



2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

Dear Parent and Guardian,

We are coming to the end of another extremely busy year here in Ratoath College and I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your continued support. It has been another very successful year and we are delighted and proud of our students and their many achievements in all areas of school life. I particularly want to thank the staff, not only for their work in the classroom, but also for the amount of time and commitment they've very generously given in the area of extra-curricular activities and in ensuring that students have not been negatively impacted by weather events this year.

**Dates for your Diary**

<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Year Service at 14.00 in Ratoath Parish Church.
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:</b>	Prize- giving afternoon. <b>All students must attend.</b>
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	T Y Graduation at 19.30.
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Year Graduation 19.00.
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Years finish. Service in the school at 14.00. (3 <sup>rd</sup> Year parents welcome)
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Years finish at 13.00. 5 <sup>th</sup> Year English Exam 09.00-10.30.

**Confirmation of Return for August 2018**

We enclose a form for your son/daughter. We would be grateful if you would fill it in and return to the school on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May** where it will be collected during Tutorial. **Please do not send in the form before May 16<sup>th</sup>.** It is extremely important that this form is returned on this day to secure your son/daughters place for next year as there are waiting lists for each year group and we need to be able to notify prospective applicants of available places.

The Proposed School fees for August 2018 (Fees will be finalised once ratified by the LMETB Board) are now online and available to purchase on Wisepay. The first instalment of fees for the school year 2018/19 for each student must be paid online **by Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018**. An explanation of fees and an instalment payment plan for each year group is included. We ask that all outstanding accounts be cleared before confirmation of return for 2018/19 can commence. **Wisepay is our preferred method of payment.**

For parents/guardians who do not have access to the internet at home then internet access for the purpose of **Wisepay payments only** will be made available in the school every morning between 09.30am and 11.00am.

If you are unable to make payment via wisepay then payment will be accepted by Cheque or Postal order only. **For security reasons we cannot accept cash.** Parents can make a cheque/postal order payment directly to the office every morning between 09.30am and 11.00am.

## To make payment via Wisepay:

Every parent/guardian has been provided with a username and password for their secure *Wisepay* account. If you are having difficulties accessing Wisepay or have misplaced your username/password please contact Vicky in the main office on 01-8254102 between 9.00am and 3.30pm daily or via email [vtugwell.rth@lmetb.ie](mailto:vtugwell.rth@lmetb.ie).

Please go to our school website [www.ratoathcollege.ie](http://www.ratoathcollege.ie) and click on to the *WisePay* logo which will take you to our online payment system login homepage.

Once you have logged into your 'Wise Account' you can make payments for items allocated to your child. You will see the payments relevant to your child in the blue highlights box at the bottom of the screen.

The screenshot shows the login page for the Ratoath College - Co Meath online payment system. At the top, there is a logo for 'mól an óig' and the school name 'Ratoath College - Co Meath'. Below the logo, it says 'Welcome to our Online Payment Area'. There is a 'Log In' button and a link for 'Further information >'. Below this, there are input fields for 'USERNAME/EMAIL' and 'PASSWORD', and a 'Log In' button. A 'Forgotten Password ?' link is also present. Below the login section, there is another 'Ratoath College - Co Meath' logo and the text 'Welcome Vicky Tugwell to your account for Vicky Tugwell'. A navigation bar contains links for 'My Merged Accounts', 'My Wise Account', 'Change Password', 'Log Out', and 'Dashboard'. A date '12 April 2018' is displayed. A notice states: 'All monies collected by this school are used to pay for a range of Student Support Services which may include student journal, locker rental, student insurance, texts to parents, book rental scheme, photocopying costs, student materials, student mock examinations and educational outings. In the event that there is a surplus of money collected for any one purpose, these remaining funds will be reinvested in the school to enhance the provision of Student Support Services and School Facilities for all students. We hope you find this online facility helpful, efficient and easy to use.' Below the notice are three images: a red pushpin on a map labeled 'Trip and Visit Payments', a hand putting a coin into a piggy bank labeled 'Donations', and a row of books labeled 'Shop'. At the bottom, there is a 'Highlights' section with four buttons: '1st year school fees 2017-18', 'Transition Year Fee's 2017-18', '6th Year LCA 2017/18', and '5th Year LCA 2017/18'.

Please select the product you wish to purchase. You will be given three options. You can select to pay the deposit, the full amount or any amount you choose. **A deposit of €75.00 for each student is required by 15th May 2018.**

***Any parent who is experiencing financial difficulties and is unable to make a payment should contact the Principal directly.***

## **Breakdown of payments:**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Year Students**

The cost of your fees this year will be **€140** and will include: Locker Rental, Dialann, Photocopying, 24 hour insurance, schoology, SPHE talks, Sports day fee, Geography field trip, CSPE field trip and maths ebook

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Year Students**

The cost of your fees this year will be **€200** and will include: Locker Rental, Dialann, Photocopying, 24 hour insurance, schoology, SPHE talks, English theatre Trip, Sports day fee, past examination papers, Mock examination papers, Aptitude Testing and Study Skills day.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Year Students**

The fee for transition year is **€450**. Thank you to all parents who have started on the payment plan for this. At this point you should have your deposit plus the first instalments paid (€250.).

