



Monastery NS - Coeducational Primary School - Now Enrolling

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I am delighted to announce that Monastery National School is once again enrolling girls and boys in Junior Infants for September 2024. From September 2024 parents have the option of enrolling boys and girls in Junior Infants, Senior Infants or 1st Class in our school (*subject to the availability of places*) growing year on year to become a complete vertical co-educational school (*Junior Infants to 6th class*) by September 2029.

We will be accepting applications for admission from January 16th 2024. The Enrolment Application form is available by contacting our school office by telephone at 041-6853641 or by email at officeardeemns@gmail.com or download from our school website at www.monasterynsardee.ie

It's an exciting time for our school community as we look forward once again to girls and boys coming to school together. When choosing a school for your Junior Infant daughter or son parents will be reassured by the following information about Monastery NS;

- **High academic standards in literacy and numeracy** supported by numerous staff/resources.
- **FREE Hot Meals** from a healthy and varied menu that you can order for your child each day via a Lunch Bag App — see hot food menu here www.thelunchbag.ie/kids-menu-hot-food/
- **Home School Teacher** - Siobhán Coleman is our Home School Teacher and offers many supports, services and opportunities to our parents.
- **Large modern spacious school building and campus** - In 2007 our school underwent a 2 million euro refurbishment and extension. We have 10 large modern classrooms that are excellently ventilated by numerous windows and doors. Each classroom has double cubicle toilets, one for boys and one for girls. We have a beautiful school field and the largest playing areas of any school in County Louth.
- **Small Junior Infant Classes** - we will have two very small Junior Infant classes in September 2024. This year we have 17 and 15 Junior Infants in each of our two classes with a class teacher and a support teacher in each class. We also have an SNA for both classes.
- **Separate Infant Yard** - we have a large, enclosed, modern and child friendly infant yard with playground equipment, Go Karts, Wendy House, Goals and colourful signage etc. This yard is for infants only and is supervised by a teacher and SNA at each break.
- **Experienced Staff** - we are fortunate to have a mixed staff of male and female teachers who have significant experience of teaching boys and girls.
- **Pupil Additional Needs** - we have an exceptional SEN department in our school that includes an SEN Coordinator, 5 Support Teachers in total and 5 SNAs. Each class is supported by its own support teacher through in class team teaching and / or one to one / small group pupil support. We believe in partnership with our parents and early intervention to meet the additional needs of your son or daughter.



- **Free Books Scheme** - we provide a free books/copies scheme and much more for our pupils. This represents a fantastic saving for parents/guardians and will no doubt reduce the financial strain that many experience during the annual return to school period in late August.
- **State of the art technology and digital learning** - in each class we have new computers, Interactive HD Panels (no blackboard!) and a class webcam for video conferencing. We also have the latest high speed fibre broadband, infant iPads, laptops and Chromebooks. For our parents we have a one stop for all school App called **Eolas**. With the Eolas App you can record your daughter's / son's absence, pay school bills and receive school communications. We also have a wonderful new school website at www.monasterynsardee.ie
- **Sport** - Our school has a long tradition of sporting success and we offer Gaelic Football coaching and after school leagues, Soccer coaching and lunchtime leagues, Basketball and lunchtime leagues, Rugby coaching, a school badminton championship, athletics, swimming lessons, lunchtime walking club, active schools and our annual Sports Day.
- **Drama** - every year we produce a **Christmas Production** that runs over two evenings and one daytime matinee. See our Christmas Concert on our *YouTube Channel* on our school website.
- **Music** - Our **School Choir** perform at key school events each year.
- **Green Schools** - we have a long record of participation in the **Green Schools** Programme and have been awarded 10 Green Flags, one of the highest levels of awards in the country. We are also a Louth County Council 5 Star GROW awards school. We have a polytunnel and each class grow their own vegetables.
- **Ardee School Completion Programmes** - SCP provide unique small group and individual early intervention programmes in our school including *Play Therapy, Leadership for Life, Pyramid of Success* and *MAP* programme.
- **The Sixth Class Challenge** is a unique programme to Monastery National School and is designed to engage and motivate pupils in their final year of school. It is of great benefit in developing independence, positive self esteem, team spirit and positive behaviour among the pupils. For 6th class it is an exciting highlight of their final year with us.
- **Free Classes** are provided for pupils and include Mini Olympics, Music Generation Music Matters and Recorder Tuition, Move to Improve and Zumba dancing. We also provide exercise classes for our parents!

We hope that you will consider all of the above when making a decision where to enrol your son or daughter in Junior Infants for September 2023. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Jim McGee, Principal.

