



01st May 2019

Dear Parent and Guardian,

As the end of another extremely busy year here in Ratoath College approaches, we would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your continued support. While it has been a very successful year it also has been a very sad year for us, losing our dear friend and colleague Aoife O'Sullivan. This past year our students have once again excelled in many different areas of school life and we are very proud of all their achievements. I particularly want to pay tribute to our staff, not only for their dedicated work in the classroom, but also for the amount of time they give so generously in the area of extra-curricular activities. Without their commitment we would not be in a position to offer our students such a wide range of activities.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 20th May:	6 th Year Service at 14.00 in Ratoath Parish Church.
Wednesday 22nd May:	Prize- giving afternoon. All students must attend.
Thursday 23rd May:	T Y Graduation at 19.30.
Monday 27th May:	6 th Year Graduation 16.15 for a reception with Graduation ceremony starting at 17.00 . (Please note this is a change from our traditional start time).
Wednesday 29th May:	3 rd Years finish. Service in the school at 14.00. (3 rd Year parents welcome)
Friday 31st May:	1 st , 2 nd & 5 th Years finish at 13.00. 5th Year Irish Exam 09.00- 10.30.

Confirmation of Return for August 2019

Your son/daughter was issued with a Confirmation of Return (COR) form today, we would be grateful if you would fill it in and return to the school on **Wednesday 15th May** where it will be collected during Tutorial. **Please do not send in the form before May 15th**. It is extremely important that this form is returned on this day to secure your son/daughter's 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 2019 are online on Way2Pay and are now available to purchase. The first instalment of fees for the school year 2019/2020 for each student must be paid online **by Tuesday 14th May 2019**. An explanation of fees and an instalment payment plan for each year group is included at the end of this email. **Way2Pay is our preferred method of payment.** This system differs from Wisepay (used previously) in that we cannot set up an instalment plan as we did previously. However, you do have the facility to pay in full or manually enter the amount you wish to pay and pay an amount each month. We have enclosed a payment plan and you will receive a text reminder when the next payment is due.

You will receive a text message containing a secure link to make payment in the coming days.

We ask that all Parents pay the 1st instalment by 14th May 2019.

If you are unable to make payment via **Way2Pay** 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.

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

To make payment via Way2Pay

How to Pay a School Bill on my Phone, 'Pay by Text'

Step 1: You will receive an SMS from your school, click on the link and follow the instructions.

Step 2: Answer the security question and click submit. Example of question; enter last 3 digits of your phone number.

Step 3: Select pay bills from the menu

Step 4: Press the PLUS sign beside the bills you wish to pay, agree T&C and click pay now.

Step 5: Click 'Pay Now' to enter secure payments page.

Step 6: Complete the payment for your child's event.

For more information on Way2Pay and a full parent's user guide, please click on the link below:

<https://www.ratoathcollege.ie/index.php/news/289-online-payments-way2pay-2>

Breakdown of payments

2nd 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

3rd 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.

4th Year Students

The fee for transition year is **€450**. Thank you to all parents who have started on the payment plan for this.

5th Year and 6th Year Students (Established Leaving Certificate)

The cost of your fees this year will be **€200** (5th Year's only) and **€285** (6th Year's only) **and** will include: Book Rental, Locker Rental, Dialann, Photocopying, 24-hour insurance, SPHE talks, Sports Day fee, past examination papers (5th Years only), Mock examination papers (6th Years only), Aptitude testing (5th years only), Mock examination Corrections (6th Year only), Higher options conference (6th Year only), English theatre trip (6th Year only) and Study Skills day (6th 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 6th 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.*

5th and 6th Year Leaving Certificate Applied Students

The cost of your fees this year will be **€100** (5th and 6th Years) and will include: Schoology, Locker Rental, Dialann, 24-hour insurance, Mock examination papers and corrections, and the Higher options conference.

*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 about to commence their end of year assessments. Reports for **1st and 2nd years** will be completed on-line on our **e portal system** by Thursday 23rd May.

The 5th years will have their Irish exams on 31st May 2019. Their completed reports will be available from Tuesday June 5th. It is imperative that all **5th 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 **6th year elements of course work** between Monday 13th May and Thursday May 30th 2019.

Other Information

6th 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 20th May at 14.00.** We welcome parents/grandparents/guardians to the service.

3rd Year Parents: Invite to Service:

Our 3rd years will finish on **Wednesday 29th 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 4th Years and their parents are invited to a graduation service on Thursday May 23rd 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 06th 2019 from 10:00 -12:00

Tuesday August 13th 2019 from 10:00 -12:00

Tuesday August 20th 2019 from 10:00- 12:00

www.schoolunifromsdirect.ie

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

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 2019-2020

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:

Wednesday 21st August School re-opens for Staff meetings and briefings.
6th Year Study Skills day (09.00-15.00)

Thursday 22nd August Cinnire Training (09.15-15.00)
Incoming 1st Years (13.15-15.20)

Friday 23rd August Staff Meetings (08.35-13.15)
2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Years (11.30-13.15)

Monday 26th August **All Year Groups** (08.35-11.15)
Staff Meetings (11.30-15.30)

Tuesday 27th August 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!***

Oonagh Prendergast
Principal

Aoife O'Dwyer
Deputy Principal

John McCarthy
Deputy Principal

Seamus Meehan
Deputy Principal