

*Scoil Bhríde*

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*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 68 new Junior Infants and the 15 new students who have joined us throughout the school. Welcome back to our existing students too. All our ladies seem to be happy and content and have settled well back to school.

### 1. **Our School**

We now have 490 students enrolled in the mainstream classes in our school. We have 6 students enrolled in our new ASD class.

### 2. **The ASD class**

The ASD class opened on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. It was delayed in opening as the building works were not completed on time. There are three boys and three girls in our class. We would like to thank Scoil Phádraig for their support with this project as the boys will be integrated with Scoil Phádraig. This is a wonderful new development in the education journey at Scoil Bhríde. We would like to wish Ms. Arrigan, Julie and Collette, our two SNA's and our new students the very best of luck as they embark on this new adventure.

If anybody has any jigsaws, cars, etc. that are in good condition that they would like to donate to the ASD class they would be much appreciated.

I would also like to thank Blackhall Stud who kindly donated €1000 towards our ASD class. Their generosity and support is much appreciated.

### 3. **Bus Escort**

Two of our students will be availing of the School Transport system to attend our ASD class. A 'bus escort' is required to travel with the students to and from school. We have somebody employed for this position but we also need a list of names of people who could provide relief if this person was absent. The transport would pick the escort up from the school at 7.30 am to be at the school at 9.00 am. They would then be required again at 1.40 p.m to drop the children home and be returned to Clane. The rate of pay is €11.97 per hour. The relief workers would also have to be Garda vetted.

If anyone is interested or knows of somebody who might be, please email the school at [scoilbhrideclane@gmail.com](mailto:scoilbhrideclane@gmail.com).

### 4. **Staffing**

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our staff as we begin another school year. I would like to welcome back Ms. Gleeson who is returning to us and to Ms. Maguire and Ms. Kane who will be joining us in the Special Ed Department.

We now have 18 mainstream classes, 5 teachers in Special Ed (One position shared with Prosperous N.S.) and 1 ASD class teacher.

I would like to thank the 15 staff members who gave up a day of their holidays to come to school to complete a course with Kildare Sports Partnership on Physical Literacy – Increasing Participation In Sport and Physical Activity. We will be completing the second day of this course before the end of September.

#### 5. **Updating our files**

Just a reminder! If you have changed phone number, job or address please let us know so we can update our Data Management System. This is very important in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

#### 6. **Headlice**

Not a pleasant topic but one that needs to be raised. Headlice has already been reported in some classes. Please be vigilant in checking your daughter's hair. Make sure your daughter's hair is tied up for school each morning. Please inform the class teacher if your child has headlice.

#### 7. **Nut Free Zone**

Scoil Bhríde is officially a '**Nut Free**' Zone.

Please do not send in treats with 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.

#### 8. **Birthday Party Invitations**

This is a gentle reminder that Birthday Party invitations can't be given out on school grounds as it can be upsetting for children.

#### 9. **Spanish Students**

We have 8 Spanish Students who joined us last Wednesday. They will be with us for the next ten weeks in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. We hope they enjoy their time here with us.

#### 10. **Mass**

We will celebrate our annual start of the year Mass in the Parish Church on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 10 O' Clock, weather permitting. Girls from Second Class to Sixth will attend

#### 11. **Violin**

Violin will begin on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class.

Many thanks to all parents who have paid some or all of the fees for violin already. The fee in total is €40. Parents can pay in two instalments if they so wish, September 2017 and February 2018.

#### 12. **Swimming**

The 6<sup>th</sup> class students started swimming on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> in K Leisure in Naas. Each of the classes from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> will go swimming at some stage during the year. Swimming is part of the aquatics strand of the P.E Curriculum.

**13. Football**

Ms. Nicola Brown will be coaching the u11 football team for this school year.

**14. First Class**

As we have a third first class for the first time this year, we would appreciate any donations of books and games for this age level that are in good condition.

**15. Medication and Staying In**

Reminder: Children are only allowed to stay in at break times if they have a broken limb.

If your daughter needs to take an inhaler or other necessary medication during the year please inform your child's class teacher and ensure that the administration of medication paperwork has been completed. Please make sure that all medication is up to date.

**16. Play Kitchen**

Mrs. O'Shaughnessy is looking for a play kitchen for her Senior Infant Class if anyone has one to donate.

**17. Sickness Absence**

There is no need to ring the school when your child is sick for a day or two. Send a note to her teacher on her return to school. It is only necessary to contact the school if it is a long term illness or she is going to be out for a considerable amount of time.

**18. Junior Infant Photographs**

Vincent McNamara will visit the school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September to take the Junior Infants individual and class photographs.

I look forward to working with you all again this year.

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**Eimear Hennessy, Principal.**