

NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Meeting of Parents of Children with Autism.

October 5th 2015.

Parents of Children with Autism in ASD Classes

Enrolments: We welcome Alfie, Darragh, Joseph, Kayla, Max and Tyler to our Early Intervention Class. We wish their families well on their Primary School Journey. Many Thanks to the Board of Management for remedial works to classrooms etc in preparation for the opening of this class. Best Wishes to Ms. Healy, Tess and Carol for a successful school year.

- **Secondary Schools:** Parents are still very concerned at the limited choice of Second Level Placement for Children with Autism. Many children will unfortunately be denied access to the school of their choice by living outside the Catchment Area or by attending a primary school which is outside the catchment area. It was decided to invite the Special Education Needs Organiser, Mr. Jim Jordan to our February Meeting.
- **Useful Information: Irish Autism Action organise special Cinema Trips for Children with Autism. The Cinema in Arklow can offer this facility if there is sufficient demand. Junglemania has a session on SUNDAY MORNING from 11.00am to 12.30pm specifically for Children with Autism.**
- **Carer's Card: Irish Autism Action supply a discount card at a price of €20 for one year. The Carer's Association supply a 5 year membership at a cost of €25 which offers priority queuing etc for children with Autism when attending hospitals etc.**
- **School Transport:** Please notify Transport Operator in good time if your child will not be travelling on the bus/ is late/ will not be going home on the bus/ change of person collecting your child from the bus. Also it is important to text/phone when your child is returning to school after illness or absence.
- **Service Agencies: Beechpark Services are accepting names on waiting lists for service, with no timeframe of when children might receive support. Caution was urged about going the private route for SLT, OT and Psychological Assessments**
- **School Staff: Mrs. Murphy has been diagnosed with a serious illness and will unfortunately be absent from school for the rest of the school year. Mrs. Broughan will move from Junior Infants to teach the Senior Primary ASD Class after mid-term with a new teacher in Junior Infants. Apologies for the inconvenience which this may cause**
- **Date of Next Meeting: FEBRUARY 1st 2016.**

