

French Classes

Ms. McDonnell reported French lessons will finish next Tuesday. There was a huge interest this year and lessons have been going very well so far. Next week children will be tasting some French

Rugby coaching

Rugby Coach Patsy Gorman is continuing to train various class levels. A rugby blitz is currently being organised with pupils in Fourth Classes.

Visual arts

Pupils in Third and Fourth Classes will soon receive instruction from local artist Eleanor O' Connor-Larrissey. The pupils concerned are really looking forward to enjoyable art activities.

Junior Infant Enrolment September 2013

Scoil Bhríde Primary School will hold an Enrolment Week for Junior Infants due to commence school in September 2013. Applications for Enrolment will be processed from Monday 12th of November 2012 to Friday 16th of November 2012 between the hours of 8.30 am and 3 pm each day. Please bring your child's Birth / Baptismal Certificate and PPS No. which is available from the Dept. of Social & Family Affairs – Client Identity Section, Ph. (01) 7043281 / 7043418. For further information on Scoil Bhríde Primary School, please see www.scoilbhrideps.com.

Parents' association fundraiser

Best wishes to Michael Bryan and to Willie Duffy who will partake in the Dublin City Marathon on Monday next. Sponsorship cards are currently in circulation. All proceeds will go to the Parents' Association to subsidise costs for various school activities/school resources throughout the school year. In addition, a small donation will be made to The Jack & Jill Foundation. As ever, your support would be very much appreciated.

Recycle your child's uniform

Scoil Bhríde Primary School promotes the recycling of school uniforms which 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 reception of the school. This service can be beneficial for those pupils who enrol during the school year or for those who have lost or wish to replace their child's uniform. Donations of all items of the Scoil Bhríde Primary School uniform are welcome – including ties, shirts, polo shirts, jumpers, trousers, pinafores, cardigans, school tracksuits and school jackets.

Witches and Wizards wood walk

The annual 'Witches and Wizards Wood Walk' took place on Tuesday 16th of October 2012 to Donadea Forest Park. A most enjoyable day was had by all. A big thanks to all the staff involved in making it a huge success.

Team hope Christmas shoe box appeal

Scoil Bhríde is collaborating with the *Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal* to send shoebox gifts to children who have very little in this world. If you are interested in filling a shoebox with a range of gifts please remember to do the following;

- ◆ Get an average size shoebox and wrap it with Christmas paper. Please wrap the box and lid separately.
- ◆ Choose who you'd like to receive your gift – a boy or a girl, in one of three age groups: 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years.
- ◆ Cut out the appropriate sticker from the promotional leaflet and stick it to the top of your box.
- ◆ Fill your box with appropriate gifts.
- ◆ Include €1* (in the attached envelope, either on top of the gifts, or taped to the inside of the lid).
- ◆ Close the box with an elastic band, but please don't seal it with tape, as it needs to be checked.
- ◆ Drop the box into school before November 8th.

Scoil Bhríde Primary School

Carrick Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.



Newsletter Issue No. 9
24th October 2012

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

As you will be aware from recent media coverage, the Minister for Education & Skills, Mr. Ruairí Quinn, has started a new process to look at the possible transfer of some schools run by the Catholic Church to other patron bodies in 44 areas around the country. Edenderry has been selected as one of those 44 areas.

Parents of primary and pre-school children in Edenderry will soon be asked to complete an on-line survey indicating their preference as to what type of primary school that they would like their children to attend.

In September 2007, Scoil Bhríde Primary School was established as a Catholic School by the Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin. The responses of parents to the on-line survey will be used to consider what changes, if any, could be made to widen the choice of primary schools in Edenderry.

The Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde Primary School will keep parents informed of this process according as information is made available to them from the Dept. of Education & Skills.

In the meantime, I wish everybody an enjoyable Mid-term break and we look forward to welcoming all our pupils back on Monday the 5th of November.

