



7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Mr. Noel Swan  
Scoil Bhríde  
Killane  
Edenderry  
Co. Offaly  
R45 X951

Dear Pupils of Scoil Bhríde,

I was very happy to hear that you have now received your 5<sup>th</sup> Green Flag which was for biodiversity. This is a big achievement. Congratulations and well done to everyone in Scoil Bhríde!

I know that you have also achieved Flags for Litter and Waste, Energy, Water and Travel in recent years.

Your school got this award for excellence as a Green School because you all worked very hard to help nature and showed how much you care about the environment.

You have increased the biodiversity around your school by nurturing plant and animal life in the area in the last year. I was really interested to hear that you created a new wildlife area to attract bees and butterflies. I heard too that you made window boxes to plant flowers and that you planted apple trees. It's fantastic to think that students of Scoil Bhríde will be able to enjoy these for many years to come.

Nature relies on us all to act with respect and care for the environment. Achieving five Green Flags shows me that the whole school, your teachers and of course, your parents, are committed to improving the world we live in. This achievement would not be possible without everybody working together and I know that participating in your Green School's Committee is a very important part of school life for many of you.

I would like to thank your Principal, Mr Duffy, along with the school community of teachers and other staff for their commitment and dedication to developing greener ways of doing things in your school that help our planet.

Congratulations again. This is a great day for you and a great day for our environment. You are a credit to your families and to your community. Keep up the good work!

Yours sincerely,

Leo Varadkar T.D.  
Taoiseach