

September 2017

St. Brendan's NS

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Dear Parent,

Welcome back to a new school year in St. Brendan's NS.

A special welcome to our new pupils and their families: Daniel, Isabella, Maisie, Nicole, Oisín and Rhian.

If you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter printed out every month, please send a note into the secretary.

Yours sincerely,

Eilís Treacy

School Principal

Summer Works

In November 2015 the Board of Management applied for a Summer Works grant to repair the guttering, fascia and soffit and the flat roofs of the school. This year in May we got approval. For these grants a strict tendering process has to be adhered to and as the grant was only approved in May, it was August by the time the builder was appointed.

The roof repairs will take place on the weekend of the 29th of September. Already much of the painting has been completed and we were also able to paint the railings this year too.

Parents will be pleased to learn that the school finances are in a much healthier state than last year and has enough in the bank to pay all the bills until the first grant of the year is paid in January. This is due to the support of the parents and community in our fundraiser last year. Unfortunately the Department of Education funding for the running costs of the school (heat, electricity, water, insurance, cleaning) continue to fall short. In an ideal world these basic costs would be met with surplus funding for resources, PE equipment and computers. For now we are very grateful to have the school accounts in a healthy state and our lovely painted school cheers us all up each day!

Upcoming Events

See calendar on www.eyrecourtns.ie for full year of school holidays and important dates

Mon 2nd Oct

Closed for Fair

Money collections:

Music

€20 for all music lessons to Christmas

School books

Thank you to all parents for setting up your children so well for year. All pupils are now well equipped for their learning.

Special word of thanks to Patricia for all her work coordinating deliveries and money collection.

Milk

€15 for term

Secretary:

Patricia is in the school office

Mon-Thurs 9am-11am



Some back to school pointers:

9.20am: School begins; children line up on yard and wait for their teacher.

Absence: Absences must be explained by a note from the back of the homework journal (infants-by a note in their homework folder). The school is under obligation to report to TUSLA any pupil who misses more than 20 days.

Behaviour: All children should behave appropriately at all times

Homework: Please check your child's homework each night

Hygiene: Please help your child to realise the importance of healthy habits

Uniform: Children are asked to wear the school uniform. School tracksuit is worn on PE day. On PE day children should wear runners/trainers that they can run and exercise in.

Labels: All your children's belongings should be labeled to avoid confusion. School jumpers in particular are easily confused. If you write their name on the label, refresh it from time to time as it does fade in the wash. Stitching their names on or buying the iron-on labels seem to be the most permanent solutions.

Lunches: The children benefit from the healthy lunch policy and we would like to see this observed by all (no crisps, sweets, bars, biscuits, chocolate spreads or fizzy drinks).

Packaging: Please keep packaging in lunches to a minimum for us to maintain our Green School status.

Money: All money being sent to the school should be placed in a sealed envelope with your child's name and the amount enclosed clearly written on the outside.

Milk

We have always had a milk delivery service, however no pupils availed of it for the past two years. Pupils can order milk for a full term (10 weeks) for €15. If you would like to avail of this service please send the €15 into the office with the child's name by **Thursday**. Milk delivery will begin next Monday 25th Sept until the week before the Christmas holidays.

Cash for Clobber

We have our annual Cash for Clobber collection on Wednesday 15th November. Keep us in mind if you are doing any clear-outs over the next two months!

Credit Union

The school Credit Union resumes on Tuesday 26th. This is an opportunity for your child to learn to save. The account is in Ballinasloe Credit Union. Ask Patricia for further details.

Hurling/Camogie Training

Thanks to the support of Meelick/Eyrecourt GAA Club, Joan Poland will continue to train our teams.

Tuesday Lunch: Infants & 1st

Tuesday 3-4pm: All pupils who can stay, 2nd-6th but 1st class boys are welcome with their parents' permission.

Thursday 12:10-1pm: 2nd-6th class

As we are a small school, every single pupil is an important member of our teams. Encourage your child to train, it's a great chance for them to participate and enjoy the sport before the real competitiveness takes over in later years.

Lost Property

The lost property box can be found in the school office. We have some lovely items that haven't found their owners since before the summer holidays:

Blue Jacket 7-8 year old

Navy Jacket (Dunnes Stores) Age 8

School Tracksuit tops: 2 x 9-10 years, 1 x 11-12 years

Text-a-parent

A text is sent to one parent of each family for important notices, emergencies or when a newsletter is sent home/online. You should have received about six texts at this point. If you haven't received any text yet please send a note to your class teacher with phone number, contact name and pupils name.

