

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NOTES

The Parents' Association organised a Halloween colouring competition for every class in the school. This included sweets and a prize for every single participant.

If anybody is interested in joining the Parents' Association please contact reception or email:

edenderry.sbpa@gmail.com

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

We would like to thank all families for their continued co-operation with our new Covid-19 guidelines. Please remember not to congregate at collection times as much as possible.

MR. SPAIN

Everyone in Scoil Bhríde was very sad to say farewell to Mr. Spain on October 3rd this year. Mr. Spain has been a teacher in Scoil Bhríde since 2010 and he has added to the education and sporting achievements in our school immensely. We wish him well as he takes on the new role of principal of Ballinagar NS. Our loss is most certainly their gain. Go néirí an bother leat, Mr. Spain

WELL DONE

Well done to Kaitlyn Dunphy and Katie Cummins who are both in 6th class. The girls raised money by organising bingo to help purchase items for Ofalia House. They purchased items such as a toaster, coffee mugs, coffee machine and sweets for the residents. Well done girls! Great achievement .

SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST CONFESSION

Congratulations to the boys and girls from the class of 2020 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 19th September.

Also a big congratulations to the boys and girls from 3rd class who made their First Confession in the school on Tuesday 13th October 2020. Unfortunately, due to Government Covid 19 Guidelines, First Holy Communion had to be postponed. As soon as we have a new date for First Holy Communion we will let the boys and girls know.

NUT ALLERGY NOTICE

In order to protect the welfare of a number of our students with potentially life threatening allergies to peanuts/nuts, parents are reminded that Scoil Bhríde is a "NUT FREE SCHOOL".

SCOIL BHRÍDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Killane Edenderry, Co. Offaly.



Newsletter Issue No. 41

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for the 2020/2021 school year. I hope all our new pupils, parents and staff who have recently joined our school community have settled in by now. Starting school for the first time is a daunting enough experience, yet even more challenging in the current climate.

As we all know, schools are very different places at present in the midst of the global pandemic. The pupils, parents and staff of Scoil Bhríde have had to adapt to many changes in an effort to make our school a safe environment to be in. These changes have also resulted in some sacrifices being made in terms of daily school life. I acknowledge the particular challenge faced by some pupils in our special classes who may not understand why all these changes are in place.

I want to say a massive 'well done' to our entire school community for adhering to the public health advice as well as our own school procedures. As you know, to date, we have had a small number of positive Covid 19 cases at Scoil Bhríde. This is inevitable considering the huge number of people coming through our gates and doors each day. However, thankfully so far, none of the cases resulted in any additional cases among those deemed 'close contacts'. This is undoubtedly due to the commitment of pupils, staff and parents alike to implement all the most recent and up-to-date HSE guidance each day in order to prevent the spread of the virus.

The current lockdown has brought renewed challenges to us all and many of us are weary of the restrictions at this stage. I am particularly mindful of our 3rd class pupils who have had their First Holy Communion postponed for a second time. This is not easy, however I ask you all to keep up the fantastic effort you have made to date. This will ensure that as many pupils and staff as is possible can be in school each day, which will of course create the best teaching and learning environment for everyone.

I wish our whole school community a happy, enjoyable and safe Halloween break.

Is mise le meas,

Caoimhín Ó Dufáigh (Príomhoide)

NOTES FOR PARENTS

CHILD SAFE GUARDING INFORMATION

The Child Safeguarding statement is available to view on our website or on the wall inside the front door of the school. Our schools Designated Liason Person (DLP) is Mr. Duffy and the Deputy DLP is Ms. Rourke. The DLP, and in his absence the Deputy DLP are the first point of contact you make should you have a concern regarding the welfare of any student within the school.

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING INSPECTIONS (CPSI)

We had our final CPSI on the 13th and 14th of September 2020. There were 65 sub checks carried out by two inspectors and Scoil Bhríde was found to be fully compliant in all areas.

MORNING DROP OFF

Just to remind all parents that the drop off times in the mornings are as follows:

8:50-9:05 for Junior Infants, 1st class, 3rd class and 5th class.

9:05-9:20 for Senior Infants, 2nd class, 4th class and 6th class.

8:50 for Buses and Sonas classes.

Please remember no child should be on the premises before 8:50am as there is no supervision provided and children are not insured.

SCHOOL CLOSURES 20/21

OCTOBER <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 23rd – Halloween Fancy Dress• 26th Oct. – 30th Oct. (Incl.) – Halloween Mid-Term Break	NOVEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none">•
DECEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 22nd – Christmas Holidays (school closing at 11.30 am)	JANUARY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6th – Re-opening of school• TBC - Staff Meeting (Early finish for students)
FEBRUARY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18th & 19th - Spring Mid-Term Break	MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17th – Public Holiday (School Closure)• 26th – Easter Holidays (school closing at 11.30 am)
APRIL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12th – Re-opening of School• TBC - Staff Meeting (Early finish for students)	MAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd – Public Holiday (School Closure)• 4th – School Closure
JUNE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7th - Public Holiday (School Closure)• 25th – Summer Holidays (school closing at 11.30 am)	JULY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28th June to 23rd July 'July Provision for pupils with ASDs' - pending approval of Board of Management & Department of Education & Skills

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school calendar for the 2020/2021 school year is also available on our school website.

LITERACY UPDATES

ACCELERATED READING

We came in the top ten schools in Ireland last year with our Accelerated Reading results. This is an incredible result. Well done to all the boys and girls! Going forward we may ask children to complete their AR quizzes at home.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Due to Covid 19 safety procedures library books are not allowed to go home. Although the library is closed, the children still have an opportunity to read a book at their instructional level everyday. We have come up with a system to safely circulate books in the classroom.

The library received a very generous donation of over 100 books from a local charity shop called 'My Lovely Charity Shop'. Thank you very much to Laura Corrigan for this kind donation. The school is very thankful for these books which are all in perfect condition and on our AR system.

GET EPIC

www.getepic.com is a website that contains thousands of books for free that children can read at home. It is available until 4pm everyday. This is a great way to keep improving our reading following on from our fantastic Accelerated Reading results last year.

BOOK RETURN

There are currently over 200 outstanding school books that have not been returned from last year. Please if you come across any at home can you send them back to school. There will be a box at reception for this.