

May 2022

St. Brendan's NS

The Square, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are well into our final term. School is busy with activities returning after Covid. We took part in our first hurling tournament since October 2019 last Friday. The rest of the senior room travelled to GMIT to compete in a robotics tournament.

Our calendar is very full for the final weeks. Check out the dates on the right and the school calendar on www.eyrecourtns.ie for all the important school dates.

Yours sincerely,

Eilís Treacy

School Principal

Swimming

As communicated previously, we will go swimming for the last full week in June. Swimming will be for 2nd to 6th class. Some pupils are a little anxious about swimming so remind them that they will be attending swimming lessons. The swimming teachers are ready to help anyone who is nervous of the water and because we haven't had swimming in two years, a lot of kids are starting from the beginning too. Birr swimming pool has cubicles so your child will share a cubicle with a sibling or a friend. Some older pupils will have their own cubicle depending on how many are available.

To prepare your child for swimming:

- Practice getting dressed by themselves after a bath or shower
- Check that they have swimwear that fits them
- Goggles are really helpful for all swimmers, even beginners
- Towel ponchos (pictured) make getting dressed a lot easier for children. They can be purchased in the usual Dunnes, Penneys etc. If you find it difficult to source one I have found this site to be good value: <https://www.decathlon.ie/6712-ponchos>
- Try to go swimming to Birr Swimming Pool before the lessons so your child has experience of the pool beforehand. School swimming lessons can be daunting to a child who hasn't much experience of swimming pools, so knowing their way around would really help.



Upcoming Events

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

Fri 3 June

First Holy Communion

Fri 10 June

Infant Open Day

Tues 14 June

Senior Room School Tour
& Cash for Clobber

Thurs 16 June

Joyce Shield

Mon 20- Fri 24 June

Swimming at 1pm

Tues 21 & Thurs 23 June

School tours

Mon 27 June

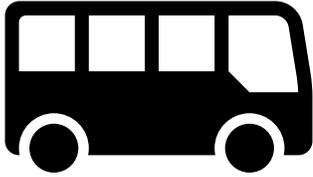
6th class Graduation

Secretary

Patricia is in the school office

Mon-Thurs 9am-11am
090 9675362
office@eyrecourtns.ie

School Tours



School tours return after a 2 year absence!

We will make use of the swimming buses to have two school tours on Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd of June. On those days, the whole school will set off to Birr for activities at the Castle and surrounding areas. 2nd-6th class will proceed to swimming at 1pm and the junior room will return to the school for 2pm pick-up. The class teachers will issue further information closer to the time.

The senior room will travel further for their own school tour. 6th class haven't been on a school tour since they were in 3rd class so it was important to ensure they experienced a proper primary school tour before they leave. 4th, 5th and 6th class will travel to Lahinch on Tuesday 14th June for a day of surfing and hopefully lots of sun!

Costs:

Junior room: €20 per child

Middle room: €60 per child (Swimming, bus and Birr tour activities)

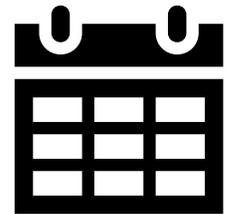
Senior room: €60 per child (Swimming, bus and Birr tour activities) + €40 per child (Lahinch tour)

Testing

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.

Planning for next year

While we're doing our best to get through this busy term, we do have to look ahead to next year. We have decided on our school calendar so if you are in the lucky position of planning holidays – read on!



We are returning to school on Thursday 1st of September. We are not taking any extra days next year outside of the standardised school year and will close on Friday 23rd of June 2023.

Mrs Greaney is taking parental leave next year for the year and we hope to hold on to Ms Clarke for another year. We have 7 pupils enrolled in next year's junior infants so class groupings and teachers are predicted to remain the same: Ms McGrath Infants-1st, Ms McGettigan 2nd/3rd and Ms Clarke 4th-6th. Special Education hours were sanctioned during the Easter holidays and we are fortunate to have a full post so Ms Treacy can continue in Special Education Teaching.

6th Class

It will soon be time to say goodbye to our 6th class. We will have a little graduation gathering on Monday 27th June at 1.30pm, parents and siblings are welcome to attend.

6th class pupils are asked to bring in a white, cotton t-shirt in the next week for a special graduation gift.

