

#### St. Brigid's B.N.S. Killester

#### **SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER**



Welcome Back to school to all our pupils, parents and school staff. As we look forward to a great year in school, we extend a special welcome to our new Junior Infants and all our new pupils as they

settle in to life in St. Brigid's B.N.S.

Please put your son's name on all his belongings, in particular jumpers and coats so that they can be returned if lost. Any bicycles/scooters left in the school grounds are left at the owner's risk. Bikes should be locked and helmets should be worn. Each child needs a flannel /facecloth stored in a ziplock bag to dry their hands. Please ensure this flannel is changed regularly.

Reminder

### CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

In the interest of safety, the Board of Management prohibits the wearing of jewellery.

Mobile phones and personal internet-enabled devices are not permitted in school. Hair dye is also not allowed.

# **Healthy Eating Policy**

We operate a healthy lunch policy in St. Brigid's B.N.S. All boys should come to school with a nutritious lunch i.e. a sandwich, a piece of fruit etc. Fizzy drinks, crisps, chocolate or sweets are not allowed. Yoghurt, yoghurt drinks and Frubes are not permitted as they can cause quite a mess. Please provide your son with a small portion of fruit/veg for fruit

break.

Lunches: For safety reasons we do not allow children to share food with other pupils in school. Some of our pupils suffer extreme reactions to specific foods including NUTS so we request that parents do not give nuts or food containing nuts for lunch. We would ask parents to emphasise this rule and the reason for it when talking to your child.



A reminder that school opens at <u>8.50am</u> each morning. It is important that all pupils are in school on time each day.

<u>Small Break:</u> 10.45 – 11.00am <u>Lunch Break:</u> 12.20 – 12.45pm

WE WOULD ASK THAT PARENTS REFRAIN FROM COLLECTING PUPILS DURING BREAK TIMES.

**All boys from Junior Infants** to 6th class are required to wear full school uniform. This consists of grey sweatshirt and red polo shirt both with school crest to be worn with grey trousers and black shoes. Full tracksuit and runners should be worn on P.E. days. School shorts may be worn for the month of September only (School shorts may be worn again in May & June). Please ensure that name tags are in place on all items.

Uniform



#### School Re-opening: - Thursday 31st August

Midterm: 30th October – 3rd November (inclusive)

Christmas: 25th December – 5th January (inclusive)

February Bank Holiday: - Monday 5th February

February Midterm: 12th – 16th February (inclusive)

St. Patrick's Day: - Monday 18th March

Easter Holidays: 25th March – 5th April (inclusive)

May Bank Holiday: - Monday 6th May

June Bank Holiday: - Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th June

#### Summer Holidays: Friday 28th June

IMPORTANT NOTE: In the event of adverse weather or other unforeseen circumstance that may necessitate the closure of the school for an extended period during the course of the school year, the Board of Management may authorise the school to open for classes at the beginning of the planned 2024 February Mid-Term and/or Easter Break.

#### **Please Note:**



- First Holy Communion: Saturday 11th May 2024 @11.00am
- Confirmation:
- First Penance:
- Service of Light:

Thursday 11th May 2024 @11.00am Thursday 9th May 2024 @ 11.00am Tuesday 12th March 2024 @ 6.30pm Thursday 7th March 2024 @ 7.30pm

### **Contact Details**

It is essential that we have the correct address and contact details (e.g. parents' mobile numbers & email) for your son on our database in case of emergency. If your details have changed, please update on Aladdin and ensure there is an emergency contact listed.

As the office/reception area is extremely busy in the morning, it would be appreciated if telephone calls were made only in emergency situations. There is no need to telephone the school if your son is sick, unless the illness is contagious. Parents should acknowledge their child's absence from school on their return by either directly inputting reasons for absences into Aladdin, or by sending in a note for the attention of the class teacher.

## **Student Council**

Student Council elections take place this week. All classes from 3rd – 6th Class can nominate a representative. Each candidate will be offered the opportunity to outline their ideas and commitment to the role in a presentation prior to class

elections.

VOTF

### St. Brigid's B.N.S. Parents' Association

The Parents' Association would like to extend a warm welcome back to school to all and especially to new parents in the school. We will be sending out notification of upcoming events in the next few weeks.

The Parents' Association AGM will be held **Monday 23rd October at 7.30pm.** We encourage as many parents as possible to attend. We will be reviewing the work of the Parents' Association over the last year. We will have an address from our Principal Ms. Cullen and elections will be held for the PA Committee for 2023/2024. A number of the present committee are either not eligible or available to be on the next committee, therefore, we are looking for new parents to get involved and continue the good work of the Parents' Association. If you are not available to attend but would like to be considered for the committee please contact us on

email stbrigidsbnspa@gmail.com or Text: 086 8916486.



Friendship Week

Last week was a very busy week in St. Brigid's B.N.S. with all classes participating in 'Friendship Week' as part of our Anti-Bullying initiative. Our theme was "Random Acts of Kindness".

Lessons focused on teaching pupils how to make good behavioural choices that enhance emotional intelligence and wellbeing.

Pupils learnt how to recognise and deal with bullying type behaviours. Video clips and scenarios were discussed in class and pupils learnt our Anti-Bullying motto 'NO, GO and TELL'.

The week culminated in class assemblies where pupils shared their learning and a fantastic Poster Competition took place with lots of prizes.

A big thank you to all pupils and staff who make this week so special for the whole school community. Please note that cars are not permitted to drop/ collect children in the yard at any time before or after school.



Our school's annual

**Sponsored Walk** 

will take place during the week commencing 2nd

October.





Last June, all staff and students in the school were involved in making a canvas as part of the BLAST Art Programme. It displays a mini portrait of each participant. The project was called, "We Are St. Brigid's".

The canvas, pictured above, is now proudly displayed in the main foyer of the school. It looks amazing and is a fantastic representation of our school.

Our thanks to artist Maria Atanackovic and Mr. O'Brien's 2nd Class

(last year) for co-ordinating the project.

# Parental Participation

We often seek volunteers in the school for various reasons – e.g. helping out with the library, credit union and accompanying school tours. It is a legal requirement that all volunteers are Garda vetted.

We have one class within the school without a Garda Vetted parent, and another class with only one Garda Vetted parent. In order for trips and extra curricular activities to take place outside of school, we need parent volunteers to help. An urgent appeal will be sent to these classes this week.

If you think you would be interested in volunteering in the school at some point, please contact Maeve in the secretary's office to begin the vetting process. You need to fill out a vetting invitation form to begin the process. This form is available from Maeve. You will need to bring two pieces of ID (one must be photographic) into the school to be validated and copied.

# St. Brigid's B.N.S. Fundraiser Lotto Your support makes a real difference

Jackpot increases every week plus a weekly winner prize

Play Pick 4 numbers The same numbers will be played for you each week

Pay 1 line for €2.00, 2 lines for €4 or 3 Lines for €5 Maximum 3 lines per person

> Win Match 4 numbers to win the Jackpot

Welcome to the St. Brigid's B.N.S. fundraiser lotto. This is a fundraising initiative and the money raised will be used to directly support your children's education and purchase resources for our school including an outdoor classroom, a sensory path and upgrading our ICT equipment.

We hope that the weekly option of 1 line for €2 will allow everybody to contribute. Please pass the word on and invite friends and family.

If you can contribute €5 for 3 lines it would be hugely appreciated and you never know you might just win.

Thank you so much. Nuala Cullen, Principal and the Parents' Association

#### Join Now

Scan the QR code or go to our website



https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stbrigidsbnskillester

