

# BROADFORD & KILBANE N.S.

## NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents,

A big welcome back to all the children, parents and staff for what will hopefully be an exciting year for our school. A special greeting to the news children and parents in our school this year!!

*September 2018*

### New Students

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new students in our school this year. Starting in Junior Infants are **Driss Alaoui, Fiachra Boland, Conor O'Brien, Tommy O'Brien, Seán O'Brien, Odhran O'Connell, Jonathan O'Riordan, Barry Skehan, Dion Quigley, Amira Cantillon, Ellen Foley, Zoey Heffernan, Faye Marie Moloney, Faye Mary Moloney, Laoise O'Brien, Aoibhinn O'Connell, Sophie O'Sullivan, Sophie Roche, Josephine Ryan, Sofia Smyth and Enid Wixted.** In Senior Infants we are lucky to have a new student, **Samantha Marsh** while her sister **Sasha Marsh** has started in third class. We hope all these children's journeys through Broadford N.S. are enjoyable experiences.

### Staff Changes

Ms. Deirdre McDonnell is our Junior Infant teacher for this school year. Ms. Orlaith Cullinan and Ms. Kelly Anne Melican are covering maternity leave positions in both 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes respectively. Also, huge congratulations to Mrs. Deirdre Troy on the recent birth of her daughter, Isla!!

### Junior Traffic Warden

Our pedestrian crossing is a great facility to have as it has made drop offs and collections much safer. Our 5<sup>th</sup> class are waiting to be trained by An Garda Síochána. We ask all parents and children to **ALWAYS** cross at this point, whether traffic wardens are present or not. Through adults modelling its usage, this will have a positive influence on our children's habits.

### Communion & Confirmation Dates

First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of May at 11am at Broadford Church. Bishop Fintan Monahan will be Confirming the children in 6<sup>th</sup> class on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of May at 11am in Broadford Church.

### School Closures

Our school will be closed during the academic year on the dates detailed below. Please keep a record of these dates for your information and inform your crèche/child minder if necessary. Please note that texts are not sent out for these closures.

- (Language Curriculum Day) **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of October**
- (Presidential Election) **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of October**
- (Mid-Term) **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of November**
- (Christmas) **Closing on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of December to Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of January**
- (Mid-Term) **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of February**
- (St. Patricks Day) **Closed on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of March**
- (Easter) **Closing on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of April to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of April**
- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of May (Bank Holiday)**
- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June (Bank Holiday)**
- (Summer) **Closing on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2019**

**Please note:** In the event of a Referendum or General Election, the school will be closed as it is our local polling station.

#### Note : Events

- *New Students*
- *Staff Changes*
- *Junior Traffic Warden*
- *Communion & Confirmation Dates*
- *School Closures*
- *Birthday Invitations*
- *Healthy-Eating Policy*
- *Homework Club*
- *Cross Country Running Championships*
- *House Keeping*



## Birthday Invitations

We ask parents to please **refrain** from giving out birthday invitations during school times or asking teachers to do so, as from our experience, it can cause unnecessary distress to children.

## Healthy Eating Policy

Broadford & Kilbane N.S. promote all aspects of 'Healthy and Sustainable Living'. As part of this we strongly encourage the children to eat healthily. With this in mind, children are **not allowed** bars, crisps, sweets, biscuits, buns, cakes, muffins, chewing gum, chocolate, fast food, fizzy drinks, etc. Research suggests that the healthiest lunches consist of fruit, raw vegetables, sandwiches with brown bread, crackers, yoghurts, cheese, water and/or milk.

We strongly encourage the children to bring healthy food each day in re-usable containers. Tinfoil, plastic containers, clingfilm, paper wrapping etc. are strongly discouraged as they are not needed when lunch boxes are used.

## Homework Club

Homework Club this year will be run by Ms. Kelly Anne Melican. Homework Club provides a structured, quiet setting for children from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes to complete their homework. If your child experiences difficulty with their homework then they may not be suitable as they may need more one-to-one supervision. This can be discussed with the child's class teacher. We are proposing to use the same format that has worked before, i.e. €6 for 3 days a week, namely Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Notes will be sent out in the next week with further details so tell your child to pick one up if you are interested.

## Cross Country Running Championships

We will be sending 6 teams to this year's Clare Cross Country Running Championships in Lee's Road which will take place towards the end of September. Teams will consist of girls and boys teams in the U8's, U10's and over 10's categories. Trials to make these teams will be held in the next fortnight so any child with ambitions of making these teams will have to start practising, eating right and getting to bed early! After school cross country training will start shortly for children in 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> classes.

## House-Keeping

**Morning Supervision**-Morning supervision by teachers and SNA's takes place from 8.45-9.00am before school starts. I would like to make parents aware that any child that is in the yard before this time is **NOT** supervised and parents are doing so at their own risk. The school has no responsibility for the supervision of children at these times even if the principal/teachers are on the school grounds.

**Art & Craft Money**-Quick reminder that if you haven't already paid the monies detailed in the booklists, we would urge you to do so as soon as possible. Arts & Crafts is €25 per child, €45 for two children with a maximum of €60 to be paid per family.

**School Uniform**-Children are required to wear their school uniforms on all days except PE days. On these PE days they must wear their school tracksuit. **Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly marked.** It was disheartening to have to recycle a huge amount of clothing belonging to children which were not labelled or claimed at the end of the summer holidays.

**Contact Details**-Just a reminder that if you **change** your contact details during the school year, including your address and phone number, to let Robina know as soon as possible. It is vital that we have up-to-date contact details for all parents in case of emergencies.

**Absences**-Please note that we are required to report children with 20 days or more absences in a school year to the Child and Family Agency, Túsla. If your child has been absent from school, a **written** note is required as these notes are used in our returns when explaining absences. (There is no need to ring the school to explain a child's absence as verbal explanations cannot be accepted when making our returns).

**Contacting the School**-Please note that our secretary, Robina Jones, works on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to school end. Outside of these times the school phone is not answered as all staff are in class. Messages are checked at the end of the day. Email is usually the quickest and best way to make contact with the school.

Is mise le meas,  
Aonghus O' Brien