

September 2016

# St. Brendan's NS

The Square, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

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Dear Parent,

Welcome back to a new school year in St. Brendan's NS.

A special welcome to our new pupils and their families: Aibhín, Lily, Sophie, Colman, Harry, Sean, Rebecca, Anthony and Calum.

This newsletter is also available on our school website:

[www.eyrecourtns.ie](http://www.eyrecourtns.ie).

**If you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter printed out every month, please sent a note into the secretary.**

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Principal

## School Finance

This time last year we were settling back into our beautiful renovated classrooms. We had secured *Summer Works* funding to dry line the old part of the school. Unfortunately with all of these grants to school, only the cost of the actual work is covered. Painting of the rooms, flooring and all the decorating costs are not covered. We decided to replace the carpet with lino as the carpet was old and the new floor covering is a lot more hygienic for the pupils. All of these costs came out of the school savings. One year later, in our warm and comfortable school, we have no regrets, but we also have no money.

For the past number of years, the school was actually running at a loss. The money coming in from the department was not meeting our daily running costs. We were using our savings to bridge the deficit. Now these saving have been used up, we are at a loss. We are planning on a big fundraiser on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October**. Haydens Hotel is provisionally booked and we are having a meeting on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September** at 8pm in the school. We are asking a representative from each family to attend.

## Upcoming Events

See calendar on [www.eyrecourtns.ie](http://www.eyrecourtns.ie) for full year of school holidays and important dates

### Fri 23rd Sept

School Mass Eyrecourt Church

## Money collections:

### School books

Thank you to all parents for setting up your children so well for year. All pupils are now well equipped for their learning.

Special word of thanks to Patricia for all her work coordinating deliveries and money collection.

## Secretary:

Patricia is in the school office  
Mon-Thurs 9am-11am



## Some back to school pointers:

**9.20am:** School begins; children line up on yard and wait for their teacher.

**Absence:** Absences must be explained by a note from the back of the homework journal (infants-by a note in their homework folder). The school is under obligation to report to TUSLA any pupil who misses more than 20 days.

**Behaviour:** All children should behave appropriately at all times

**Homework:** Please check your child's homework each night

**Hygiene:** Please help your child to realise the importance of healthy habits

**Uniform:** Children are asked to wear the school uniform. School tracksuit is worn on PE day. On PE day children should wear runners/trainers that they can run and exercise in.

**Labels:** All your children's belongings should be labeled to avoid confusion. School jumpers in particular are easily confused. If you write their name on the label, refresh it from time to time as it does fade in the wash. Stitching their names on or buying the iron-on labels seem to be the most permanent solutions.

**Lunches:** The children benefit from the healthy lunch policy and we would like to see this observed by all (no crisps, sweets, biscuits, chocolate spreads or fizzy drinks).

**Packaging:** Please keep packaging in lunches to a minimum for us to maintain our Green School status.

**Money:** All money being sent to the school should be placed in a sealed envelope with your child's name and the amount enclosed clearly written on the outside.

## Music

Following a representation from the Parents Association, a survey on music teaching in our school is attached to this letter. If these could be returned ASAP we can plan for the rest of the term. The decision for continuation of music classes rests with the majority vote.

## Text-a-parent

A text is sent to one parent of each family for important notices, emergencies or when a newsletter is sent home/online.

You should have received two texts at this point (30/08/16, today) If you haven't received any text yet please send a note to your class teacher with phone number, contact name and pupils name.