



St. Brigid's National School

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February Newsletter 2024

St. Brigid's Day Mass & Grandparents' Day

It was wonderful to welcome so many of our grandparents who joined us to celebrate St. Brigid's Day with a beautiful mass, officiated by Fr. Samuel. What a lovely way to welcome the arrival of spring. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day happen.



St. Brigid's Day Crosses

We would like to express our thanks to all the pupils, parents, The Parents' Association and teachers who helped in any way to collect rushes or make crosses for St. Brigid's Day. Many thanks to Mr McGreal for organising workshops for the pupils. We would also like to thank the Parents' Association who gave up their time to sell crosses after parish masses. A massive €1,825.00 has been raised from the sales of crosses for school funds!! On your children's behalf our very proactive PA have been working hard to ensure monies are available to our school.



Peace Proms 2024

Well done to our 4th class pupils who represented our school at the RDS on Sunday, 4th February. Peace Proms is a nationwide music program that promotes peace through music and empowers young minds. What a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to perform at the RDS, to sing with a choir with approximately 2,000 other pupils and to perform alongside a full symphony youth orchestra, conducted by internationally acclaimed Maestro Greg Beardsell. The concert lasted over two hours and all our pupils were amazing, from start to finish! They got a lovely surprise when Alisha Weir (the young actress who played Matilda) came out on stage to sing a song from the movie!



Pancake Tuesday - Lá na bPancóg

We had a great day celebrating Pancake Tuesday recently. A big thank you to Bernie and Cindy for making everyone delicious pancakes. They went down a treat!



Oral Language

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

Anti-Bullying & Friendship Week

The Students Council/Anti-Bullying Ambassadors organised a successful Anti-Bullying and Friendship Week. They organised a poster competition for the whole school and were very impressed with all entries. Well done to all entries and see the winning posters below. The youngest and eldest pupil in our school raised our new Cineáltas Flag, to celebrate kindness and promote respect.



Mountlucas Wind Farm Trip

The pupils from 2nd-6th classes enjoyed an educational visit to Mountlucas Wind Farm this week. They learnt all about the windmills and listened to an engaging presentation from Catherine. This trip was funded by the Heritage Keepers initiative.



Cumann na mBunscol-Mini Blitz

The pupils in the senior classes represented our school at the Cumann na mBunscol Mini Blitz in Cadamstown this week. They played against Clocha Rince and Johnstownbridge.

Outreach Programme - Librarian Visit

Sandra and Claire from Edenderry Library visited the school on Friday, 23rd February as part of the Library Outreach Program. They read stories and told the classes all about the library. The senior pupils got the opportunity to use the VR Headsets, which are preloaded with educational material.

Confirmation Retreat

Eugene Smith from the De La Salle Retreat Centre in Dublin will visit the school on Tuesday, 27th February to complete a retreat programme with the Confirmation pupils from Ticknevin, Killina and Kilshanroe. Throughout the day pupils will have the opportunity to focus on key aspects of their Confirmation through interactive activities, games, videos, discussion and creative prayer. The cost of the retreat is €13 per pupil.

Cumann na mBunscol Quiz

We are asking that our 5/6th class pupils put their names forward to represent our school in the Cumann na mBunscol Quiz in Newbridge on Friday 1st March. The school will need a team of four pupils to take part.

Green-Schools

The Green-Schools Committee have organised 'The Big Travel Challenge' from 4th-15th of March. The Big Travel Challenge promotes travelling to school using sustainable modes of transport for 10 days. Further detail will follow from the Green-Schools Committee.

Tag Rugby Sessions

Seán Brien from Edenderry Rugby Club will visit to school to complete an additional block with pupils from 2nd-6th classes and a block of sessions with the junior classes to develop tag rugby skills. The classes always really enjoy the sport and we look forward to their skills developing further over the coming weeks. The dates are as follows: **February 29th, March 7th, 14th, 21st**. Please ensure pupils wear their school tracksuit and appropriate footwear on these dates.

World Book Day

This year World Book Day falls on Thursday, March 7th. The aim is to encourage children to read at home and to learn to love books. We would ask that you support us in this endeavour by encouraging reading and by taking your child to the library regularly. Book tokens to the value of €1.50 will be distributed to all children on World Book Day.



Confirmation 2024

Best wishes to Charlie, Ella, Fionn, Niamh and Sarah who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, 7th March at 11am. We hope you have a truly memorable and enjoyable day with your families and friends.



Seachtain na Gaeilge

Tá Seachtain na Gaeilge beagnach buailte linn arís. Beimid go léir ag úsáid cúpla focal chomh minic agas is féidir i rith Seachtain na Gaeilge. Seachtain na Gaeilge will be celebrated from 11th-15th March. All classes will engage in various activities and we look forward to celebrating our Irish culture and language during the week. Please attempt the cúpla focal at home with your child(ren). Friday, 15th March will be a non-uniform day to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge and we will dress in green on that day (€2 per pupil). Children are encouraged to wear at least one green item of clothing. We encourage children to be as creative as possible.

Acting Deputy Principal

Ms McCabe has assumed the role of Acting Deputy Principal while Ms Conneally is on leave. Please note that Ms McCabe is now the Acting Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp) for the school.

New Community Defibrillator

The local Community Group and Board of Management have installed a defibrillator on school grounds. Training on CPR & AED use will be provided by Eric Ryan from Balyna First Responders on **Tuesday, 12th March at 7pm** in the school. Please see email if you are interested in attending this training.

February/March Weather

As we continue to have a variety of weather conditions, please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for each and every school day. Indoor shoes are required for 2nd-6th classes.

Calendar 2024/2025

Our school calendar for the next school year (2024/25) will be available to view on our school website shortly.

Please see the calendar section on the Aladdin Connect app for all upcoming dates/events.

I hope you and your families had a relaxing and enjoyable midterm break last week. We look forward to a busy and productive month ahead.

Le gach dea-ghuí
Nóra Lynch
Principal
St. Brigid's N.S.

****Child Safeguarding***

Should you have any concern please note that the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Nóra Lynch and the Acting Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp) is Eilís McCabe.