

BROADFORD & KILBANE N.S.

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

As Covid-19 restrictions are coming to an end, we are busier than ever. Have a look below to see the important news in our school.



Feb/Mar 2022

Seachtain na Gaeilge

We have a number of events planned to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge over the next few weeks. Firstly, we will host our own 'Féile Áth Leathan'. Children in all classes will perform a poem, song or mini drama on the stage in the Community Hall in front of the entire school. We'll make an effort to stream these performances live so that parents can tune in. Prizes for the best performances.

Children from 2nd-6th will complete a comhrá (conversation) as Gaeilge where they'll speak about themselves, their families, where they live, hobbies, etc. Prizes for the best performances.

Tráth na gCeist & Gaeilge Spelling Bee -the senior classes will engage in a fun quiz and spelling challenge. Prizes for the winners.

Clothes Recycling Drive

Our clothes recycling drive is this **Monday, February 28th**. Bags of clothes can be left in the shed anytime on Monday.

School Tours

Payment links have been sent for all School Tours. We have sent them very early this year to allow parents time to plan financially for these tours.

Spelling Bee

We will host our own Spelling Bee competition in the next few weeks for 3rd-6th classes with prizes for individual class winners. If Eason's Spelling Bee does go ahead this year then we will use the 6th class winner to represent our school.

Communion & Confirmation Receptions

Now that Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, refreshments in the hall after these sacraments are possible again. These gatherings were always very well received and appreciated. However, it is necessary to gauge interest among parents as your own feelings may have changed. The issue of funding these receptions has also arisen of late so we will be sending out a questionnaire next week to gather a consensus on the matter.

Memory Lane

We are chasing old school photos for our 'Memory Lane' here in school. This 'Memory Lane' provides great interest to visitors along with a good teaching resource for staff. We are especially looking for class pictures of any classes that attended school in the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's. Any pictures received will be scanned here in school and returned to you straight away.

Twitter

Reminder that our school is now using Twitter for more regular updates on school events. Please follow us on @broadford_ns

Playground

This new facility has brought great energy to our breaktimes and levels of activity have gone through the roof.

We are asking parents to remind members of the wider local community that once our school decide to use the playground for ANY activity during the day then other users must leave the playground ASAP. This isn't us being mean, it is necessary from a Child Safeguarding point of view along with being an insurance issue. Going forward, we will be asking members of the public to leave the playground when the school are using the facility.

Scholastic Bookclub

Reminder that parents have until the **4th of March** to order books from our school book club. An email sent previously allows parents to purchase the books directly themselves or you can alternatively email your order to Robina who will order the books for you. The school get 20% of the total order to spend with Scholastic on new books for our libraries. This initiative has significantly boosted the number of titles in our school libraries over the years. Thanks for the continued support.

Note : Events

- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Clothes Recycling Drive
- School Tours
- Spelling Bee
- Communion & Confirmation
- Memory Lane
- Twitter
- Playground
- Scholastic Bookclub
- Enrolment
- Green Schools
- Creative Schools
- Artist in the School
- World Book Day
- Accelerated Reader
- School Closures
- Covid-19
- Littering
- Swimming
- Cumann na mBunscoil

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Enrolment

Enrolment for children due to start next year closes this **Monday 28th of February**. Application forms can be found under the parent's section of the school website.

Green Schools

Our Green School Committee under the guidance of Carmel Kennedy are busy preparing the final application for our 5th Green School's Flag. We have more planting to complete next week and this should finalise most of the work completed to date. A representative from An Taisce will visit the school in the next fortnight to assess our school's Biodiversity work along with our continued efforts under the Litter, Water, Travel and Energy themes. Fingers crossed we get a positive outcome.

Creative Schools

Work has begun on our School Mural which all the children are involved in creating along with artists Evelyn Sorohan and Kathrynna Cuscheiri. We are looking for lots of recycled materials for this art piece so children are asked to collect plastic bottles, broken plastic toys, clean brightly coloured sweet wrappers, etc. We are also looking for unwanted CD's or DVD's.

Artist in the School

Well done to 5th & 6th class and their teacher Jack O'Brien on the creation of their wonderful rap song 'Let's Plant More Trees' with the help of John Lillis. A link to the song was sent to all parents and we'll shortly put it up on our website along with the previous songs created.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on **Thursday 3rd of March** and the children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character!!

Accelerated Reading

Well done to the many children who have already hit their AR targets for this term. These include; Niamh O'Connell, JJ O'Connell, Sarah Cloete, Oisín Lovett, Lily Rose Hurley, Kayla Moran, Gabrielle O'Riordan, Amira Cantillon Humphries, Conor O'Brien, Enid Wixted, Sasha Marsh, Pádraig Sweeney, Steffan O'Riordan, Samantha Marsh and Sofia Walsh. Laoise O'Brien, Maebh Wixted, Emma & Zac Cosgrove have already doubled their targets!! All children from 1st-6th have until April the 7th to hit their targets so keep up the greats efforts.

Well done also to our 4th class who took on Killaloe Boys NS in an AR challenge between December 23rd and February 23rd. Our 4th class had a convincing win reading over 130,000 more words per child than the Killaloe boys. Áth Leathan Abú...

School Closures

The school year has been reduced by a day on account of the recent announcement of an extra bank holiday. As we were already due to be closed on Friday 18th of March, we will now be closed on **Friday 3rd of June** also.

COVID-19

As you are aware, most COVID-19 restrictions are due to end on Monday 28th of March. A number of measures that we brought in to curb the spread of Covid-19 have actually improved some of our everyday routines and practices. These include classes entering/exiting the building through their own entrances which we will continue with. We will also keep the split breaks as to change would lead to large disruptions to our SEN timetables.

Reminder that children cannot enter the school building before 8:45am in the morning as many classes are unsupervised before this time. Allowing children into the school before this time represents a significant Health & Safety concern.

Littering

You probably notice the large amounts of litter deposited on school and hurling club grounds weekly. It is unfortunate that our children and staff continue to have to clean up these messes. We have always worked hard to educate the children of the importance to live an environmentally friendly life (4 Green School Flags attest to this). We also work extremely hard to create pride in our local community. That is why it is so disappointing to see regular littering on these grounds which are used outside of school hours by current and former pupils!!

Active Corner.....

Swimming

Swimming for 1st-6th classes starts **Thursday 3rd of March**. Parents have until Monday 28th of March to book their child through the payment link sent previously. Reminder that children who will not be going swimming will have to remain at home until the classes return due to lack of teacher supervision available.

Cumann na mBunscoil

We are hoping for a return to Cumann na mBunscoil activities. The girls and boys have missed out on 2 years of these competitions and if they resume then we know our young hurlers and camogie players will represent their school with pride.
Le Meas,

Aonghus O' Brien