

May 2017

St. Brendan's NS

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Upcoming Events

Thurs 1st June

World Book Day

Friday 2nd June

Infant Open Day

Friday 23rd June

School Tour

Mon 26th June

Achievements & Graduation day

Wed 28th June

School closes for summer

Fri 1st Sept

School Reopens

Dear Parent,

We are into our final term and our last few weeks of school.

Congratulations to all our First Holy Communion pupils and their teacher Mr Barrett. Special thanks to Fr. McInerney and the parish choir for all their preparations and support.

Unfortunately we are not performing at the Fleadh in Portumna this Friday, it clashed with matches and other activities. We hope to showcase the lovely tunes the pupils practiced before the end of the year.

Read on for details of end of year activities including school tours, sports day, end of year celebrations and school closings.

Yours sincerely,

Eilís Treacy

School Principal

End of Year Activities

This last term is possibly the busiest time of the year, teachers are trying to finish up the years curriculum, testing has to be carried out, reports written and of course all the end of year fun activities have to be included as well.

Over the next few weeks 1st to 6th class will complete their standardised **testing**. This is a measure of your child's attainment and a means to check that your child is progressing through the curriculum. It also helps us to plan for the year ahead, identify needs in classes and prioritise classes and groups for extra support. Teachers use the findings of the tests to plan their own teaching.

Money collections

Music
€20 to Summer

School Office

Monday – Thursday
09:00 – 11:00

Your child's result will be on their **report card**. The report cards will be posted home and should arrive by Friday 23rd June.

We are belatedly celebrating **World Book day** on Thursday 1st June. This is a chance for the pupils to dress up as their favourite book character. The more inventive, the better. Search for ideas on Google images and there is absolutely no need to buy any costumes. The 5th/6th class as part of their book buddy project are pairing up with their book buddy. They are already discussing what they are and they will send a note home with their book buddy next week.

The **Infant Open Day** is on Friday 2nd June this year. Juniors, seniors and 1st class will go home at **12pm** that day. The new infants and their parents will visit the school at 1pm. The **Schoolwear Centre** will be in the school from 1-3:30pm that day if any parent wishes to order or try on uniform jumpers.

Hurling and Camogie championships are being played out this term. Monday 29th May in Carrabane for the girls blitz, Thursday 8th June (not definite) in Woodford for the boys blitz. This year girls can no longer play on the boys team so we will be encouraging and playing all our boys who have trained and shown an interest in hurling. We have also had girls as young as 2nd class training every week and they will definitely be part of the panel traveling to Carabane.

We plan on having our **Sports Day** on Thursday 22nd June. This is a weather dependent date and if we have a good spell beforehand, we might move it forward. Pupils will need a potato and spoon (labelled with name), tights or scarf for 3 legged race and hurl for the long puck.

The whole school will be off on **School Tour** on Friday 23rd June. The Parents Association are contributing towards the cost of the buses so the exact prices for the tours will be sent home next week after the Parents Association meet.

This year the Junior tour (infants – 2nd class) will travel to Galway to visit the Aquarium.

The senior tour (3rd-6th class) are visiting Clonmacnoise and Lough Boora Parklands.

Details and cost will be sent home next week.

On Monday 26th of June at 1:30pm we will have our **End of Year Assembly**. Parents are welcome to attend. We will celebrate various achievements and awards within the school and continue with the **Graduation** ceremony for 6th class and their families.

Stay Safe and Child Safety

As part of our SPHE, we are completing the Stay Safe programme this year in our school. It teaches the children how to stay safe and protect themselves from bullying and abuse.

The steps the children in every class are taught are:

- Say No
- Get Away
- Tell

Parents can read up about it on

<http://www.staysafe.ie/parents.htm>

The programme was updated this year to include the online world. We have to be aware of the virtual world children live in now and how vulnerable they can be. Click on this link to view a video which highlights this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gV3VkJg6ZFw>

Unfortunately this is the world we live in and we have to

safeguard our children. <https://www.webwise.ie/parents/> is an excellent resource for parents. As each new app or trend catches on, Webwise puts up an information sheet for parents. There are also guidelines for parents on how to control screen time at home, parental controls on the wifi and how to set up privacy settings on apps.

