

Drumshanbo Vocational School

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Principal:

Mr. Martin Fallon B.Sc., M.Ed.

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Deputy Principal:

Mr. Sean Wynne M.I., M.A.

Seanwynne@msletb.ie

October 4th 2019

Dear Parents & Guardians,

As we all settle back into the new school year I want to bring some important information to your attention.

Year Heads and Parent/Teacher Meetings for 2019/20 are as follows:

Year	Year Head	e-mail address	Parent/Teacher Meetings
1st Year	Ms Carmel O'Neill	carmeloneill@msletb.ie	Tues 26 th November
2 nd Year	Ms Yvonne Traynor	yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie	Wed 13 th November
3 rd Year	Ms Denise Coen	denisecoen@msletb.ie	Thurs 17 th October
5 th Year	Ms Margaret Beirne	margaretbeirne@msletb.ie	Tues 14 th January
6 th Year / LCA	Ms Ailish Kearns	ailishkearns@msletb.ie	Thursday 5 th December

Each class group also has a Class Tutor. Full details available on www.dvs.ie

Guidance Counsellor: Mr Daithi Hughes; daithihughes@msletb.ie; 071 9640446

Learning Support: Ms Lorraine McLoughlin; lorrainemcloughlin@msletb.ie; 071 9640444

Programme Co-ordinator (LCA & LCVP): Yvonne Traynor; yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie

Meetings will take place in the Mayflower Hall from 4:15pm and school will finish at 3:45pm for all students on these days. Other meetings such as subject choice information evenings will be scheduled and notified to parents at a later date.

Book Rental Scheme/ Personal Accident Insurance

A letter regarding these fees & methods of payment for 2019/20 has been given to students to bring home. You will also have received a link by text message to our payment portal – “way2pay”. Queries to Mr Sean Wynne or Ms Pauline McBarron.

Student Attendance & Punctuality

Following an absence, the parent/guardian should write an explanatory note in the designated space at the back of the Student Journal. These notes are collected during Assembly and submitted to the Year Head. School management is obliged, under the Education Welfare Act to inform the Education Welfare Officer /TUSLA if a student is absent for more than 20 days or for regular unexplained absences.

Parental access to School Management Information System - VShare

As Parents/Guardians, you can access your child(ren)'s up to date school records of attendance, punctuality and term reports. Log on to drumshanbovs.vshare.ie (NO www) and use the username assigned to you. You will be requested to create your own password. Please make sure to update us if you change your mobile contact number or address.

Student e-mail addresses

All students were provided with personal e-mail addresses last year. This gives them access to the Microsoft Office suite on any of their devices. Use of MS OneNote is being phased in as a means of sharing class notes with teachers. First years will receive their addresses shortly after they have received tuition in the use of MSOffice.

Child Protection

The Designated Liaison Person is Martin Fallon, Principal and Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Sean Wynne, Deputy Principal. They have a duty to report child protection concerns to the TUSLA.

Health & Safety Issue

Parents/Guardians dropping off and collecting students at the school are requested to park at the pedestrian entrance at the front of the school or in the Mayflower grounds where students can safely use the side pedestrian entrance.

Junior Cycle Training for Teachers and school closure days

School will be closed for students on December 4th and February 4th for Department of Education training in the new Junior Certificate Programme. This programme also requires teachers to be released during the year, particularly this term, to attend training in their subjects. Every effort is being made to get suitable substitute teachers for those days and to avoid so called “free” classes. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get substitute teachers available to cover these training days.

Parents Association

The AGM of our Parents’ Association will take place on Monday 21st October at 7pm in the Music Room. Election of the Parents’ Council and election of two parents/guardians to the Board of Management will also take place that evening. See letter enclosed.

Lunch time and after school activities

A wide range of lunch time activities is available to our students. Full details on our web-site. In addition, training in volleyball, football, basketball and takes place outside of school hours.

School Library

We have an extensive selection of new books available for students to borrow. Each class is being notified of arrangements for borrowing and opening times.

School Musical

We are hoping to have a school musical this December. However, we have a number of challenges to overcome including teachers having to attend Junior Cycle in-service training and the availability of necessary expertise. If it doesn’t work out this year we’ll re-schedule for next year.

Further Information

You can find up to date information, approved school policies, and school calendar on our web-site www.dvs.ie. Input and comments from Parents /Guardians regarding school policies are always welcome at martinfallon@msletb.ie

Yours sincerely,

Martin Fallon