



St. Brigid's National School

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June Newsletter 2023

Child Safeguarding

Designated Liaison Person (DLP) Nóra Lynch/Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) Grace Conneally.

School Tours

The pupils from 3rd-6th classes had their school tour in Clara Lara Adventure Park recently. They enjoyed a day of unbridled fun and adventure and also managed to get a bit wet!! The pupils from Junior Infants to 2nd classes enjoyed their trip to Let's Go Camp in Gormanstown. Photos will be added to Twitter shortly.



Active Schools Week

Active Week was a great success last week, with the added bonus of fabulous weather! The children had great fun and there was plenty of variety. The highlight of the week was Sports Day on Friday 16th. A great time was enjoyed but especially the inflatable and the ice-cream van was a huge hit. On completion of the days activities the children were presented with their medals and trophies. Special thanks goes to Mr. McGreal for organising a jam-packed, fun and activity-filled week. A huge amount of works goes on behind the scenes.



Kildare U20s

The pupils were delighted to see Eoin Cully with the All-Ireland and Leinster cups won by the Kildare U20s this year.



Green-Schools News

The Green-Schools Committee worked extremely hard to continue to promote biodiversity this final term. They planted wildflower seeds and the Green-Schools Committee watered them every day. Our Butterfly Garden is looking beautiful in full bloom the children have worked hard to weed and maintain it. Although it is summer we have continued to fill our bird feeders regularly and the increase in bird activity around the school has been noticed and enjoyed by all.

Summer tips for biodiversity:

1. Cut down on your grass-cutting.
2. Plant foods for birds (such as ivy) and insects (pollinator friendly plants).
3. Plant native trees and hedgerows.
4. Include different habitats - logs, water and stones all provide homes for different creatures.
5. Keep your eyes peeled and record sightings to: <http://records.biodiversityireland.ie/>

Internet Safety & Anti-Bullying Workshop for Pupils and Parents

We are all aware that we live in an age of unprecedented development of communication through social media. This affects our children's lives enormously, in terms of opportunity but also danger. In order to increase awareness among parents an online advice workshop, hosted by Ger Brick on 07/06/23, was organised and funded by the Board of Management. This advice workshop did not proceed because of limited parental participation. In order to facilitate greater parental involvement the event has been rescheduled for the autumn. The participation of all parents is strongly recommended in order to address the serious risks that our children may be facing.

Time to Say Goodbye!

Best wishes and congratulations to all our 6th class pupils who leave our school for the final time today (Friday, June 23rd at 12pm). We wish them every success and joy as they prepare for their next adventure. It has been a privilege to watch them grow over the years and their positive outlook has shone throughout their time with us. We wish them all the luck they deserve as they head into Post-Primary School. They celebrated their graduation from Primary school this week. Thanks to all the staff involved in putting the day together. We thank their families for their support and encouragement over the years. Massive thanks to the Parents Association for providing refreshments on the day.

Congratulations!



PAWS-Primary Aquatics Water Safety

Water Safety Ireland PAWS (Primary Aquatics Water Safety) outlines the essential life-saving guidelines that every child needs to know. The lessons are designed for all age groups, with illustrations, a wealth of tips and advice, and a variety of interactive games and puzzles to reinforce the lessons learned, PAWS offers simple common sense on how to be safe around our waterways. The pupils were presented with their PAWS certificates after completion of the course and these newfound skills makes them 'PAWS HEROS'.



Hands for Life

Many thanks to Eric Ryan an Irish Heart Foundation Certified Community First Responder Instructor and a Community First Responder who completed the 'Hands for Life' workshop with the pupils in 4th-6th classes. The course was video led and the pupils got the opportunity to practice hands on CPR using CPR mannequins. This was an excellent opportunity for our pupils.



New Primary Curriculum Framework

We received documentation for parents giving an insightful overview of the curricular changes, which are coming into effect for primary schools, beginning with maths in 23/24. The Department has circulated a leaflet which is attached and is designed to introduce these changes and encourage parents to engage in the future consultations seeking feedback on draft curriculum areas and subjects of the new curriculum. Alternative language versions of the leaflet are available to view using the following link. <http://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/027ad-primary-curriculum-framework/>

Parents' Association

We are extremely grateful to our wonderful Parents Association. Each member gives freely of their time and energy. Events are organised for the children at school and school funds are raised to enhance the learning experiences of the children. This year the Parents Association has contributed to the cost of school tour buses, sports day trophies, 6th class hoodies, a science workshop, treats for sports day, treats for graduation day, sports day inflatables and swimming buses to name a few. Money funded will also go towards a set of class iPads. As we approach the end of another school year we say a huge thank you to the Parents Association members for all they do to support St. Brigid's and your children, so that we can provide the school with the resources your children deserve. The Parents Association look forward to resuming planning in the new school year and we hope to get many more parents on board. We say a special thanks to Deirdre Tait, a long-standing member on our Parents Association who finishes with us this week. We are extremely grateful for the tremendous work and dedication she has given to the school over the years.

I would like to sincerely thank all members of the Board who work quietly behind the scenes in a voluntary capacity for our school. Their generosity of time and dedication to the school cannot be overstated and we all owe them a debt of gratitude. The members

of our Board are as follows: Chairperson - Des Hackett, Secretary - Nóra Lynch, Treasurer - Bláithín Cox, Patron Nominee - Fr. Fitzpatrick, Teacher Nominee - Peter McGreal, Parent Nominee - Patsy Gorman, Sinéad McCloskey, Community Nominee - Jim Connolly.

Best of Luck!

We would like to wish our past pupil Nathan Tait the very best of luck representing Ireland in the kickboxing in Poland next week.

Staffing 2023-2024

The class splits and teachers for the 2023-2024 school year are as follows.

Junior, Senior Infants & 1st Class: Ms. McCabe

2nd & 3rd Class: Ms. Kelleher (Ms. Osborne career break)

4th, 5th & 6th Class: Ms. Conneally

SET: Ms. Lynch & Mr. McGreal

Happy Holidays

Our school will close at 12 noon on Friday 23rd of June for the summer holidays. With another school year complete, we find ourselves looking back at the tremendous accomplishments of our pupils and staff over the past year. I would like to take this opportunity to offer our thanks to each and every one of you. To all the pupils we extend our thanks for the enthusiasm and effort you show every day. We hope the summer brings time to relax, have fun and recharge for a new school year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff members, both in classrooms and behind the scenes for all their dedication and hard- work throughout what has been another busy and exciting year.

Next Year

We will re-open on Wednesday 30th August at 9.00am. New Junior Infant pupils will come in at 9.10am for the first three mornings and finish at 12 noon to ease with the transition. From Monday 4th September they will start at 9.00am and finish at 1.40pm.

I would like to wish you all a very happy, safe & hopefully sunny summer break!

Le gach dea-ghuí

Nóra Lynch

Principal St. Brigid's N.S.