

August 2025

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your families are enjoying a safe and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming our students back in the coming weeks, and I am pleased to let you know that the school building project is almost complete. Everything is on track for the school to be fully open and ready in time for the new academic year, and we are very excited about the improved facilities and opportunities this will bring. We plan on having an Open Day for all parents/ guardians and the community in September to view this amazing new building. We will keep you posted in relation to this.

I am writing to inform you of a change to the school timetable which will take effect from the beginning of the new academic year.

From this August, each school day will begin at 8.50 a.m. (no change)

The finishing times for the week will be as follows:

- Monday: school will finish at 3.40 p.m. (no change)
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: school will finish at 3.50 p.m.
- Friday: school will finish at 2.10 p.m. (no change)

The additional 10 minutes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will allow us to extend the lunchtime period. This is being introduced to facilitate greater participation in team training, sports and other extracurricular activities during the school day. We recognise that not all students are in a position to stay after school due to bus timetables or other personal commitments. Our hope is that the longer lunch break will help alleviate this pressure by allowing more students to take part in these activities during the school day.

While it will not be possible to move all extracurricular activities to lunchtime, we expect this change to ease the scheduling pressures we have experienced in recent years. With the increasing number of activities on offer, it has become more and more difficult to accommodate everything after school hours.

As a reminder, the normal school finishing time before COVID-19 was 3.55 p.m. We temporarily shortened the lunch break during the pandemic and retained this shorter structure for a period afterwards due to space constraints and limited access to playing pitches during construction. With the school facilities now nearing completion, we are confident this updated schedule will better support our students' overall experience at school.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Shane Hallahan