

September 2021

# St. Brendan's NS

The Square, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

[office@eyrecourtns.ie](mailto:office@eyrecourtns.ie) T: 090 9675362 [www.eyrecourtns.ie](http://www.eyrecourtns.ie)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year in Eyrecourt NS. We welcome our junior infant pupils Anna Leigh, Lucy and Luke. We also welcome two new teachers Ms McGettigan and Ms Clarke. Ms McGettigan teaches 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class and was appointed to the permanent position this summer. Ms Clarke is teaching in the senior classroom and is replacing Mrs Greaney who is on career break this year.

We are all settling in this month to our new roles so bear with us while we get our routines in place!

Covid-19 is still around, hopefully we are coming to the end but until then we need to follow all precautions and advice.

Yours sincerely,

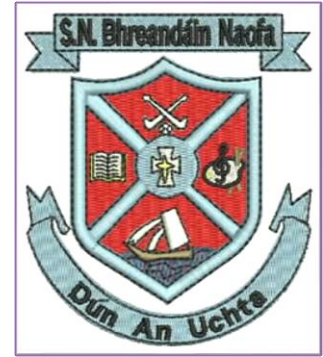
*Éilís Treacy*

School Principal



**Eyrecourt NS teaching staff on September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

l-r: Ms Aisling McGettigan, Ms Éilís Treacy, Ms Amber McGrath, Ms Aoife Clarke



## Upcoming Events

<http://www.eyrecourtns.ie/calendar.php>  
for full year of school holidays and  
important dates

**Fri 17th Sept**  
School Photos

**Tues 21st Sept**  
First Confession

**Sat 25th Sept**  
First Holy Communion

**November**  
Cash for Clobber

## 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  
090 9675362  
[office@eyrecourtns.ie](mailto:office@eyrecourtns.ie)

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## 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 phone call that morning to the school office 090 9675362 or an email to office@eyrecourtns.ie. 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. Our school tracksuit is so similar it can be worn as school uniform. 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, bars, biscuits, chocolate spreads or fizzy drinks).

**Packaging:** Please keep packaging in lunches to a minimum for us to maintain our Green School status. We ask the children to take their rubbish back home with them. This is to encourage less packaging and also for parents to see how much lunch their child is actually eating.

**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.

### Cash for Clobber

We will have cash for clobber again after the Halloween break. Clothes may be left into the school for storage for November.

### School Photos

We take our school photos every second year and County Photos will be arriving on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Details of how to purchase photos will be sent after the 17<sup>th</sup>.

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## 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.

If you haven't received any text yet please send a note to your class teacher with phone number, contact name and pupils name.

### First Holy Communion

3<sup>rd</sup> class will finally celebrate their First Holy Communion on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of September. Fr. McInerney and Ms McGettigan are busy with preparations and will update the pupils and their families next week. First Confession will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 2pm in Eyrecourt Church. Parents are welcome to attend.

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## Covid-19 Information

The return to school went very smoothly and everyone has been very contentious. As you have probably heard in the media, there are a lot of cases in schools. The updated Covid Response plan is on our website but the most important section for a parent is Section 5.1:

### 5.1) Know the Symptoms of COVID-19

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is important to know and recognise the symptoms of coronavirus (which includes the DELTA variant).

Common symptoms of coronavirus include:

- a fever (high temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above).
- a new cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just dry.
- shortness of breath or breathing difficulties.
- loss or change in your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Fatigue
- Aches and Pains

Other uncommon symptoms of coronavirus include:

- sore throat
- headaches
- runny or stuffy noses

- feeling sick or vomiting
- diarrhoea

Infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 can cause illness, ranging from mild to severe, and, in some cases, can be fatal. It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show. They can be similar to symptoms of [cold](#) and [flu](#).

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (coronavirus), [self-isolate](#) (stay in your room) and phone your family doctor straight away to see if you need [a free COVID-19 test](#). Getting an early diagnosis means, you can get the help you need and take steps to avoid spreading the virus, if you have it.

For the complete list of symptoms, please refer to the HSE [Website](#). Symptoms may be subject to change so regular review of the HSE Website is advised. If you **do not** have symptoms, you can get a free COVID-19 (coronavirus) test at a [COVID-19 walk-in test centre](#)

