



St Brigid's Newsletter

October 2019



Pupil Voice

This month we saw the canvassing, voting and finally the election of new members for our school council, Eco Warriors & Digital Leaders. Congratulations to all.

School Council



Oisin Hanna, Caitlin Gilchrist, Orla Rooney, Milena Klawikowska, Ben McCann, Aimee Fitzsimons, Aoife Savage.

Erin Sloan, Holly Rogan, Erin Duffy O'Kane, Isabelle Hynds, Daryl Steele, Conor Burke, Kayla Quinn.

ECO School



Michael McKinney, Callum McCargo, Sophie Feenan, Maisie Watters, Ruby Mathers, Erin Connolly, Emily Brown, Sian Reid.

Abigail Elliott, Conan Fitzsimons, Lily Magee, Caoimhe Cupples, Farrah McLaughlin & Alesha Marks.

Digital Leaders



Ailey Magee, Anna Wylie, Dara Sharvin, Micedál Keenan, Joe Rogan, Eoin Cullen, Laura Deegan, Fionn Higgins.

Amber Lily Ward, Michael O'Neill, Elara Tatli, Estelle Young, Emma Mason, Aoife Devlin

School Council

Our Local MLA, Colin McGrath, will be meeting our School Council for a Q&A on Friday 18th October.

School

Photographs



The School photographer will be in school on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October to take individual photographs for all children. A group photograph will also be taken of P1 and P7 children.

Half Term Holiday... It is hard to believe that half term will soon be upon us. School will be CLOSED for the Half Term Break from **Friday 25th October at 12.00 noon.**

We reopen to pupils on MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER. We wish all our pupils and families a safe and enjoyable Half Term Break. This will be a busy holiday for our Primary 7 pupils, Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Lopez will send home extra practice papers and revision packs for those pupils who are sitting the GL or AQE Assessments – it is important that our pupils make the most of the revision and preparation time available before the first test on Saturday 9th November... but also remember P7's to take some time to relax and recharge!

A Big Thank-You

Our Sponsored walk brought in a Massive £1,900. After paying transport to and from Delamont that gives us £1,500 to buy resources for our sensory/nurture room. We thank you for your continued generosity. In these difficult financial times for education we really rely heavily on your generous support. Keep watch on Facebook and Twitter to see the development of this room.

Our Annual Report is now available to view on our school website, www.stbrigidprimaryschool.com.

SCHOOL PARKING

Hopefully you have noticed the new signs outside school that we have been loaned for the school year by Community Policing! I thank the majority of drivers who park with due care. However, it is shameful that some drivers persistently show a lack of consideration for the safety of their own and other children by double parking and parking on pavements or zig zag lines.

It is the responsibility of adult drivers to park responsibly and ensure the safety of our children.

To ease congestion, parents (or those collecting from school) should consider walking to & from school if you live nearby.

Morning Supervision & Breakfast Club

Morning Supervision is provided from 8.15 am until 8.40 am via the Breakfast Club. Children can have a Breakfast for only £1.00 per day. However, we also recognise that some parents need to drop off children before 8.40 when teachers provide supervision. To cater for these children who require supervision but do not wish to have a breakfast there is a charge of 50p per day. This charge is to cover the cost of supervision.

Volunteers of St Brigid's

A huge Thank you to our PTA.

Through the fund raising activities held last year VOSB provided school with a cheque for £4,500.

This money has been used to buy a new interactive whiteboard in P7 and a new shed has been ordered for the storing of playground toys in our top playground.

Every penny you raise for school is pumped back into resources for your children to help make St Brigid's a great school with access to the most up to date facilities.

Morning Routines.

It is great to see how well the children have settled into school and following the routines which ensure a safe environment. We understand that for a small number of our children leaving their parents in the morning to go into the playground can be a challenge. Please speak to your child's teacher if this is the case as we want all our children to feel secure with the routines.

I ask that after the morning prayer has been said and the first class starts to leave the playground that all parents would refrain from waiting along the playground rail to provide a clear access for the children and teachers to move safely to their classrooms.

