# St Brigid's NS



# **Snap News**

October, 2015



St. Brigid's National School | Killoughter | Redhills | Co. Cavan

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#### **Maths Week**

This year, we hosted our very first Maths Week. It took place from 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October and all classes, ranging from Junior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> Class took part. All children participated in many maths activities and games throughout the week, culminating in an outdoor maths trail on the Friday.



On Monday, we all played a variety of maths card games such as addition and multiplication battle. On Tuesday, children explored shapes and completed tangram puzzles. On Wednesday, we had catalogue/brochure day whereby children formulated shopping lists and menus. On Thursday, we played some ICT games as well as engaging in some maths art. Mrs. Burns' class made symmetrical pumpkins; Ms. McKenna's class did shape rubbings and Ms. Tierney's class created tessellating monsters. To finish up, on Friday, each class along with their teachers took their maths lessons outside for the maths trail. In groups, children explored maths in the environment, answering different mathsbased problems. All classes were faced with a 'problem of the day' activity which they had to solve on each morning during Maths Week.



Children received certificates for taking part in Maths Week 2015. A thoroughly enjoyable week was had by all.

#### **Camogie Final**

Well done to our brilliant girls who once again reached the Cumann na mBunscol county final. We are all extremely proud of the girls' achievements. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class girls: Tara Mulvaney, Emma Mulvaney, Emma Meehan, Aoife Rudden, Aimee Smith, Aoibhin Smith, Erin McCarville and Brianna Reilly, under the management of Geraldine Mulvaney, trained very hard since the beginning of the school year. A special word of thanks to Geraldine for her dedication and commitment to training the team this year.



## **Digital School of Distinction**

During the first term of the 2015/16 academic year we planned to complete our delivery of ICT into all classrooms. Last week Mrs. Burns's room received a very special laptop delivery. There is now a laptop between every two children in our school!



Well done to Noah Murphy who gave the closest estimation as to how many sweets were in the estimation jar during Maths Week - He beat Mr. Kerins into 2<sup>nd</sup> place!

## **New Flooring**

We have recently replaced the carpet in all of our classrooms. The 'old' carpets were laid in the 1980's and we all unanimously agreed that it was time to say good bye!

### **Green School**

This year Ms. Tierney and Ms. McKenna are the Green School coordinators. They are in charge of guiding the children toward getting the schools second green flag. This will be an energy flag. Last year the children conducted a number of surveys and gathered the information necessary in order to identify the areas in the school that needed improvement. This year we will be working toward implementing steps in order to reduce our energy usage. The new committee this year includes pupils from  $2^{\rm nd}-6^{\rm th}$  class.

Since September we have been working hard at carrying out our recycling and composting duties. After the midterm we will be putting into place our energy plan. We will keep you updated on our progress.

**Thomas Mooney** *Green School Secretary* 

## **School Requirements**

Thank you to all our brilliant parents for their continued support. The response has been thoroughly phenomenal. The items on the school requirements section of the booklist are essential to the effective running of our school. The fantastic response has enabled us to use a portion of the ICT replenishment fund to subscribe to Mathletics and Reading Eggs. These are online supports to improve your son(s)/daughter(s) literacy and numeracy skills. Mathletics is the next generation in learning, helping students enjoy maths and improve their knowledge and skills. Reading Eggs makes learning to read interesting and engaging for pupils, with great online reading games and activities. This software is used on a regular basis at school. However, pupils have their own unique passwords and users names which can also be used at home.

## Enrolment for 2016/17

Junior Infant applications for September 2016 must be returned by 15/01/2016. Forms can be obtained in the school or downloaded from our school website.

## **Crocus Project**

Miss Tierney's 4th, 5th and 6th class are participating in the Crocus Project this year. The class planted yellow crocus bulbs during the week as an act of remembrance for all the children who died during World War II. More to follow later in the year.



## **Board of Management**

The current Board of Management is coming to the end of its four year term. This Board has been a very hardworking and proactive group who have overseen many important developments during its term. Apart from looking after the school finances and the general running of the school, they have been involved in many other projects.

They have appointed two new Principal teachers: Ms. Sara Keenan and subsequently Mr. Kenneth Kerins. There has also been a huge upgrade of the heating system in the school under the tenure of this Board. They have overseen and supported the vast development of the ICT infrastructure within the school and have left a wonderful legacy which will greatly benefit the pupils of today and the future.



We would like to sincerely thank them for their time and dedication to our school. With regard to the new Board of Management which will begin its term on December 1st 2015, all families will have received a letter from St. Brigid's N.S. This letter outlines the process whereby parent representatives on the Board are nominated.

## **Opening School Year Maas**

Thank you to everyone who played a part in our opening school year mass: The boys and girls for their beautiful singing; Ms. Tierney & Aoife for the music; Fr. Jason; all the readers and children who took up the gifts; Mrs. Burns and Anne Marie for preparing the booklets and the huge number of parents who came to the mass.

#### Swimming

Following the high volume of parents who expressed an interest in swimming lessons we are currently in communication with bus companies to organise transport. We will be in touch prior to Christmas.



Parent/Teacher meetings will take place from 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November. Your child's teacher will be in touch to organise a date and time.

## Hip Hop

Every class in the school takes part in Hip Hop classes on Thursdays. Our dance teacher Shauna plays lots of upbeat music and we learn dance routines. It is great fun.

## **School Uniform**

Thank you and keep up the good work. Children are expected to wear the school uniform every day, except on P.E. days when school tracksuits should be worn.



Green School committee 2015/16

## **Football Team**

The football team have been training since the first week of September under the guidance of Mr. Kerins and Ms. Tierney. Following a series of games they have now completed their football season. We hope all the boys and girls continue to play with their club. This will help them meet lots of friends and develop their skills.



#### Hurling

Every Tuesday, the boys and girls in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class play hurling. A coach from Cavan county board comes to our school and we practice a wide range of skills. They play in pairs, groups and teams in order to improve on their skills. Each session is finished with a blitz which the children thoroughly enjoy.

#### **Parents Association**

The Parents Association held their Annual General Meeting on Monday night in the school. We would like to thank the outgoing officers for their hard work. The parents voted in the following parents: Ronnie Delaney (Chairperson), Helen Fossey (Secretary) and David Golding (Treasurer).

# Forogie Disco

Redhills Forogie Club are holding a Children's Halloween Fancy Dress Disco in Killoughter Hall on Friday 23rd October from 7-9pm. Prizes for Best Costumes. Refreshments provided. Parents Welcome.

## 1916 Centenary Programme

As part of Ireland's 2016 centenary programme each primary school will be furnished with a National Flag and a copy of the 1916 Proclamation. Sergeant Shay Hawe visited to deliver the special package.



The Department of Education has set aside the 15th March 2016 as Proclamation Day. On this special day all primary schools in Ireland will focus on the 1916 Proclamation and the raising of our National Flag.



Wishing you all an enjoyable break! Thank you to all our wonderful staff, parents/guardians, pupils and wider school community who make our school such a brilliant place to work, learn and visit.