Is mise le meas,

***Caoimhín O'Duáigh** (Príomh Oide)*

PHONE / FAX: 046-9773451

Website: www.scoilbhrideps.com

Email: info@scoilbhrideps.com

NOTES FOR PARENTS

Fire safety talk

On Tuesday the 9th of October two Fire Officers, Gabriel Conlon and Séamus McGuinness visited Third and Fourth Classes and gave a very interesting talk on fire safety as part of their SPHE Curriculum. The pupils learned about the many roles that fire fighting crews play in emergency situations, including fires in premises, road accidents, water rescue and chemical fires. Ciara Dempsey from Third Class reported that she learned a lot about fire prevention at home. *“One of the most important things they told us was to make sure we have working smoke alarms in our homes and to ensure that all of our families know an escape routine”*. Ciara also reported that they advised her class to *“have a look around our homes and see the areas we need to think about to make sure our homes are safe, if we find a dangerous spot, point it out to the grown-up looking after you. There is also a lot of useful tips in the information pack that the Fire Chief has given to all the pupils”*. Scoil Bhríde Primary School would like to thank Gabriel Conlon and Séamus McGuinness for their excellent workshop.

Halloween fancy dress party

Celebrations for Halloween are taking place on Friday 26th of October. The children will be dressing up in Fancy Dress Costume and taking part in enjoyable Halloween games and celebrations in class. Everyone is looking forward to the celebrations. As a fundraiser children are asked to bring in €2. The money raised will be divided between *Bee For Batters* and *The Jack and Jill Foundation*.

Homework club

Mr. McDonnell, Mr. Spain, Mr. Carney and Mr. O’ Regan reported that *The Homework Club* is now up and running and so far it has been a great success. We have had over twenty hard working children who arrive in and finish their homework every day. We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the children in the homework club for being so well behaved and for working so well at all of their extra English and Maths work over the past few weeks. Well done everybody!

School choir

Ms. Fitzgerald, Ms. Coleman, Ms. Keane and Ms. Byrne are involved with the Scoil Bhríde Primary School Choir which is up and running since the beginning of October. Pupils who are participating in the choir must attend every Thursday from 2 – 3 pm.

School Band

The Scoil Bhríde Primary School Band is also up and running since the beginning of October. Auditions have just taken place for pupils in Second, Third and Fourth Classes who are interested in joining the band.

Green Schools programme

Scoil Bhríde has recently applied to the Green Schools Programme which will involve a whole school approach to improving our environment. We are currently forming our Green Schools Committee and will begin implementing the first theme of the programme which is ‘Litter and Waste’ following the mid-term break. The Green Schools Committee plan to examine the impact of litter and waste on the environment and practical means to reducing and minimising the amount of litter and waste produced by the school.

Christmas panto. arrangements
Having consulted with the Parents’ Association, we are delighted to announce that this year’s Christmas Pantomime will be performed at Scoil Bhríde. The Show is called *“Hippo For Christmas”*, and will take place on Wednesday the 19th of December. Every child will receive a book and a C.D. following the performance. The price of the show will be confirmed at a later date.

Primary curricular aquatics

Ms. Hannon (Swimming Coordinator) reported that this year First, Second, Third and Fourth Classes completed six lessons in Edenderry Swimming Pool. The children thoroughly enjoyed advancing from the blue group to the red group each week. She would like to congratulate all children on their efforts. The inflatable obstacle course was especially enjoyable. We would also like to thank all of the staff at the swimming pool.

Gaelic Football for boys

Mr. O’ Regan, Mr. O Sullivan, Mr. Carney, Mr. Spain and Mr. McDonnell are continuing to train Gaelic Football for boys on Fridays between 2.30—3.30 pm. The sessions may be cancelled on very wet days and a text message may be sent out to notify parents.

Gaelic Football for girls

Ms. McDonnell, Ms. Dalton and Ms. Evans are delighted that girls football has taken off to a great start. Girls from First Class to Fourth Class are learning new skills and building confidence with each training session. Thank you to all parents on returning notes regarding football. The sessions may also be cancelled on very wet days and a text message may be sent out to notify parents.