Please remember to follow us on our school's



website ~ www.stbrigidprimaryschool.com



Facebook ~ St Brigid's Primary School



Twitter ~ @stbrigidspdpk

Our School Rules

Each week at assembly we have spent time with the children discussing and agreeing our school rules. We thought it would be beneficial for you to know them so they can be reinforced at home. They are:

- ◆ We **Respect** ourselves
- ◆ We **Respect** others
- ◆ We **Respect** our school
- ◆ We are **Responsible** for our own actions
- ◆ We are **Responsible** for our safety.

When we are following these agreed rules the behaviours we will see in school are:

- ◆ Children showing kindness to others- by our words and actions.
- ◆ Children working to the best of their ability- trying hard and concentrating
- ◆ Children showing confidence and competence – being prepared to have a go!
- ◆ Children demonstrating a positive self- image- Talking well of self
- ◆ Children show respect for the views, ideas and property of others;
- ◆ Children making positive contributions to the lesson; co-operating with the teacher and with their peers on shared activities;
- ◆ Children who recognise the importance of taking turns and sharing.
- ◆ Children who have an understanding of the consequences of their actions.

We recognise that the vast majority of children in our school, do their best to follow the agreed rules on a daily basis. However, we have outlined to the children the behaviours which we will not accept in our school. These have been explained to the children in language appropriate for their stage of development.

- ◆ Being unkind to their peers, including engaging in any form of bullying behaviour;
- ◆ Interrupting others and being inattentive when others are contributing to the learning;
- ◆ Displaying a lack of interest in learning and preventing others from learning;
- ◆ The refusal to co-operate with staff instructions;
- ◆ Defacing or destroying other pupils' belongings or school property;
- ◆ Directing abusive language at other pupils, teacher or other adults;
- ◆ Acting aggressively or with violence towards other pupils, teacher or other adults.
- ◆ Taking things that do not belong to you.

These are the Sanctions which will follow;

- ◆ Adult will remind everyone of the expected behaviour-
- ◆ Adult makes eye contact, gesture or hand signal;
- ◆ Adult Speaking to the pupil on a 1:1 basis Reminding the pupil of the behaviour expected.
- ◆ Verbal warning 1 (which choice and take up time)
- ◆ Verbal warning 2, making consequences clear.
- ◆ Related consequence- Temporary withdrawal from the activity or from peers.
- ◆ You will be asked to sit at desk by yourself/ moved to another classroom, or stand out.

Persistent or more serious behaviours

- ◆ Completing a Think Sheet/ Behaviour Reflection Sheet.
- ◆ Class booklet kept by teacher and shown to parent at a later stage if there is no improvement in the behaviour.
- ◆ Concerns conveyed to vice principal/ principal.
- ◆ Parents invited in to meet with class teacher.
- ◆ Parents invited in to discuss situation with the Principal.

In the interests of health and safety of all within the school community and in exceptional circumstances, an accelerated approach may be employed.

In extreme cases:

- ◆ **The Board of Governors will be informed.**
- ◆ **Invoke suspension;**
- ◆ **Expulsion, following suspension.**

The Full Positive Behaviour Policy will be available by the end of October for parent consultation.



Halloween Disco - organised by our PTA will take place on Wednesday 23rd October.

P1-P3 children will have their disco from 1.00pm- 2.00pm and therefore can come to school in fancy dress.

P4-P7 will have their disco from 6:30 to 7:30pm.

We ask that children do not bring mobile phones to the disco. If phones are needed to facilitate collection arrangements, they must be handed into the office in a bag with the pupils' name on it. Children can then collect their phone after the disco.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Halloween Break- Oct 28th-1st Nov inclusive.

Key Stage 1 Christmas Plays - 10 & 11th December

Christmas Break 23rd – 6th January inclusive

(note change of date)

Mid-Term Break- February 17th- 21st inclusive.

First Confession - 12th March @ 1:30pm

St Patrick's Day- 16th & 17th March inclusive

Easter Break April 10- 17th inclusive.

First Holy Communion - 16th May

May Bank Holiday- 8th May (note change of date)

Mid- term Break- May 25th- May 29th inclusive