

Green Schools

The Green Schools Committee held their final meeting on Monday 24th of June. The Committee revised the steps taken thus far and noted areas for improvement for the next school year. During the year the committee created an Action Plan in order to improve our environment in the areas of litter and waste. Each member of our school was asked to take home their lunch rubbish and recycle more often in their individual rooms. The older committee members became active in emptying recycling bins every Friday afternoon. Each class was also furnished with a battery recycling box and all members of our school community was encouraged to recycle their used batteries. In addition each class set aside a box for re-using paper. These sheets and envelopes were subsequently used as rough work paper and lists etc. We also began recycling phones and the proceeds go to a very good cause called the *Jack and Jill Organisation*. In addition each class nominated a weekly 'Green Champ.' who took their role seriously by encouraging everyone in their room to reuse, reduce and recycle. The Committee have more plans for next year including hosting a Green Action Day, creating a Green Code and composting our use of blue tissue etc. We would like to take the opportunity to thank every member of our school community for their efforts in helping our whole school approach to improving our environment.

School Choir

A pizza party was held recently to congratulate and thank the choir for their dedication and commitment throughout the year. They participated in various events including Christmas Concerts, St. Brigid's Day mass, Seachtain na Gaeilge Concert and the First Holy Communion Ceremony. We look forward to doing it all next year.

Allocation of new teachers for 2013-2014 school year

Mr. Duffy will announce the new teachers for each class on the last week of school in June 2013.

Traffic management plan

The Board of Management would like to thank all parents and pupils for their co-operation regarding our new traffic management system, i.e., the changing arrangements for dropping off the children in the mornings since May. We also appreciate the recent positive comments we received from parents regarding this successful approach in the morning times. It was extremely important that we all worked together to make the new system work and we are very pleased with its success thus far. Planning permission for the new temporary accommodation is dependant upon it! The Board have asked all parents to continue to co-operate with the new traffic management system in September 2013.

First Holy Communion

The children in Second Class at Scoil Bhríde PS received both the Sacrament of Confession and their First Holy Communion. They were joined by the Second Class pupils attending Gaelscoil Éadan Doire for their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 11th. Many thanks to Ms. Hannon, and Mr. O' Sullivan for preparing their pupils for their special day. Scoil Bhríde's school choir gave a wonderful performance on the day and we would like to thank them for their great efforts. Finally, we would like to thank Fr. McEvoy for taking the time to help prepare the children for this Blessed Sacrament. It was a truly enjoyable day.

Booklists and Payments

Class booklists were distributed in early May. We are offering parents the option of paying these costs before the end of this school year. Monies can be given on a weekly basis or as a once off payment. Parents choosing the May/June payment option should have all monies paid before Wednesday June 26th. Parents choosing to pay their school fees in September must have all fees paid by the 30th of September 2013. In relation to Art & Photocopying costs, there is a € reduction to families who have a second and subsequent child in the school.

Pre-school a.s.d. graduation

Congratulations and well done to all of the pupils who graduate from the Pre-School ASD Unit this week.

Scoil Bhríde Primary School

Carrick Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.



Newsletter Issue No. 11
24th June 2013

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I would like to welcome you all to the final edition of our Parents' Newsletter for this school year. Scoil Bhríde PS has now completed its sixth year since the school's establishment in Sept. 2007. Next Wednesday marks the end of another very successful and very busy year at Scoil Bhríde PS.

Over the course of the next school year, we look forward to the commencement and completion of our new 30 classroom primary school which will be located at Killane, Edenderry. We hope to begin to enjoy the benefits of a new school building from 01 Sept. 2014.

I wish to express my appreciation to the pupils & staff of our school for all their hard work, dedication and commitment over the past school year. I am also very grateful to all the parents' of our pupils for taking on board the new traffic management system. I frequently receive many positive comments from numerous parents about our 5 week pilot drop-off system. Based on the feedback from both school staff and parents alike, I am pleased to inform that this drop-off system will continue in our school for the next school year.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the Parents' Association for their continuous support throughout the year.

I wish you all a happy, safe and enjoyable summer.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Caoimhín Ó Dufáigh (Príomh Oide)

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NOTES FOR PARENTS

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The summer holidays will commence on Wednesday June 26th at 11.30am and school will re-open on Monday September 2nd. Should you have any queries, please contact a member of staff on or before June 26th or alternatively, staff will be returning to school on Friday, August 30th and may be contacted then. **Please note that the Principal and staff will not be contactable during the holiday period.**

Full attendance certificates

Ms. Dalton will organise the presentation of certificates for pupils who had excellent and full attendance in this school year. We have noted a general improvement in the level of attendance. Well done to all concerned.

