



St. Francis Junior School



Parents / Guardians:

A reminder that this year parents / guardians do not have to contribute to the cost of books, workbooks and copies.

However, we still have to supply loads of classroom learning resources, writing materials, activities, games, art supplies, awards as well as endless photocopying. We also have to pay a licence fee for access to some online content. Each classroom now has a Promethean Panel and if you google you will see how expensive they are. Teachers now use the panel for teaching and learning in the classroom. The cost this year is €30.

*Can we ask all parents / guardians to have the €30 paid by the end of September so that all children can benefit from all of the above.*

Remember the Back to School Allowance must be applied for by 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Our local St. Vincent de Paul is also fabulous at helping families out so give them a shout.



### **What the Free Primary Schoolbooks Scheme in Schools is:**

The Free Primary Schoolbooks Scheme in primary schools will remove the cost from families of funding schoolbooks for children and young people enrolled in recognised primary schools and special schools.

Parents will no longer be required to make any contribution towards the cost of schoolbooks, including the cost of any workbooks and copybooks.

### ***What is the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance?***

*The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA) is a payment that can help with the cost of uniforms and footwear for children going to school. In 2023, the BSCFA paid for each eligible child aged 4-11 on 30 September 2023 is €260.*

*The BSCFA is paid automatically to many families. If you are paid automatically, you don't need to apply for the BSCFA.*

*You will be notified of your automatic payment by 8 June on MyWelfare.*

*Your BSCFA will be paid the week starting 10 July 2023.*

*If you do not get an automatic payment, you can apply for the payment on MyWelfare. Applications are open **until 30 September 2023.***

*Sincerely, A. Plunkett*