

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NOTES

The Parents' Association would like to wish all the children and their families a wonderful break this Halloween. The PA organised Halloween colouring sheets for the children to enjoy. We also kicked off our first raffle this year and we have some lovely hampers to be won. The draw for this takes place on Friday 27th October.

The PA will be in the Halla on Friday 27th October from 9am-2pm hosting Halloween fun and games for all classes. We need parents to help; please reach out to us if you have any spare time.

Also, on Friday 27th October, we are hosting our first Disco event with some spot prizes on the night for costumes and dancing.

The PA has a number of available roles on our committee. If anyone would like to take on a role or get involved, please reach out to us on our FB Page or by email to edenderry.sbpa@gmail.com. We desperately need more parents to get involved.

We would like to thank all the parents for their kind and generous support of all our fundraisers throughout the coming year so that we can continue to provide treats for the children.

COMMUNION OUTFIT SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

Five local primary schools, along with some community organisations, are working together to create a second-hand Communion outfit pop-up shop. The shop will be open in Edenderry on dates in November and January. All items from the shop will be free of charge, but donations to LauraLynn Children's Hospice can be made by those who visit the shop. We are inviting people to donate any Communion outfits or accessories that they are happy to part with to the project. Donations can be dropped to reception between now and 20th November, 2023. Communion dresses, suits, shoes, accessories etc. will be greatly appreciated.

DEIS NOTICES

DEIS: A BRIEF EXPLAINER

Scoil Bhríde was designated a DEIS school in 2022. DEIS stands for Delivering Equality in Schools and is the national programme for tackling disadvantage in schools. There are a number of key themes associated with DEIS – Literacy, Numeracy, Attendance, Retention, Transitions to school, Partnerships with Parents/Others. The school has devised an action plan which aims to tackle areas of need under each of these themes. Some initiatives which have already been implemented as part of the DEIS plan include: Hot Lunches, Breakfast Club, Homework Club, School Completion Programme, Play Therapy, Nurture Room, free Parents courses including cooking and baking. More information on DEIS and the current initiatives being implemented in the school is available on the school website.

ATTENDANCE

As part of our DEIS plan, we are aiming to improve our school attendance as a whole but we can't do so without the help of you – our parents and guardians. Last year our attendance improved from 87% to 91%. Along with maintaining and improving on this great progress, we are also aiming to address the current levels of students arriving late to school and leaving early. Last year over 70,000 minutes of teaching time was lost due to students leaving early and arriving late; this amounts to just over 220 days of teaching!! We need your help to tackle this issue and are asking that children arrive at school for 8:50am and are only taken out of school for important reasons such as appointments or family emergencies.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Team Hope's Christmas Shoe Box Appeal makes a welcome return this year. Should your child wish to partake we would ask that all shoeboxes are returned to the school by November 10th and include a €5 donation to cover Team Hope's cost of running the initiative.

Scoil BHRÍDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Issue No. 53
October 2023

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s),

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for the 2023/2024 school year. I hope all our new pupils, parents and teachers who have recently joined our school community have settled in by now.

Well done to all the 6th class pupils to participated in the inter-schools quiz at St. Mary's Secondary School at the start of the month. A special congratulations goes to Noah Rush, Noah Fox, Adam Bourke and Bróna Hynes who got 1st place.

On Thursday October 26th, the Minister of Education, Norma Foley visited our school for the first assembly of the year. She presented various awards including attendance awards, reading awards and the Green Flag. This was a very special event for our school.

In a final note, I would like to thank the outgoing Board of Management for all their hard work and dedication to the school over the past four years. I would also like to welcome the new Board which will be effective from December 1st 2023.

I wish everybody a happy, enjoyable and safe Halloween break.

Is mise le meas,

Caoimhín Ó Dufaigh (Príomhoide)

NOTES FOR PARENTS

CHILD SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

The Child Safeguarding statement is available to view on our website or on the wall inside the front door of the school. Our school's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr. Duffy and the Deputy DLP is Mrs. Duffy. 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.

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".

SCHOOL OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES

The main door to the school opens at 8.30am for Breakfast Club. Children are not insured on the premises before this time. Staff supervise the drop off from 8:50am –9:00am. Please do not get out of your car, and please have your children alight from the passenger side of the car. Parents/pupils walking into the school grounds are reminded to use the zebra crossings at all times. All pedestrians are advised to enter by the small pedestrian gates at the main entrance and to stay on the footpath at all times. In the evenings, infants should be collected promptly at 1:30pm and Senior Classes collected at 2:30pm as our school insurance ceases at this time.

JUNIOR INFANT ENROLMENT SEPT. 2024

Scoil Bhríde will begin its enrolment process for the 2024/2025 school year in January 2024. More details will be posted to our school website and social media platforms in the coming months. Enrolment forms will be available from January on our website and at reception.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2023/2024

October <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 27th – Halloween Fancy Dress● 30th Oct – 3rd Nov (inclusive) – Halloween Mid-Term Break	November <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 10th – School Photographer● 21st & 22nd – Parent / Teacher Meetings
December <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 22nd – Christmas Holidays (school closing at 11.30 am)	January <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 8th – Re-opening of School● 23rd - Staff Meeting (exact time for early closure TBC)
February <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 5th – Public Holiday (School Closure)● 15th & 16th inclusive - Spring Mid-Term Break● 19th –School re-opening	March <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 18th – Public Holiday (School Closure)● 22nd – Easter holidays (School closing at 11.30 am)
April <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 8th – Re-opening of School● 20th - Confirmation	May <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 3rd – School Closure● 6th – Public Holiday (School Closure)● 7th - Staff Meeting (exact time for early closure TBC)● 11th – 1st Holy Communion
June <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 3rd - Public Holiday (School Closure)● 21st – Summer Holidays (School closing at 11.30 am)	July <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 24th of June to 19th of July 'July Provision for pupils with ASDs'- pending approval of Board of Management & Department of Education

The School Calendar for the 2023/2024 school year is also available on the school website and on Aladdin Connect.

OTHER NOTICES

MATHS WEEK

Maths Week 2023 was a huge success! Activities throughout the week demonstrated how maths can be fun, useful and applied to everyday life. A big thank you to all the parents/ guardians, children and teachers for their cooperation in making this a very enjoyable week for all. The children participated in maths trails, quizzes, games, activities, and discussions throughout the week.

QUIZ TEAMS

Well done to Noah Rush, Noah Fox, Adam Bourke and Bróna Hynes who came 1st in the inter-schools quiz at St. Mary's Secondary School at the start of the month. 40 teams from 14 different schools took part, and they won a €250 Sports Direct voucher for the school. Congratulations!

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL

Well done to the boys' and girls' football teams who competed in the Cumann na mBunscol competitions again this year. Hard luck to the boys' football team who lost out by a single point in the final against Clara. A special word of thanks to all teachers who are involved in coaching football in our school.

PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

On Wednesday October 25th, we hosted a pumpkin carving competition in the school. Parents/ guardians were invited to come to the school to work with their child/children to carve a pumpkin. Well done to everyone who participated.

NEW STAFF

Scoil Bhríde would like to welcome our new members of staff who have joined us this year:

Ms. Dermody	Ms. Gaffney	Ms. Green
Mr. Hickey	Ms. Lalor	Ms. Minnock
Mrs. O'Meara	Mrs. Osborne	Ms. Power
	Mrs. Swaine	