

## Newsletter

November 2023, 1 of 3

### Enrolment:

We will be replying to all enrolment applicants in the coming days. If you receive an offer, please reply by 8th of December.

**Parents Association:** There is a meeting tonight of the PA in the school hall at 7:30. All are welcome. The PA will be discussing a number of items, including the proposed Monster Bingo Fundraiser. Any help and assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### Parking:

We have been made aware on a number of occasions of some issues with regard to parking/dropping off children in the morning. The vast majority of people adhere to the drop and go and/or parking the car in the car park. From the mornings that I have been out there I would suggest that things could be improved further by (i) ensuring that the person who is dropping off children knows the system (ii) use the drop off area as that – a drop off area. The driver should not be leaving the car to walk the children in and (iii) if the drop off area is full, just use the car park at the back of the school. Don't wait for a space in the drop off area to appear. The most important aspect in all of this is the safety of the children walking in and out of the school and we would just remind parents/guardians to exercise extreme caution when in and around the environs of the school.

### School Self Evaluation:

This year as part of SSE we are looking at the area of Gaeilge and in particular Caint Ne-amhfhoirmiúil (Informal Irish). We are encouraging children to use their cúpla focail throughout the day. Each week we are having a "Frása na Seachtaine" for both the Junior and Senior end of the school. We are also having a "Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine". We will be putting up both the frásaí and some support material on the website if anyone is interested. The emphasis is very much on effort and fun. You might find this link useful <https://ncca.ie/en/primary/resources-for-parents/>

**Shoe Box Appeal:** Many thanks to all those who have dropped in their Boxes as part of the Christmas appeal. If you are doing up a box, please return to the school by this Friday.

### Board of Management:

The newly constituted Board of Management will be completed and in position from December 1<sup>st</sup> this year. On behalf of the school community, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing members for all the selfless hard work and commitment they have demonstrated during their time on the Board. I would like to particularly pay tribute to Christy Farrell as our Chairperson. This role is an incredibly important and responsible position and Christy's dedication, enthusiasm and perspective was always greatly appreciated.

### Attendance:

A very important part of the learning process is being in school each and every day. In the first two months of the year, we had over 80 pupils who did not miss a day. This is of great benefit to both them and their teachers. You also need a bit of luck as well as if a child is sick, they should not be at school until they are better. At the end of each term, we will be marking in a small way those pupils who manage not to miss a day.

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### Halloween Events:

We had a hugely successful School Assembly for Halloween. The pupils were all dressed up and Ms Crinion/Ms McDonald and Ms. Daly's classes performed fantastic poems and musical pieces. The Assembly also allowed us to acknowledge the pupils who had succeeded in reaching targets with their Accelerated Readers from 3rd to 6th class.

### Creative Arts

We are looking for volunteers to run whole school workshops in the school for our Creative Arts week in April 2024. It could be coding, drawing cartoons, photography, dance music or any other creative means. Please get in contact with the school if you can help give the children some unique experiences.

**Green School:** Our Green School Committee has been set up and is looking at the next flag which will be Litter and Waste – Global Citizenship. The committee is composed of pupils from 1st to 6th class. They are Katie Concannon, Lucy Hynes, Noah Elias, Joseph Brennan

**Maths Week:** There was a fantastic whole school response to the various activities that took place during Maths Week. The emphasis was very much on problem solving and fostering positive dispositions towards the subject. It was also great to see many of you at home getting involved with your child doing the puzzles.

**GAA:** Well done to the boys team under Mr Cremin and Mr Curtis who have completed their league for this year finishing off with a well deserved win.

The girls have a play – off this Thursday at 11:30 in Bective. We wish them all the best.

**Cross Country Athletics:** Fairyhouse, November 22nd.

We will be entering 2 teams at U11 and 2 teams at U13 in this new school event for YFNS.

**Code of Behaviour:** The Code of Behaviour is available to look at on the website. It will be reviewed at our next Board Meeting.

**Child Protection Review:** The annual Child Protection and Safeguarding Review will take place at the first Board Meeting in December.

**Pantomime:** The school's annual trip to the pantomime in the Gaiety in Dublin will take place on Friday the 19th of January.

**County Photos:** The photographer from County Photos will be visiting the school on Thursday morning.

**Parent/Teacher Meetings:** These have been scheduled for Thursday the 30th of November in the school. More details will follow.

**School Calendar:** Below is a calendar for the remainder of the school year. Some dates may be subject to change. Please note that the school will be closed on Wednesday December 13th for a staff training day.

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**This week – November 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>**

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> : Recorder lessons commence in school

Thurs 9<sup>th</sup>: County Photos in school.

Girls Play-off v Kilcloone in Bective.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup>: Cash for Clothes collection – leave bags at front gate before 10am.

**School Calendar: Sept 2023- June 2024**

Month	Description	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023	School reopens 9.20am	Junior Infants finish at 12.30pm from 1 – 15 <sup>th</sup> September
October / November	Mid-term break	School closed Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov. Reopens Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov.
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Cross Country Athletics	2 x U11 and 2 x U13 teams
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Parent teacher meetings	Times will be available to book online from November 15 <sup>th</sup> .
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	School closed	Staff Training Day
December / January	Christmas Holidays	School closes @ 12.30pm Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec, reopens Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan.2024
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pantomime	Annual trip to the Gaiety Panto
February 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	St. Brigid's Day	School closed Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb
February	Mid-term break	School closed Thursday & Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> February.
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday	All children attend Mass at 10am
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Day	School closed Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
March / April	Easter Holidays	School closes Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March at 12.30pm, reopens Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
May Bank holiday	Bank Holiday	School closed Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May.
June Bank Holiday	Bank Holiday	School closed Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May and Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June.
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Holidays	School closes @12.30pm