### **5<sup>th</sup> Year and 6<sup>th</sup> Year Students (Established Leaving Certificate)**

The cost of your fees this year will be **€200** (5<sup>th</sup> Year's only) and **€275** (6<sup>th</sup> Year's only) and will include: Book Rental, Locker Rental, Dialann, Photocopying, 24 hour insurance, SPHE talks, Sports Day fee, past examination papers (5<sup>th</sup> Years only), Mock examination papers (6<sup>th</sup> Years only), Aptitude testing (5<sup>th</sup> years only), Mock examination Corrections (6<sup>th</sup> Year only), Higher options conference (6<sup>th</sup> Year only), English theatre trip (6<sup>th</sup> Year only) and Study Skills day (6<sup>th</sup> Year only).

**Note:** *Included in the senior fee is a book rental deposit of €70. It will be re-paid in full on return of **all** the 6<sup>th</sup> year books when they leave the school. If books are not returned (or are returned in very poor condition) the full deposit may not be returned.*

**Note:** *Junior and Leaving Certificate exam fees (3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Year only) are now due. These are €109 and €116 respectively and are paid online directly to the State Examinations Commission. Holders of a full Medical card do not have to pay this fee.*

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year Leaving Certificate Applied Students**

The cost of your fees this year will be **€90** (5<sup>th</sup> Year's only) and **€100** (6<sup>th</sup> Year's only) and will include: Schoology, Locker Rental, Dialann, 24 hour insurance, Mock examination papers (6<sup>th</sup> Years only), Mock examination Corrections (6<sup>th</sup> Year only), Higher options conference (6<sup>th</sup> Year only) and a Study skills day (6<sup>th</sup> Year only).

**NB** Please note iPads and Screen Breakage are **not** covered by these fees and any cost incurred in repairing iPads/Screens will be the responsibility of the student

### **Examinations and Reporting Information:**

Students are currently doing their end of year assessments. Reports for **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years** will be completed on-line on our **e portal system** by Tuesday **May 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Hard copies of reports are available only on request.

The 5<sup>th</sup> years will have their English exams on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Their completed reports will be available from Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup>. It is imperative that all **5<sup>th</sup> year students maintain full attendance right up to the last day of term**. Please refrain from booking holidays or making medical appointments during this timeframe. Subject teachers will be commencing the **6<sup>th</sup> year elements of course work** between Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday May 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Other Information**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Year Parents: Invite to Service:**

There will be a short service to mark the end of the student's time in Ratoath College and to pray for their success in the Leaving Certificate. This will be held in the Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 14.00.** We welcome parents/grandparents/guardians to the service.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Year Parents: Invite to Service:**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> years will finish on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May.** That afternoon at 14.00 we will have a short service with them and pray for their success in the Junior Certificate. We would love if their parents/Grandparents/Guardians would be free to join us on the day.

#### **Transition Year – Invite to Graduation:**

All 4<sup>th</sup> Years and their parents are invited to a graduation service on Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 19.30. The service will include a presentation by students of all their achievements this year.

#### **School Uniform Sales in Ratoath College:**

Tuesday August 07<sup>th</sup> 2018 from 10:00 -12:00

Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup> 2018 from 10:00 -12:00

Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup> 2018 from 10:00 - 12:00

[www.schoolunifromsdirect.ie](http://www.schoolunifromsdirect.ie)

All queries regarding uniform sales please contact Maeve at **Kaideen & Co. Ltd.**  
**059 6481241 or 086 -8983937.**

#### **Library Volunteers:**

Would you like to help out in the school library as a **librarian** at lunchtime and after school? We are always looking for volunteers to help us at our issue desk. If you can give up one lunchtime a week, then please contact KerryLynn Martin here at the school. She can also be contacted by e mail at [KMartin.rth@lmetb.ie](mailto:KMartin.rth@lmetb.ie). She will be delighted to hear from you.

## **School Year Book:**

Our school year book will be published very soon! The year book is a wonderful account and record of the school year and as ever it promises to be a fantastic publication. We would be grateful if every family would purchase one.

## **Information for 2018-2019**

The following information will be updated on our website at the beginning of June

- The **Calendar** for the school year.
- The **plan for the Opening Week**
- **Booklists**

In the meantime here is the **provisional** plan for the opening of the school year:

<b>Wednesday August 22nd</b>	School re-opens for Staff meetings and briefings. 6 <sup>th</sup> Year Study Skills day (09.00-15.00)
<b>Thursday August 23rd</b>	Cinnire Training (09.15-15.00) New 1 <sup>st</sup> Years (13.15-15.20)
<b>Friday August 24th</b>	Staff Meetings (08.35-13.15) 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Years (11.30-13.15)
<b>Monday August 27th</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Year iPad deployment (08.35-11.15) 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Years (08.35-11.15)
<b>Tuesday August 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Full school day for all

***Once again many thanks to all parents who were so supportive of us during this year, your support is very much appreciated.***

***Go n-éirí go geal libh!***

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***Oonagh Prendergast***  
***Principal***

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***Jillian Leavy***  
***Deputy Principal***

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***John McCarthy***  
***Deputy Principal***