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February 2019

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# St. Brendan's NS

The Square, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Next week is midterm break and we are closing also on Wednesday for staff training in the new language curriculum.

The school received a wonderful donation of €1000 from Basil Larkin before Christmas. Basil produced and sold calendars a few years ago in commemoration of a great year in local GAA. He has kindly decided to donate the proceeds to the school which will be put to great use.

Wishing all our pupils and families an enjoyable break next week and we look forward to returning recharged for the second half of term.

Yours sincerely,

*Éilís Treacy*

School Principal



## Cash for Clobber

We had great success this November with our clothes collection. We received a cheque for over €700.

We have decided to have another collection this year in June and we will gladly take any bags of clothes, sheets, curtains or shoes. We cannot take quilts or pillows but can take everything else. If you are doing a clear out, bring your bags to school any morning and 6<sup>th</sup> class will help carry them in and store them in the shed.



## Upcoming Events

### 20th February

Closed for Staff Training

### 21st & 22nd February

Midterm Break

### Monday 18th March

St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday

### Saturday 6th April

First Holy Communion

### Friday 12th April

Closing for Easter Holidays

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## Money collections:

### Music

€20 for Spring Term

### Swimming

€40 for 6 lessons

## Enrolment Sept 2019:

Enrolment forms for next year are available from the school office:

Mon-Thurs 9:00am-11:00am



*Thank You*  
*St Brendan's National School*  
for raising

€119.00

By your prayers and sharing  
you are living out your motto

children helping children



Signed by

Date

Society of Missionary Children, St Brendan's National School, 12  
The Society of Missionary Children is the world's oldest children's charity. It was founded in 1854.  
Registered Charity Number: 11410128

## Children Helping Children

We had a Christmas Jumper Day on the run-up to Christmas and we sent the proceeds to the Society of Missionary Children. This organization works with children in third world countries. It also provides lovely teaching materials during the year. We especially like using their advent and Lenten calendars.

**20c** provides **5** school dinners for children in Malawi. The money donated this year equates to **2,975 meals!**

## Child Protection Procedures

Please note the updated Child Safeguarding Statement on our website [www.eyrecourtns.ie/policies](http://www.eyrecourtns.ie/policies).

Also note that the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Éilís Treacy and the Depute Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) is Gerardine Moran-Barrett.

## Internet Safety Day 5<sup>th</sup> February

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February was internet safety day and the senior classroom are busy working on a special supplement for the February Eyrecourt Examiner.

All the school are taking part in the Stay Safe lessons which also cover some internet safety.

In the senior classroom the main applications at the moment are Snapchat, Instagram, Fortnite, Tik Tok, Whatsapp and Robloxs. The “chat” element in apps and games are the main attraction for this age group. We may think that as long as a child doesn't have a phone they are sheltered but unfortunately most games now have text and talk features.

Over the past few years Eyrecourt NS asks that phones, tablets or games do not go into bedrooms at any time of the day, especially at night. We would ask parents to ensure their children do not go to bed with any devices.

[www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie) is a very helpful website for parents. We use this website in school also. On the parent page every single app and game is explained. For example Tik Tok is the newest craze and here is some of the webwise explanation:

The screenshot shows the webwise.ie website with a navigation bar for Parents, Teachers, and Youth. The main content area is titled 'How to Create an Account?' and explains that users can sign up using Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or email. Below this, it asks 'Why Do Teens Like it?' and describes TikTok (formerly known as musical.ly) as a fun app for creating and sharing videos. It mentions that since the early days of social media, lip-syncing videos have been popular, and that TikTok has a dedicated young community where users gain likes, followers, and featured videos. The final section, 'How Does it Work?', explains that users can follow other users, like and comment on videos, and send emojis to their favorite singer on TikTok.