

**Scoil Naomh Bríde,
Baile on Bhóthair,
Áth Troim,
Co. na Mí.
C15 TP62**

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**St. Brigid's N.S.,
Boardsmill,
Trim,
Co. Meath.
C15 TP62**

Roll Number: 17947K

Website: www.boardsmillns.com

Date: 31st August 2023.

Dear Parents,

Céad míle fáilte ar ais ar scoil don bhliain nua. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back for this new term in Scoil Naomh Bríde. I would like to draw your attention to the following;

Staffing: Ms. Marie O' Regan is currently on maternity leave and is due to return in December. Ms. Lisa McCabe will replace her as a SET Teacher until she returns.

Junior Infants: I would like to welcome the 25 new children who have joined our school. We wish them 8 happy years here in Boardsmill and we look forward to working with them and you, their parents. The Junior Infants will continue to finish at 12.30pm this week and next week. Monday 11th September will be the first day that they will remain until 2.00pm. Please ensure to collect your child from the school gate and bring them immediately to your car. It is not safe for them to cross the school car park on their own.

Punctuality: It is important that children are punctual each morning for school. School begins each day at 9.20am. The school is open to receive pupils from 9.10am only. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time.

Cycle Safety Training Programme: The Cycle Safety Training for 3rd class will begin next Wednesday 6th September. Details for this have already been sent out to 3rd class. A payment request has also been sent via Aladdin.

Memory Lane Photography: A photographer from Memory Lane Photography will visit the school on Monday 2nd October to take photos of the children. All children should be in full uniform. Individual, family and class photos will be taken on the day and all families will receive samples of the photographs at a later date. There is no obligation on parents to purchase photographs.



Birthday Invitations/bringing toys into school: The school does not allow invitations to birthdays, parties etc. to be distributed in the school. Despite the best intentions of parents, it is very easy for a child to be omitted and feel left out. We would also appreciate it if parents did not send in buns/treats for the rest of the children in the class to celebrate their child's birthday. As nice as the thought is, it does put pressure on other parents in the class and it increases the risks in regards to children with particular allergies.

Sundries / Payments: We are now beginning to take payment of the Sundries/Arts/Crafts. Payments can be made through the link on Aladdin. The fees are as follows:

- One child €50.00
- Two children: €90.00
- Three children: €120.00
- Four children: €140.00
- Five children: €150.00



Gaelic Football: Football training for boys from 3rd to 6th class takes place every Thursday at lunchtimes. Football training for girls from 3rd to 6th class takes place every Tuesday at lunchtimes. Any child is welcome to train regardless of ability or not being a member of the club.

Boys Fixtures

- Tuesday 12th Sept – Away to Rathcairn
- Tuesday 19th Sept – Bye
- Tuesday 26th Sept – Away to Robinstown
- Tuesday 3rd Oct – Home to Coole
- Tuesday 10th Oct – Home to Kilbride

Girls Fixtures

Girls fixtures have not yet been set.



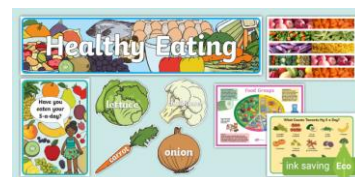
Medical Conditions: We are currently updating our medical conditions file. I would appreciate if you would contact Emma in the office to ensure that your child's file is up to date. I would ask you to check with the class teacher to ensure that your child's medical box is fully restocked and up to date.

Absence Slips: The "Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form" is available on our school website. This is the official explanation for any child's absence from school and should be completed and returned to the class teacher when your child returns to school.

Entering and leaving the school: as you are aware the main road adjacent to the school is very busy and quite dangerous. I would urge you to comply with the following safety arrangements and to regularly advise your children about safety at all time when entering and leaving the school.

- Insist on children walking at all times.
- **Leave the area along the school wall free for the school buses to park.**
- Use the school car park or drop-off zone to deposit / collect children.
- If using the drop-off zone respect the directional signs, drop children off promptly and move away carefully. Do not use the drop-off zone as a car park.
- All children should use the gate to enter / leave the school. Do not lift children over the wall or fence or encourage them to climb over the wall or fence.
- Insist that your children remain within the school grounds until they are collected. Do not permit your children to await collection in the drop-off zone. Parents using the carpark **must** come to the school gate to collect their children. **Do not** wait in your car and call the children across the carpark.
- Insist on children using the footpaths at all times.
- **Do not park on the footpaths at any time.**

Healthy Eating: I would like to remind everyone again to be especially vigilant when organising your children's lunches this year. As a school we have decided to ban all foods and drinks that contain obvious pieces/signs or traces of nuts and Kiwi as there are a number of children within the school who suffer from serious reactions to these foods. I trust your vigilance in this very important matter.



Uniform: Please ensure that the children are in full uniform at all times apart from when they have P.E. The school tracksuit should be worn on these days. It is important that the children are wearing their school ties. The ties can be purchased from Ted Murtagh's and/or John Canning Menswear Trim, Co. Meath.

Headlice: It is very common for outbreaks of headlice to occur from time to time in the school. We would encourage all parents to closely monitor their child's/children's hair and if they have any concerns, please contact the class teacher. A headlice initiative will be held each term in the school to develop parents' awareness of same. Long hair should be tied back.

Labelling: Could all parents please ensure that their child's/children's clothing, equipment etc. is clearly labelled. This makes it much easier for your child to recognise his/her belongings in the school.

Website: Please don't forget to view our school website at www.boardsmillns.com for up-to-date information on school initiatives.

Contact Details: I would appreciate it if parents could ensure that the school has the most up to date information re; contact details, phone numbers, emails and addresses.

Children leaving school early: Children who are leaving school early for specific appointments etc. must be signed out by the parent/guardian collecting them. Parents/guardians are requested to sign this book in the secretary's office before collecting their child.

Homework Policy: Please note our Homework Policy is available on our school website.

First Communion & Confirmation: Dates have been set by the parish. First Communion will take place on Saturday 18th May 2024 at 12.00pm. Confirmation will take place on Friday 26th January 2024. Time to be confirmed.

Teaching Practice: Two students from DCU will commence Teaching Practice in the school over the next few weeks. Ms. Caoimhe Ni Uilic will be working in 6th class with Mrs. Dobie. Ms. Dearbhla McCaffrey will be working in 5th class with Mr. Tighe.

Child Protection: In recent years, as a society, we have become very aware of the problem of child abuse through neglect, emotional, physical or sexual abuse.

Each one of us has a duty to protect children and Children First, the National Guidelines, for the Protection and Welfare of Children noted that teachers, who are the main care givers to children outside the family, are particularly well placed to observe and monitor children for signs of abuse.

In response to this, the Department of Education and Skills published Guidelines and Procedures for all schools in relation to child protection and welfare. These guidelines promote the safety and welfare of all children and are to be welcomed.

The Board of Management of Scoil Naomh Bríde has adopted these guidelines as school policy. Consequently, if school staff suspect or are alerted to possible child abuse, they are mandated to refer this matter to TUSLA. Tusla will then assess the situation and provide support for the child concerned.

Kind regards,

James Battersby

James Battersby (Principal)