Active school s week

Active Schools Week took place last week from June 17th to June 21st and was a fantastic hit in Scoil Bhríde. During this week pupils were encouraged to be active in order to promote Physical Education throughout the school. A range of activities were held within the school in order to promote physical activity including Sports Day, various lunch-time activities and 'Walk-a-Mile with a Smile'. Pupils were encouraged to bring in recent and relevant trophies, medals or certificates. Pupils were also encouraged to wear their school tracksuit for the duration of this week. In addition 'The Golden Boot Certificate' was awarded to the class who has the highest percentage of walkers to school. Finally there was a presentation of medals and certificates for all classes on Friday afternoon. Many thanks to Mr. Spain for organising a fantastic Active Week and well done to all who helped in striving to become a physically active school community.

School Tours: All classes thoroughly enjoyed their school tour. Each of the six tours included both educational and fun aspects. Our pupils were very well behaved on each tour and a credit to both our school and their parents. Scoil Bhríde would like to thank the Parents' Association for their generous donation towards the bus costs. Junior Infants Classes enjoyed their day out in Lullymore. Senior Infants and all ASD Classes went to the Mellows Adventure Centre in Meath. First Class pupils enjoyed the experience of Tayto Park. Second Class benefitted from their visit to the Chocolate Factory and to a park. Finally our Third and Fourth Class pupils went to Clonmacnoise and also enjoyed a cruise on the River Shannon.

Your child's report: The school reports included Sten scores for literacy and numeracy results. The teachers used **STen scores** to tell you how your child did in the tests. STen scores go from 1 to 10. The table below describes what the different STen scores tell you about your child's achievement in the tests.

STen score	What does the STen score mean?	Proportion of children with this score
8-10	Well above average	1/6 or almost 17%
7	High average	1/6 or almost 17%
5-6	Average	1/3 or almost 34%
4	Low average	1/6 or almost 17%
1-3	Well below average	1/6 or almost 17%

Recycle your child's uniform: Scoil Bhríde Primary School promotes the recycling of uniforms and this initiative is coordinated by Mrs. Farrell. If you would like to avail of this confidential service or if you have unwanted uniforms that are in good quality condition please send them into the school reception. There are also uniform and non-uniform items in our 'Lost and Found' area. Parents are welcome to check if the clothes belong to their child in Room 15 after 1.30pm daily up to Tuesday 25th of June.

Recent Fundraiser: Scoil Bhríde would like to thank the following; Nicola Kenna, Isla Kenna, Catriona Flynn and Carrie Hynes-Mullally for their participation in the Flora Mini Marathon in order to raise €82 which was donated to the school for the purchase of resources for the ASD Unit Classes.

Sports: Many thanks to Edenderry GAA and team coaches Keith Mc Guinness and Jimmy O'Grady for promoting hurling and football coaching during the year.

In addition our Football Marathon was a great success as all classes participated in a five hour Football Marathon on Friday 17th of May. Each class took part in football activities during the day. Many thanks to Mr. Spain and members of the Parents' Association for organising the event. Scoil Bhríde would also like to thank the local Edenderry and Offaly GAA players who also coached the children on the day.

Recent football match: Our Ladies Football Team made history on Friday 14th of June when they became the first ladies football team to represent our school in a challenge match against local rivals from Croghan National School. Each of our footballers wore their hearts on their sleeves and played excellently. Our girls were very excited and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of the game. We are looking forward to more football matches in the coming school year. Many thanks to the following teachers; Ms. Evans, Ms. Dalton and Ms. McDonnell for training our Ladies Football Team.

Personal Achievement:

Congratulations to our Third Class pupil Naoise Colvin who won gold in the 25kg Category in the 'Clondalkin Rumble Fight Night' which is an advanced kickboxing challenge on Saturday 15th of June. Naoise brought in her Gold Trophy as part of celebrating Active Schools Week. Well Done Naoise!

Liam McCarthy and National League cup visit

Our pupils enjoyed the recent opportunity to see both The Liam McCarthy Cup and The National League Cup and learn more about hurling. A special thank you to Edenderry local Cillian McGlynn who brought the cup from the James Stephens GAA Club in Kilkenny.