20		17		16		20		18		15	
Sun	20		17		15		18		17	21		18		17	St. Patrick's Day	21		19		16	
Mon	21		18		16		19	House Exams	18	22	House Exams	19	Óide Day Off	18	Day Off	22		20		17	
Tue	22		19		17		20	(Provisional)	19	23	1st and TYs	20		19		23		21		18	
Wed	23		20		18		21	Óide Day Off	20	24	(Provisional)	21		20		24		22		19	
Thurs	24		21		19		22	2nd, 3rd Years	21	25		22		21		25		23		20	
Fri	25		22		20		23	5th and 6th Years	22	26	Last Day before Xmas	23		22		26		24		21	
Sat	26		23		21		24		23	27		24		23		27		25		22	
Sun	27		24		22		25		24	28		25		24		28		26		23	
Mon	28		25	Day Off	23		26		25	29	Bank Holiday	26	Mock Exams	25		29		27	House Exams	24	
Tue	29		26		24		27		26	30	Bank Holiday	27		26	5th Year P/T	30		28	(Provisional)	25	
Wed	30		27		25		28		27	31		28		27		31	Easter Holidays	29	1st, 2nd, 5th Years	26	
Thurs	31		28		26		29		28		Christmas Holidays	29		28				30		27	
Fri			29		27		30		29			30		29				31	Last Day	28	
Sat			30		28		31		30			31		30						29	
Sun			31		29				31					31						30	
Mon				Bank Holiday																	
Tue																					

SEC Examinations

Loreto Secondary School Clonmel Calendar 2023 – 2024

Provisional

Colour Codes	<p style="color: red;">All Secondary Schools Closed</p> <p style="color: orange;">Loreto Clonmel Closed</p> <p style="color: green;">Parent Teacher Meetings</p> <p style="color: blue;">Exams (House Exams or Mock Exams)</p>
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Term 1	
September	Monday 25th September 2023 (day off)
October Midterm	Monday 30th October 2023 to Friday 3rd November 2023 (Midterm break)
November	Week beginning Monday 20 th November 2023 (<i>provisional date</i>) House Exams Week for 2 nd Years, 3 rd Years, 5 th Years and 6 th Years
November	Wednesday 22nd November 2023 (Óide In-service for staff, students' day off)
December	Wednesday 6 th December 2023 3rd Year Parent Teacher Meeting
December	Friday 8th December 2023 (day off)
December	Wednesday 13 th December 2023 6th Year Parent Teacher Meeting
December	Week beginning Monday 18 th December 2023 (<i>provisional date</i>) House Exams Week for 1 st Years and Transition Years
December	Last day of school this term: Friday 22 nd December 2023
Christmas Holidays	Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024 (Christmas Holidays)

Term 2	
January	Return to school this term: Monday 8 th January 2024
January	Wednesday 17 th January 2024 2nd Year Parent Teacher Meeting
January and February	Two weeks beginning Monday 29 th January 2024 (<i>provisional date</i>) Mock Exams for 3 rd and 6 th Years
February	Monday 5th February 2024 (St Brigid's Day: day off)
February Midterm	Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024 (Midterm break)
February	Monday 19th February 2024 (Óide In-service for staff, students' day off)
February	Tuesday 27 th February 2024 5th Year Parent Teacher Meeting
March	Thursday 7 th March 2024 1st Year Parent Teacher Meeting
March	Monday 18th March 2024 (in lieu of Sunday 17th March: St Patrick's Day)
March	Last day of school this term: Friday 22 nd March 2024
Easter Holidays	Monday 25th March 2024 to Friday 5th April 2024 (Easter holidays)

Term 3	
April	Return to school this term: Monday 8 th April 2024
May Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024 and Tuesday 7th May 2024 (both days off)
May	Tuesday 14 th May 2024 and Wednesday 15 th May 2024 (<i>provisional date</i>) House Exams Week for Transition Years
May	Week beginning Monday 27 th May 2024 (<i>provisional date</i>) House Exams Week for 1 st Years, 2 nd Years and 5 th Years
May	Last day of school this term: Friday 31 st May 2024
June	Wednesday 5 th June 2024 beginning of Junior Cycle and Leaving Cert Exams (Calendar is usually published by State Examinations Commission in January)