

Scoil Bhríde
Clane
Co. Kildare
Principal: Mrs. Eimear Hennessy



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September Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year. We would like to extend a warm welcome to our 74 new Junior Infants and the 9 new students who have joined us throughout the school. A warm welcome back to our existing students also. The children seem to be happy and content and have settled well back to school.

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our staff as we begin another school year. Six new teachers who have joined us this year – Ms. Clohessy, Ms. Duffy, Ms. McKinley, Ms. Lipsett, Ms. Gately and Ms. Shaw. We look forward to working with them in the year ahead.

1. Condolences

We would like to express our deepest sympathies to the family of Bridgette Murphy and to our colleagues in Scoil Phádraig on the sad passing of Bridgette. May she rest in peace.

2. Entrances

As our school continues to grow we have had to change some of the entrances from which the children enter and exit the building in line with their classrooms. The following is a list of the entrances to be used by the children.

The original entrance – Junior Infants, 1st class, 3rd class, 4th class

The new entrance – Senior Infants, 6th class, 5th class, 2nd class.

3. Head Lice

We have had incidences of head lice reported in a number of classes already. Please be vigilant in checking your child's hair and treat it when necessary.

Please ensure your child's hair is tied back every day when coming to school to try and prevent the spread of head lice.

4. Camogie

Ms. Deirbhile Byrne will be coming to school for the month of September to coach camogie. She will be coaching 1st class, 4th class and 5th class on Tuesday's and Thursdays. The children are encouraged to bring their own hurls and helmets on the day if they have them. Tracksuits should be worn.

5. Presidential Election

As Scoil Bhríde is a Polling Station – the school will be closed on Friday 26th October to facilitate the Presidential Election.

6. Journals

The school journals are available from your daughters' teacher for €5. (1st to 6th class). This was not included in the cost of the fees.

7. Library

Our new school library was fitted during the summer holidays. We would like to thank the Parents Association for all their work helping to fundraise for this and to you the Parent body for your support of their fundraising.

We are hoping to build up the stock of picture books in the library so the junior classes can enjoy the use of the library as much as the older classes. If anybody has any picture books in good condition that they are willing to donate to the school please send them in. We hope the girls enjoy this new space.

8. Donations

We now have six infant classes for the first time ever. Any donations of jigsaws, lego, games, dolls etc. in good condition would be much appreciated.

9. Weaving Well Being

The students from 3rd to 6th class will be working on the 'Weaving Well Being' programme this year. This programme, which is taught over 10 lessons, gives children the opportunity to weave positivity into their daily lives through a range of activities in a variety of areas. These areas include identifying and using their authentic character strengths, boosting positive emotions, developing and nurturing positive relationships and connections, building practical resilience skills (including mindfulness) and developing self-efficacy through empowering beliefs. We hope it is a positive experience for all our students. If you wish to read more about this see www.weavingwellbeing.com

10. Updating our files

Just a reminder! If you have changed phone number, job, address or child minder, please let us know so we can update our Data Management system.

11. Nut Free Zone

Scoil Bhríde is officially a 'NUT FREE' zone. Please do not send in treats for your daughter for birthday's etc. as this is not permitted due to the number of allergies in the school and some children may be left out.

12. Medication

If your child requires an inhaler or any medication during school hours please send it in to the class teacher clearly labelled and in date. Medication can only be administered with prior consent of the Board of Management.

13. Birthday Party Invitations

This is a gentle reminder that birthday party invitations cannot be given out on schools grounds as it can be upsetting for children.

14. Parents Association

The Parents Association will be holding a used clothing collection on 17th October.

15. Mass

The beginning of school year mass will be held in the Parish Church on Wednesday 19th September at 10 O'clock. First to 6th class will attend.

16. Swimming

The 6th class students start swimming on Thursday 6th September in K Leisure Naas. Each of the classes from 2nd to 6th will go swimming at some stage during the school year. Swimming is part of the aquatics strand of the P.E curriculum.

17. Playball

The Playball team are coming into the school on Monday 10th September to offer a taster session to our new Junior Infants.

18. Leinster Leader

The Leinster Leader are coming on Thursday 13th September to take a class photo of the Junior Infants. Consent forms will be sent home for this.

19. Junior Infant Photographs

Vincent McNamara will come to the school on Wednesday 19th September to take the Junior Infants individual and class photos.

20. Active Schools

Congratulations to Molly Kelly who came up with our brilliant Active Schools Motto:

"Your heart needs to beat, so move your feet!"

The Active Schools Committee would like to remind all of the pupils to take part in our 'Physical Activity Pupil Survey'. The survey is available on the home page of our school website, www.scoilbhrideclane.ie . This survey will really help us to understand how active our pupils are and what activities they like to do! Thank you to all those who have already completed it.

21. Yoga classes

Junior Infant teacher Amy Young is currently training as a children's yoga teacher and hopes to begin teaching after-school classes here in Scoil Bhríde later this year. Yoga and mindfulness for children has many known benefits including physical benefits such as improving flexibility, strength and coordination. Perhaps more importantly, it can improve concentration, and enhance a sense of calm and relaxation. Yoga at an early age also encourages self-esteem and body awareness as it is a physical activity that is non-competitive by nature.

If you would be interested in enrolling your daughter in yoga as an extra-curricular activity, please complete the short online survey on the school website, stating your preferred option for time and date. Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TTNYJ86>

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Eimear Hennessy
Principal