

BROADFORD & KILBANE N.S. HALLOWE'EN NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents,

As we approach the Hallowe'en mid-term break, detailed below are a few things we would like to bring to your attention.

October 2023

Hallowe'en Colours Day

We are celebrating 'Freaky Friday' in school on Friday 27th of October as part of the 'The Trick or Treat for Sick Children' Children's Health Foundation fundraising campaign. In addition to our Hallowe'en dress up (€2 per child) and a staff coffee morning, we are having two competitions.

Decorate a Pumpkin-to enter this competition, simply decorate your pumpkin, take a photo of yourself with your pumpkin and send it into cgarrahy@broadfordns.com, on or before Thursday 26th October. There is no fee involved for this and we'll have a devilish prize for the two winners!! (There will be two competitions; one from Junior Infants to Second Class and then a competition for Third to Sixth Class).

Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar-Each guess will be recorded by Mrs. Garrahy for €1, Monday to Thursday 8.45-9am. Multiple guesses welcome! The closest guess wins the jar!!

Your participation in these events has a truly positive impact on the lives of all sick children in CHI at Crumlin, Temple Street, Tallaght and Connolly. Thank you for your support over the previous years and let's make this year's event another 'fangtastic' success!

Junior Activity Club

Our Junior Activity Club have organised a Hallowe'en Party for the children. It takes place in the Community Hall on Monday 30th of October from 5pm to 7:30pm. All money raised goes straight back into the operating costs of Junior Activity Club events. There is also a prize for the best dressed parent's costume on the night!

Board of Management

The current term of the Board of Management is ending on 31st of October. Big thanks to our board for providing direction and oversight for our school over the last four years, all done on a voluntary basis. Emails seeking interest from

parents to serve as our new Parents Representatives will be issued next week.

School Improvements

Our board continues to invest heavily in improving teaching and learning in our school. In the last week, they sanctioned a €4,000 spend on new PM books for Guided Reading lessons, another €4,000 spend on ICT (including iPads, operating management system and covers) and a €2500 spend on PE/Sports equipment!!

Drop and Go

Children in all classes, including the infant classes, are now well accustomed to the morning routines of the yard. With 4 adults on the yard from 8:45am, parents are strongly encouraged to 'Drop and Go' in the mornings. This is important from the perspective of developing independence and confidence which ultimately leads to a more resilient child.

Punctuality

A gentle reminder to parents that school starts at **9am sharp**. Children who are late for school cause disruption to lesson time. Morning supervision begins at 8.45am to allow parents to drop their kids off early, whilst also allowing children get some morning exercise which has added benefits to concentration in class!!

School Calendar

We will again produce the school calendar as it has proven very popular with parents. All classes from Junior Infants to 6th classes will get their



pictures taken on the week of **Monday 13th of November**. If you do not wish your child to be included in the school calendar, then please make

contact with your class teacher before this date.

Note : Events

- Hallowe'en Colours Day
- Junior Activity Club
- Board of Management
- School Improvements
- Drop and Go
- Punctuality
- School Calendar
- School Closures
- Parent/teacher Meetings
- Accelerated Reader
- Setanta Bookclub
- Field Walk
- 2nd-4th Blizzes
- Cross Country
- Running Club
- School Swimming Championships
- Gaelic Football

TRICK
OR
TREAT



More News...

School Closures

The school will be closed from **Monday 30th of October** to **Friday 3rd of November** for Mid-Term Break.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Our parent/teacher meetings are scheduled to take place after the Hallowe'en break. They will begin on the week of **Monday the 20th of November**. These meetings will take place face-to-face here in the school and we will be in touch closer to the time with more details.

Accelerated Reader

There is a phenomenal amount of reading taking place at present! Children from 1st-6th classes are busy trying to hit their targets. Well done to **Sonny Hayes, Stephen McNamara, Cillian O'Sullivan (1st class), JJ O'Connell (3rd Class), Seán O'Brien, (4th Class), Ava Hudson, Sofia Walsh (5th class), Kayla Moran, Oisín Lovett (6th class)** who have already hit their targets. Incredibly, we have 2 children in 1st class who have already doubled their targets; **Seán O'Regan**, and **Cora Ryan-Humphries** while **Conor Skehan** has tripled his. WOW!!
MAITH SIBH!!

Setanta Bookclub

Setanta Bookclub catalogues went home with the children today. If you want to order books from the catalogue, then use the link which was emailed to all parents. This initiative has continually allowed us to greatly stock our class libraries over the years as the school gets vouchers worth 20% of all monies collected to spend on books. Big thanks also to **Enid Wixted** for another huge donation of books from her own personal library. These have all been distributed to the 3rd-6th class libraries!!

Field Walk

The children from 3rd-6th classes are going on a long field walk next week in Kilbane (weather permitting). We will begin at Kilbane Church and take a guided tour with local historian Pat O'Brien to learn about the human and natural history of our wonderful locality.

ACTIVITY CORNER.....

2nd-4th Class Blitzes

Children from 2nd-4th classes have all been involved in hurling blitzes over the last number of weeks. Coaches and teachers have remarked very positively with the standard of skill coming from the children in our school. Keep up the practice!!

Cross Country Running Championships

Well done to **ALL** the boys and girls who represented our school with distinction in this year's Cross Country Running Championships which took place in Lee's Road. We had phenomenal success on the day with 26 children coming home with medals (our greatest total ever!). Our U8 and U10 girls teams both finished first while our Over 10 girls and U10 boys teams both finished in 3rd place. Congratulations to our Under 10 girls team who came in 1st place. The U8 girls team consists of **Caoilinn O'Brien, Aoibheann Ryan, Rebecca Keane, Róisín**



O'Brien, Aoife Roche & Indie Casey. The U10 girls team consists of **Laoise O'Brien, Keeva O'Loughlin, Zoey Heffernan, Enid Wixted, Ellen Foley & Josie Ryan**. The O10 girls teams was **Gabrielle O'Riordan, Emily O'Donnell, Emma Cosgrove, Sarah Cloete, Ellen O'Brien & Molly O'Sullivan**. Finally, our U10 boys team

was **Tommy O'Brien, Conor O'Brien, Dion Quigley, Seán O'Brien, JJ O'Connell & Austin Gissane**. The following children placed in the top 12 in their individual races; **Caoilinn O'Brien (1st), Aoibheann Ryan (5th), Róisín O'Brien (8th) Rebecca Keane (12th), Noah Ryan (10th), Laoise O'Brien (2nd), Keeva O'Loughlin (7th) Tommy O'Brien (7th), Alex Maher (5th)**. All the children mentioned above have qualified for the county finals which will take place in **Lees Road in November**. The school is very proud of their efforts and achievements.

Running Club

In preparation for the County Cross Country finals in November, Running Club will continue until to take place. Running Club takes place every Tuesday after school from 3-4pm. Running Club is open to any child from 1st-6th who would like to engage in some extra running. All you need is a pair of old runners/hurling boots and gear to get changed into and a tough mentality!! Raincoats are also advised as training takes place regardless of the weather!

School Swimming Championships

We had 3 athletes who competed in the Munster School's Minor Swimming Championships last weekend. Well done to **Finn O'Driscoll, Jack O'Mahoney** and **Zoey Heffernan** who all represented their school with pride.

Gaelic Football

Hard luck to our boys football team who beat Ennis Educate Together but lost out to St. Aidans NS, Chríost Rí and Stonehall NS last week. The girls are up next week and we have high expectations!!

We are urging the children to stay safe over the Hallowe'en Holidays.

Le Meas,
Aonghus O' Brien