



## **St. Brigid's National School**

Ticknevin, Carbury, Co. Kildare. W91 P868

Tel: (046) 9553521. Email: [secretary@ticknevinns.ie](mailto:secretary@ticknevinns.ie)

(RCN) 20204896. Roll No. 17931S [www.ticknevinns.ie](http://www.ticknevinns.ie)

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## **April Newsletter 2023**

We welcomed everyone back after the Easter break last week and are looking forward to a busy and productive third term. We extend a warm welcome to Sofii, who joins First Class this term.

### **Daffodil Day 2023**

We were delighted to see so many support our fundraiser for Daffodil Day this year. Many thanks to the staff, families and wider school community who supported this worthy cause. Our school raised a total of €530 for The Irish Cancer Society. Well done everyone!



### **Parents' Association Sponsored Walk**

The Parents' Association organised the annual sponsored walk, which took place over the Easter break. A fantastic €1,406.56 was raised for school funds. Many thanks to the Parents' Association and all who supported and sponsored this event.

### **Kildare Game**

It was a great opportunity for some of our pupils to play half time at the Kildare vs Meath game recently with Carbury U10s. They also had a very special job to welcome the Kildare Senior team on the pitch. Well done to Billy Hogan, James Tyrrell, Tommy Connolly and Tadhg Skelly.

### **First Confession**

Congratulations and well done to the pupils in second class who received their First Confession recently. Many thanks to Fr. Fitzpatrick.

### **Child Protection**

Please note that the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Nóra Lynch and the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Grace Conneally.

### Oral Language

This month all classes are focusing on synonyms for 'went' in their Morning Meeting each morning and continue to focus on tongue twister and idiom of the week.

### Engineering Competition

We were blown away by the huge efforts and skills that went in to our engineering competition this year. It is wonderful to see these new additions around the school grounds and keeping our local birds fed. The pupils got the opportunity to showcase their birdfeeder to the other classes before the Easter break. Keep an eye on our Twitter page for some photos of our Science Showcase day. There is no doubt we have some future engineers on our hands!



### Curious Minds Primary Science & Maths Award

The pupils have been working hard all year in hopes of achieving the 'Curious Minds Primary Science and Maths Award'. We have celebrated Science Week, Maths Week, Space Week and Engineers Week as part of the process. The pupils have also completed many hands-on activities from each of the four Science Curriculum Strands and we invited a special Science visitor from Lismore Heritage Centre to complete some very exciting investigations. Ms. Conneally is co-ordinating the process and has submitted an application in the Gold Certificate Category. Best of luck!

### Gaelic Sessions

Jenny from Carbury GAA in conjunction with Kildare GAA is currently completing a block of GAA skills with all classes. The remaining dates are as follows: **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please keep an eye on the Aladdin Calendar for an additional date that will be added in.

### Green-Schools Flag Awarded

We received the fantastic news that our school was successful in the Green-Schools application for the Biodiversity Flag. We are now being awarded with our 6<sup>th</sup> Green-Schools Flag. This is a marvellous achievement for our school. Well done to the Green-Schools Committee for their work and enthusiasm and also a huge thank you to Ms. McCabe who co-ordinated the Green-School process.

The Green Flag will be presented to our school at an upcoming National Green Flag award ceremony on 24<sup>th</sup> May at the City North Hotel, Gormanstown. Further details will follow with information.



### Green-Schools News

Congratulations to the winner of the bug hotel naming competition last term. We look forward to 'The Tick Nev Inn' being a permanent residence for all our local mini beasts in the future, which contributes to biodiversity. Well done to the winner of the Biodiversity slogan competition and the poster competition.

**"We Share a Planet, We Have a Home, Biodiversity is Beautiful so Let it Roam"**



### Bike Week 2023-National COW Day (Cycle on Wednesdays)

The Green-School Committee continues to promote sustainable ways to travel to school. National COW Day is an initiative that encourages pupils to cycle to school at least once a week and hopefully they will gain the confidence to cycle on a regular basis. In support of this initiative we are encouraging everyone to cycle to school on National COW Day on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May.

### Music Generation Kildare

We are delighted to have secured a place with Music Generation Kildare for the academic year 2023/2024. Music Generation Kildare works in partnership with schools and community groups across County Kildare to provide access to vocal and instrumental tuition, no matter what the pupils musical background might be. The aim of this programme is to support the existing musical tuition. Music Generation is funded nationally by U2, The Ireland Funds and the Department of Education. At local level Music Generation is part funded by Kildare County Council and Kildare and Wicklow ETB. We have commenced a pilot Glór programme with 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes for this term. The pupils have completed two Ukulele lessons and are already making great progress.



**Music Generation  
Kildare**  
Chill Dara

### Cumann na mBunscol Competition

The U10s and the Senior team kick started the Cumann na mBunscol competition last week. The U10s played their first game against Cadamstown N.S. and this week's game has been rescheduled to Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 12.45pm against St. Patrick's, Celbridge at home in Ticknevin. They will then play against Allen N.S.

The Senior team played against Broadford N.S. and their next game will take place next week against Cadamstown N.S. on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm in Cadamstown. Support is greatly welcomed.



### **Tag Rugby**

Dermot Tierney from Edenderry Rugby will visit the school to complete a block of four sessions with all classes to develop their skills. The sessions will take place over four weeks.

### **Junior Infant Immunisations**

The HSE School Vaccination Team will visit the school on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. Please ensure parents of Junior Infant pupils are contactable on the day.

### **Junior Infant Vision Screening Programme**

A Public Health Nurse from the HSE will visit the school on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May for the Junior Infant Vision Screening Programme. Please ensure all consent forms are returned on or before next Tuesday.

### **School Tours**

Please note the following dates of planned school tours this term. Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> May: Junior Infants-2<sup>nd</sup> classes - Let's Go Camp, Gormanstown.  
Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June: 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes - Clara Lara, Wicklow. Further details will issue shortly and payment links will be added to Aladdin.

### **Clothes Collection**

The school has organised another clothes collection as a school fundraiser. Clothes can be dropped to the school on the morning of Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE - School Closure**

The school has been requested by the Department of Education to allow staff attend compulsory training in the new Primary Language Curriculum. Please note that the school will be closed for training on Tuesday, **6<sup>th</sup> June (Full day closure)**.

We were also instructed by the Department to take a half-day closure for staff training on the new Primary Curriculum Framework. **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May (Half day closure)** was deemed most appropriate. Please note these dates are added to the calendar section on Aladdin Connect.

Our school will be closed Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> May for the May Bank Holiday and reopen at 9.00am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Wishing you and your families a lovely long weekend.

Le gach dea-ghuí

Nóra Lynch

Principal St. Brigid's N.S.