

*Scoil Bhríde
Clane
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March Newsletter

Storm Emma

Last Wednesday morning we woke to a blanket of snow which resulted in school closure. The school was also closed on Thursday and Friday due to the red alert which was issued. We were closed on Monday following advice from Kildare County Council as the roads around Clane were still treacherous. I hope the girls had lots of fun in the snow and lots of happy memories were made.

I'd like to express a sincere thank you to David, our caretaker, for all his work clearing the paths around the school so that we could open on Tuesday. I'd like to thank the army who were a huge help to David. David also organised for the staff car park to be cleared.

Contact Details

It has come to our attention that some people did not receive the texts that were sent out to update parents about school closures as a result of Storm Emma. Please contact the office if you did not receive texts to make sure we have your up to date contact details.

St. Patrick's Day

A prayer service for St. Patrick's Day will be held on Friday 16th March. The school will be closed on Monday 19th March as it is the Bank Holiday for St. Patrick's Day.

Eason's Spelling Bee

Mrs. Maybury and Mrs. May held trials for the Eason's Spelling Bee which is due to take place on the 7th March. Jodie Corry from 6th class will represent the school at this event in Crookstown N.S. We wish Jodie the best of luck.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

A céilí for Seachtain na Gaeilge will be held on Friday 16th March. The children are asked to wear their tracksuit to school that day but they can also wear their green accessories.

Junior Infants 2017/2018

We have 83 new Junior Infants enrolled for the next school year. That will mean three classes. We look forward to welcoming our new girls in September. The current Junior Infants will finish at 12 O'Clock on 30th May to facilitate the class meetings for the incoming Junior Infants.

Library Visit

The Senior Infants were due to visit the local library on Thursday 1st March dressed as a character from their favourite book. This visit is rescheduled for Thursday 22nd March.

Mother's Day Show

The Senior Infants Mother's Day show has been postponed until Friday 23rd March at 10am to give the girls an opportunity to prepare properly for the show. We apologise for the short notice – a text was sent on Tuesday with regard to the new date.

Confirmation

We would like to wish all the girls who are making their Confirmation on the 10th March the best of luck. A special word of thanks to Mrs. May and Mrs. McKenna for all their work preparing the girls in school and to Trish O'Neill for all her work on the Faith Friends programme. We hope the girls have a lovely memorable day.

11 O'clock – Mrs. May's class.

2 O'clock – Mrs. McKenna's class.

The Confirmation photos will be taken in the school on Wednesday 14th March.

Our 5th class girls, together with the 5th class boys from Scoil Phádraig, are all working very hard preparing for the Confirmation choir. We would like to thank them for giving of their time to help celebrate the Confirmation children's day. Thank you to Mrs. D'Arcy, Mrs. Maybury and Mrs. Tully for all their work with the choir.

GAA Coaching

The GAA have organised 50 hours of coaching, 25 each for football and hurling through the GAA development programme. This coaching will begin after the Easter holidays when details are finalised.

Run Around Europe Challenge

We have been putting our 1km loop around the school to good use this year, by completing the Run around Europe challenge. Each class are going running at least once a week and Ms. May's 6th class are calculating how far we have run as a school in total. So far we are at Lisbon, and are excited to see how much further we can get before the Easter holidays.

Football

Cumann na mBunscoil 2018 Training for the Senior Girls Football has been delayed due to the inclement weather. The girls hope to get going with training next week. The panels from 5th and 6th will play matches after the Easter Break.

Hockey

In February, we had great excitement as the captain of the Irish Hockey team Megan Frazer came to visit our school. She took a session with the hockey team and taught us some of her tricks and skills! She also did a Q and A session with the girls, in which they learned a lot about persistence, training hard and never giving up. The girls put their new skills into practice later that week, with a trip to Naas Hockey Club to play Sallins NS in a friendly blitz. We were very proud of the girls on the day as their hockey, behaviour and sportsmanship was commended by the other school. We are now preparing for the Kildare Primary School Blitz which takes place on March 22nd.

Grow in Love

The 3rd and 4th class teachers will attend In-service on the new 'Grow in Love' programme for religion for 3rd and 4th class in Scoil Bhríde in Naas on Tuesday 13th March at 2pm.

