

BROADFORD & KILBANE N.S.

NEWSLETTER



January & February 2024

Dear Parents,

2023 is already well underway and our 2nd term promises to be a hive of activity with lots happening. Have a look below to see the important events in our school.

Enrolment

Enrolment for new students for the 2024/2025 school year will open on Thursday February 1st. Both the Registration Form and the Enrolment Form can be found on the school website along with the Admission's Policy. Both forms must be filled out and returned to the school either through post or physically handed in. Please note we cannot accept forms emailed in. If you would like copies of these forms, please make contact with the office and we'll send forms home. Closing date for applications is **Wednesday, 28^h of February**.

Creative Schools

Polly Sandenburgh is currently facilitating a Creative Schools project in our school. We are liaising with **Michael Browne** and are looking at using STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths) as our inspiration for introducing more creativity in each class. More details will be given to the children in the coming weeks.

We have also begun a conversation with **Madge O'Callaghan** where we are looking at completing a creative writing project around local stories in our senior classes.

Finally, **Pete Beaumont** (our Willow Man) came to the school last week and worked with 1st-4th classes weaving the new growth on our willow tunnel. Pete has exciting plans to work with the children to bring this project to a whole new level of creativity.

Literacy Announcements

Guided Reading-Small group reading started in Senior Infants this week to great excitement among the children. We're looking forward to seeing them blossom as little bookworms.

Accelerated Reading-We have 8 Word Millionaires in the school-**Emma Cosgrove, Zac Cosgrove, Oisín Lovett, Ava Hudson, Finn O'Driscoll, Sofia Walsh, Enid Wixted & Cian O'Driscoll**. Super achievements.

Board of Management

Our new board of management has now formed and consists of the following members; **Bernard Gunning** (Chairperson), **Áine Lenihan** (Patron's Rep.) **Aonghus O'Brien** (Principal & Secretary), **Deirdre Troy** (Staff Rep.), **Shirley Corbett & John Corcoran** (Parent's Reps.), **Yvonne Martin & Carmel Carey** (Community Reps.)

Agree to Agree

As already mentioned in a previous email, the school have engaged in the Agree to Agree project which is facilitated by Clare Education Centre. Guided by forensic psychologist **Dr. Maureen Griffin**, the aim is to guide our school through a process aimed at implementing positive change and fostering agreement and understanding among school stakeholders in order to establish a new norm for children's use of internet enabled devices.

For this aim to be achieved, it is important that we get parent's input. Two parents have already put their names forward to get involved and we're hoping for a minimum of two more. I promise that it will not be an onerous exercise for parents from a time perspective!!!

Pedestrian Safety-Town Team

As you are aware, road safety is a constant health & safety concern for our school and our village. In our most recent communication with Clare County Council, we have sought the development of a pedestrian, parking and traffic management plan which would see dramatic improvements to all of the above in our village. For this plan to be achieved and funded, the council have indicated that a 'Town Team' must be developed to work collaboratively with the council. The Town Team needs to consist of representatives from all sectors of the village (business, residential, parish, school & GAA club). If this is something you'd like to get interested in, then please make contact with the office.

Note : Events

- Enrolment
- Creative Schools
- Literacy Announcements
- Board of Management
- Agree to Agree
- Pedestrian Safety
- Féile na hInse
- Spelling Bee
- Chess Tournament
- School Calendars
- Credit Union Quiz Teams
- Fiddle Classes
- Green Schools
- Swimming
- FAI Soccer
- Indoor Hurling & Camogie
- Primary Game
- 5th & 6th Class Cycling
- Community Games



Féile na hInse

As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge **ALL** classes are taking part in the annual Féile na hInse competition. Children from Juniors to Sixth classes will enter the Comórtas Éalaín (Art Competition). Children from 2nd-6th classes will be travelling to Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Cíosóg to take part in 'Filíocht', 'Comhrá' and/or 'Agallamh Beirte' competitions. Exact details will be emailed to parents next week with dates, times, etc. In preparation for the performance events at Féile na hInse, children will also get to practice in front of the entire school in the Community Hall during school. Children from Juniors-1st classes will also be involved in these poetry performances.

Spelling Bee

Well done to **Oisín Lovett** who won our school's Spelling Bee competition recently. Oisín will now represent our school in the County Finals which will take place before the Easter break.

Chess Tournament

Our 5th & 6th class are busy trialing to make the School Chess Teams for their first competition which takes place on Thursday, 7th of March.

School Calendars

There are a very small number of calendars still available in the office if anyone missed out before Christmas!

Credit Union Quiz Teams

We are sending 4 teams to this year's Credit Union Quiz which is taking place tonight in Scariff Community College at 7p.m. Our U13's teams consists of **Heidi Cloete, Gabrielle O'Riordan, Fionn Boland & Oisín Lovett** and **Molly O'Sullivan, Sarah Cloete, Síobhra Corrigan & Benny Ryan**. Our under 11's teams consist of **Ellen Foley, Sophie O'Sullivan, Tommy O'Brien & Enid Wixted** and **Faye Mary Moloney, Zoe Carroll, Emily O'Doherty & Cian O'Driscoll**. Wishing them all the best!!

Fiddle Classes

Fiddle classes continue to take place after school every second Friday with Mrs. Carmel Kennedy. Fiddle classes are for any child that attends fiddle lessons outside of school and is aimed at further developing the skills of our school musicians.

Green Schools

We have registered for the National Clean Up Campaign with An Taisce and a village clean-up will take place in early spring. We will also create a mini woodland at the rear of the school with the planting of hazel, holly and oak.

Swimming

Swimming lessons in Shannon continue for another few weeks and it is brilliant to see the progress being made by all. We are well impressed with how independent the children are when getting togged out and in and the instructors have commented on how mannerly the children from our school are..

FAI Soccer

We have 4 teams entered into the FAI Primary 5's competition (2 girls and 2 boys teams). Both competitions will take place in Tulla Utd grounds on Tuesday 5th March.

Indoor Hurling & Camogie Competitions

The indoor hurling/camogie tournaments are back this year. The boys in 3rd & 4th classes and the girls in 4th & 5th will be playing Clonlara, Killaloe and Raheen Steiner National Schools. Both competitions take place in Clonlara Sports Hall. The boys play on **Thursday 8th of February** with the girls out on **Thursday 22nd of February**. Training for this tournament takes place at big lunch everyday on the astro turf so all children participating should bring their hurleys and helmets to school.

Primary Game

Trials for the Primary Game will take place at the end of February. A physical and skills test will be used to determine the girl and boy from 6th class who will represent the school at these trials in March. There are good numbers on the wall each morning honing their skills so the standards will be high...!

5th & 6th Class Cycling

We have secured funding to subsidise cycling lessons for 5th and 6th classes. These lessons will cost €5 per child with further details to be emailed to parents once dates are finalised.

Community Games

The school will continue to work with Broadford-Kilbane-Kilmore Community Games to communicate competitions to children and parents. Attached is a link to a calendar of events which may be of interest. This is a great opportunity for children to show case their talents in a diverse range of areas. Examples include Art, Talent & Choir, Quiz, Chess, Handwriting, Cycling, Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country, Pitch & Putt. Click on the link below for details and times and if you'd like to enter your child in any of the events, please let me know by return of email.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/0/d/1NiAKZeCaeq7m6Bro8s-9VG6OOLUKSRdoxIH0NsJfXpU/htmlview>

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