

February 2022

St. Brendan's NS

The Square, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

office@eyrecourtns.ie

T: 090 9675362 www.eyrecourtns.ie

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are all looking forward to our midterm break next week after a very busy half term.

The return to school in January was eventful with our Covid outbreak but thanks to all your cooperation, that is all behind us. With all the pupil absences, we have been very focused on catching up on reading, math and the basics.

Next week's break is well deserved for pupils and teachers!

We have an extra day's holiday due to the new bank holiday in March. We have decided to use it on Friday 29th April as 5th and 6th class have their confirmation the day before. Please check the school calendar on www.eyrecourtns.ie for all the school closure dates.

Yours sincerely,

Eilís Treacy

School Principal

Internet Safety

February 7th was **Safer Internet Day**. We had lessons in school exploring how to use the internet safely. Parents should visit the site: www.webwise.ie for tips and support.

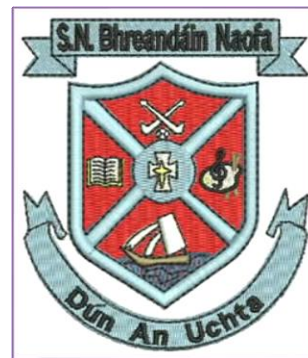
Our top rule in Eyrecourt NS is:

No screens in the bedroom ever.

One way of keeping an eye on what your child is accessing online is to insist that they cannot bring devices up to their bedrooms -during the day or at night.

We are sending home booklets today with infants to 1st class from a new initiative "Parent Power". Parents of older classes might like to access the online content <https://parentpower.planetyouth.ie/>

There is a Zoom briefing on Tuesday 8th March at 7pm for national school parents. Parents might find these supports helpful. Parenting has been extremely challenging the past two years and the aim of Parent Power is to "Transform the health and wellbeing of our children."



Upcoming Events

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

Wed 23-Fri 25 Feb

Midterm break

Thurs 3rd March

World Book Day

Thurs 17 & Fri 18 Mar

St. Patricks Day & Bank Holiday

April 8

Easter Holidays

Thurs 28 April

Confirmation 5th & 6th class

Fri 29 April

School Holiday

Fri 3 June

First Holy Communion

Secretary

Patricia is in the school office

Mon-Thurs 9am-11am

090 9675362

office@eyrecourtns.ie



World Book Day is Thursday 3rd March. It falls in perfectly with our library day so we plan on dressing up and celebrating our favourite books. We will be discussing it in school with the children and helping them with ideas.

Keep it very simple. Go for the traditional stories that are recognisable. For the younger children who might not have a lot of book experience, they can dress up as a nursery rhyme. For example, a boy might dress up as Jack from the Jack and Jill nursery rhyme. Jack could have a bucket (for the water) and a bandage on his head (he broke his crown).

Sport is making a very welcome return to Eyrecourt NS.

We have been so fortunate to have Joan Poland coaching for the past few years. We have Conor Dolan with us for the next few months. Conor is studying sport in Limerick and is working with the GAA on a pilot scheme as his work placement. Conor trains 1st class to 6th hurling and camogie every Tuesday.

There is no word yet from Cumann na mBunscoil but I am hoping that the interschools championships will return after Easter.

We have had rugby coaching every Monday with Connacht rugby. We missed a few weeks due to Covid and bad weather but our final training session is next Monday.

The senior classroom have been working on their Spikeball since last term. They travel to Ballinasloe on the 8th March to compete in their first tournament. We wish them all the best along with their coach and teacher Ms Clarke.

Marathon Kids If you passed through Eyrecourt village at about 10.30am any morning you might have spotted our marathon runners. The senior classroom are completing a marathon over 8 weeks. It will culminate in a final run after St. Patrick's day with medal presentation and proper race merchandise. Details will be released closer to the date.

Stay Safe programme is currently being taught to all classes. The Child Protection policy was reviewed on 10/02/2021 and available to view on the school website. **DLP (Designated Liaison Person) is Éilis Treacy, Deputy DLP is Aisling McGettigan.**

Swimming Keep in mind that we have a week of swimming 20-24th June. We have a few children anxious about swimming so try to bring your child to a swimming pool to get them used to it. A fun pool with slides and fountains like in Leisureland Galway would be ideal for an anxious child. Let them play around in the water and get used to it. Baths and playing in the bath really help too.

Finally Keep vigilant regarding Covid, it is still present. Please test your child on a Monday morning and keep at home if they have symptoms.

