



May Newsletter 2022

STEM Activities (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

Well done to all our pupils who took part in the Engineering Competition last month. We were very impressed with the amount of effort and participation with this initiative. We certainly have some future engineers here in St. Brigid's N.S. Well done to everyone!





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Parents Association Sponsored Walk

The Parents Association organised an extremely successful Sponsored Walk during the Easter holidays and an amazing €2,036.50 was raised for school funds. Funds raised will be used to subsidise the swimming bus 2022, school tour buses and external visitors. We hope to add to our fund to purchase an additional ICT interactive whiteboard for our third classroom.

Tag Rugby

All classes have completed a block of Tag Rugby sessions this term. Many thanks to Patsy Gorman for providing this opportunity for the pupils.

Hurling

A games promotion officer from Kildare GAA and Broadford Hurling, Kelly Perkins has been working with all pupils on promoting the game and improving their hurling skills this term. She is currently completing a four-week block with all classes.

Bike Week 2022

Bike Week is a celebration of active travel, sustainable transport and simply the joys of cycling a bike! Green-Schools are celebrating Bike Week this week. National COW Day (Cycle on Wednesday) was held on Wednesday, May 18th. We were blown away with the huge effort made and saw our bike shelter full with bikes and scooters. This is also a great opportunity to talk to your child about bike and road safety.

First Holy Communion

Second class will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion in Holy Family Church, Derrinturn on Friday, 27th May at 9.30am. Best of wishes to Aidan, Alex, Ava, Billy, Cadhla, Cara, James, Michael, Orla and Tristan, we hope you have a lovely memorable day with family.

Attendance

Parents are reminded that all absences from school must be excused with a written note (via Aladdin Connect) stating reason for absence. Unexplained absences will be recorded and reported as 'unexplained'. All schools are legally obliged to make a report to the National Education Welfare Board when a pupil is absent for a cumulative 20 days or more.



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Standardised Tests

Standardised testing in reading and maths will take place over the coming weeks for pupils in 1st-6th class. Please ensure your child attends school, is punctual, has adequate sleep, good nutrition and appropriate stationery so that they can perform to their potential during these tests.

Standardised testing is one form of assessment used in schools. Many other forms of assessment are also used throughout the year. These include; teacher observation, self-assessment, work samples (including those on Seesaw), projects and weekly/termly tests. Standardised tests have many merits but do not measure many aspects of a child's learning and ability. Standardised tests do not measure resilience, creativity, critical thinking, self-discipline, social skills or motivation. Results of standardised tests will be communicated to parents via Aladdin Connect in June.

Early Collections

All early collections will need to be inputted in the school Aladdin Connect system one day in advance. Early collections can only be accommodated for specific medical appointments or family emergencies. Children must be collected from the green gate.

The school gate opens at 8.50am and supervision is provided from 8.50am-9am. **Children should not be dropped off in the school grounds before 8.50am.** If your child walks or cycles to school, they should aim to reach the school as close to 8.50/9am as possible.

Active Schools Week

Active Schools Week will take place from the 13th to 17th June. Ensure children wear their school tracksuit and runners for the week. We are looking forward to an action packed week for all.

Sports Day

Our Annual Sports Day will take place on Friday the 17th June. (weather permitting). Details of team colours/t-shirt colour will be distributed to each family shortly. The Parents Association are kindly organising a treat for the children on the day.



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Bog Fieldtrip

Paula Farrell from Irish Peatlands Conservation Council will visit our school on Wednesday 22nd of June. All children will get the opportunity to complete hands on activities in the bog and they will learn about the flora and fauna of the habitat. Please ensure the children wear suitable footwear. This fieldtrip will be funded by the Parents Association.

Graduation

The Graduation for our 6th class pupils will take place on Monday the 20th of June. Further details will follow.

Anti-Bullying Policy

We have currently reviewed our Anti-Bullying Policy and it will be available to view on our school website www.ticknevinns.ie. It addresses cyber-bullying in our school. I am sure you are already aware that there are risks and dangers associated with your child using social media. If you allow your child to use social media, parental supervision is required at all times. I would like to make you aware of the fact that the legal age for using most applications is thirteen. Our school has safeguarding in place with regards to pupil internet/website access at school. It is important that all parents are aware that use outside school falls under parental responsibility.

Uniforms

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing the appropriate uniform. Our school crest is a compulsory part of our uniform and crests can be purchased from the office at secretary@ticknevinns.ie. Shorts and trousers should be plain navy and no logos are permitted. In accordance with our Code of Behaviour, all long hair should be tied up.

School Tours

School tour season is almost upon us. The Junior Tour (Junior Infants - 2nd class) will head on a trip to Kilcullen to 'Let's Go' on Tuesday, 7th June. Our Senior Tour (3rd - 6th class) will go to Bay Sports in Athlone on Friday, 10th June. Further details and itinerary to follow.



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Book Rental

The book lending scheme for children in 3rd - 6th class will go ahead for the next school year. This scheme covers all the books and workbooks that the children will require. Further information and a payment link will follow in June.

End of Year Reports

School reports will be sent to parents via Aladdin Connect on Friday 10th June. You will also receive a copy of the school calendar for next year, your child's booklist/stationery list.

Please remember that report cards are for parents not children. They are information for you on how your child has progressed throughout the school year and the comments of their class teacher. Research indicates that undue stress is sometimes caused to some children, particularly with regards to STEN scores in English & Maths. Again be aware that these standardised tests are but a snapshot of reading and comprehension and mathematical skills. The most important information with regards to your child(ren)'s learning is what you receive from their class teacher who has worked with them over a long period of time. Please read report yourself only and discuss the contents of report (at an age appropriate level if you deem appropriate) with your child and praise their efforts.

Child Protection

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Nóra Lynch.

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDPL) is Grace Conneally.

Please contact the above persons if you have a child protection concern.

Dates for Diary

All upcoming events for the remainder of the school year, as they become known to us, will be recorded on the Aladdin Connect app, in the 'Calendar' section.

Please check the Aladdin Connect app regularly for notifications.

Thank you all for your continued support and co-operation.

Le gach dea-ghuí
Nóra Lynch
Principal, St. Brigid's N.S.



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Dates for Diary

Sacrament of Communion: Friday, 27th May 9.30am.

Exceptional School Closure: Thursday, 2nd June (Power Outage)

School Closure: Friday, 3rd June.

School Closure: Monday, 13th June. (Staff Training)

Summer Holidays: School closes at 12pm on Friday 24th June.