Violin

Thank you to everyone who has paid their violin charges. There are however some violin charges outstanding. We would greatly appreciate if any outstanding balances could be paid as soon as possible. You can ring the office or check with your daughter's teacher if payment has been made.

The Board will discuss receipts from Violin at the next meeting and decide if it is sustainable for next year.

SAP

SAP have once again kindly invited our 6th class girls to 'A girls in Technology' day on the 21st and 22nd March. This is generously funded by SAP. Thanks to Ronan O'Connell for organising this for us each year.

Dental Nurse

The Dental Nurse from the HSE called to visit the Junior Infants, Senior Infants, and 1st, 3rd and 5th classes to talk about dental care at the end of February.

Child Protection

The new Child Protection measures come into effect on the 11th March. As part of these measures any parent/person in contact with the children must be Garda Vetted. This would include parents accompanying classes on school tours, trips to the church etc. We would appreciate if any parent who volunteers in such roles could fill out the Garda vetting form. It is available on the school website under the Policies tab.

We would also kindly ask that any children arriving late to school are brought to reception. Parents are unable to accompany them to their classrooms. We appreciate your co-operation with this.

Parents of pre-school children must walk around to the pre-school entrance. They cannot access the preschool/ after school club through the main school building.

Stay Safe

The Stay Safe programme has been updated and we are now mandated to teach the programme in its entirety annually. Please familiarise yourself with the content of the programme. <http://www.staysafe.ie/teachers.htm>

Engineer's week

Two engineers from Intel visited Ms. Barrett's 2nd class on Tuesday 27th February to work with the children as part of Engineer's week. The children really enjoyed the experience.

General Reminders

Over the last few weeks a couple of issues have cropped up. Just a gentle reminder of the following rules.

- No nuts allowed. Scoil Bhríde is a nut free school. This includes 'Nutella'. We have a number of children with serious allergies to nuts.
- Treats are only allowed on a Friday.
- Tracksuits from 1st – 6th class can only be worn on PE days unless notification is given to parents.
- Coloured braids and beads in hair are not allowed. Only one pair of stud earrings can be worn.
- Children should have only one pencil case for school.
- Antibiotics, Neurofen and Calpol cannot be administered by staff during the school day.

Sponsored Walk

The date earmarked for the Parent's Association Sponsored Walk in Donadea is Sunday 22nd April. We are awaiting approval from Coillte to confirm this date.

Swimming

The third class students will begin swimming lessons in K Leisure in Naas on Thursday, 15th March. The cost for the 6 weeks is €48.

Gymnastics

The Gymnastics class missed on Thursday 1st March because of the snow was made up on Tuesday 6th March. The last block of gymnastics classes will begin on Thursday 12th April. The following classes will participate in the last block – Ms. Johnsons (4th), Ms. Heneghan's (4th), Mrs. Maybury (5th), Mrs. D'Arcy (5th) and Mrs. May (6th). The cost of this is €10.

Couch to 5k

The 6th class girls will once again take part in the Couch to 5k programme. We will begin the 9 week programme after the Easter holidays and will finish with a 5k parkrun on Saturday 16th June. We look forward to running with the girls again this year. Thank you to Ms. Young and Ms. Barrett and the 6th class teachers for supporting this venture.

Easter Camp

Ms. Young and Mrs. Dermody are running an Easter Camp for Junior Infants to 4th class students.

Dates: 26th – 29th March

Time: 10 am to 2 pm.

Please contact the teachers for additional information.

Summer Camps

There will be four Summer Camps in the school this year.

July 2nd – 6th - Mrs. D’Arcy and Ms. Stafford

July 9th – 13th – Ms. Young and Ms. Doyle

July 16th – 20th – Ms. Gleeson (Drama camp with arts and crafts)

August 13th – 17th – Starcamp

Easter Holidays

Reminder: The school will close at 12pm on Friday 23rd of March for the Easter holidays. The Infants will go home at 11.45 to ease traffic congestion and Mrs. Arrigan’s class will go home at 11.30am.

The school will re-open on Monday 9th April.

Upcoming closures:

Monday, March 19th – St. Patricks Day Bank Holiday

March 23rd – 9th April – Easter Holidays

Tuesday, 10th April – Primary Languages Day

Is mise le meas

Eimear Hennessy
Principal