Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to our school on Wednesday August 30th. It was lovely to meet you and your child on your recent visit to the OCS.

On August 30th our 2nd class boys will start at 9:30 am. On the first day the boys will finish at 12pm. On Thursday August 31st and Friday September 1st the 2nd class boys will start at 8:50am and finish at 12pm. From Monday September 4th the boys will have a full day 8:50am-2:30pm.

On Thursday August 31st our new 2nd class boys will line up with all the other classes at their designated spot at the front of the school. Their spot will be clearly marked and the teacher will have shown them how to line up. Our yard is supervised from 8:30am and boys should not be in the yard before this time. The class teacher and SNA will collect their class at 8.50am.

In recognition of the cost of preparing children and young people for the return to primary school in September Minister for Education Norma Foley T.D. has announced funding to provide free schoolbooks, including workbooks and copybooks. This scheme will eliminate the cost to parents / guardians of providing these resources. Funding is being provided directly to primary schools by the Department to implement the scheme and schools now have responsibility for providing schoolbooks workbooks and copybooks to all children. We have purchased all the Maths, Gaeilge, SESE Workbooks, Literacy books and stationery.

When you are buying a school bag, I recommend that you purchase a bag large enough to accommodate the boys bookbag which is A4 in size. The only thing your child will need to bring is a small lunch with them for the first week. The boys will choose their hot meal during the first week and it will be delivered in the second week of school. I have enclosed the menu that the boys will choose their meal from.

In our school we use whatsapp broadcast. In order to receive messages on the broadcast list **you must save my number to your phone**. My number is **0868337549** so please save that to your phone. I will send some test whatsapp messages towards the end of the summer to make sure it is working.

The boys need to purchase their school uniform. I have enclosed the price list for the coming year. The school jumper, track-suit, t shirt, tie and shorts can be purchased in the school shop from Ms. Meehan. The school shop will be open from Wednesday August 9th. The school shop will be open from 9am to 2:30pm. If you would like to contact Ms. Meehan to arrange calling to the shop please call 01-8557517. The trousers and shirts can be bought in shops in town like Dunnes, Pennys, M&S etc.

Our office will be open over the summer so if you have any questions please contact Ms Meehan on 018557517

Keep an eye on the school website [www.oconnellprimary.ie](http://www.oconnellprimary.ie) for further information.

We can’t wait to welcome you and your son to OCS on August 30th.

Have a lovely summer.

Kind regards

Mickey McHugh