

9. Nuachtlitir

15/02/2023

Mid-Term Break 16th/17th February

The school will be closed for the mid-term on Thursday & Friday February 16th/17th.

Cake Sale in Aid of victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria

5th and 6th class will host a cake sale next Tuesday, February 21st in aid of the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. All children are asked to bring €2 to school for which they can choose three items at the cake sale. Parents should give their child a small paper bag or small lunch box that day to put their cakes and buns into at the cake sale. All proceeds will be donated to the Irish Emergency Alliance.

Attendance

We have recently reviewed our attendance policy. Like all other schools nationally attendance decreased significantly during the Covid 19 Pandemic due to illness and the national health and safety requirements around self-isolation and restricting movement. There was also quite a lot of illness just before Christmas but thankfully since we returned in January our attendance levels have improved again. While the school will continue to be guided by Public Health advice and guidelines, parents/guardians are encouraged to limit pupil absences as much as possible. Regular school attendance is a critical factor in your child's emotional, social and educational development. Every day counts! (Tusla)

Attendance and punctuality levels are recorded electronically on Aladdin daily by class teacher/secretary and any concern regarding an individual's attendance/punctuality is reported to the Principal/Deputy. Following our review, I just wish to highlight the following change in the way we record attendance/absence.

Roll call will take place at **10.20 a.m.** each morning for all classes. Pupils who are not **present** for the Roll Call at 10.20 a.m. will be marked absent (Rules for National Schools). If a pupil arrives after roll call, they will be marked absent but the time of arrival is still recorded on Aladdin.

Please see the revised Attendance Strategy in the policy section of the website. This change will come into effect after mid-term.

Nut-Free School

As we have a number of pupils with nut allergies, Scoil Bhríde is a Nut-Free school. Please do not give nuts or nut products for lunch.

Grandparents Day

I hope all our Grandparents and special people enjoyed their special day. The children made beautiful cards and made a special effort to contact grandparents on their special day. I wish to thank all the Grandparents of the pupils in Rang III who came to visit us on the day. Special thanks to the class teachers, Miss Hynes and Ms Lynch, Ciara and Miss Murphy for coordinating this event. Photographs of the event can be seen on the school website. There are also some beautiful stories and memories from pupils and grandparents on the special podcast which was recorded on the day.

World Book Day Thursday, March 2nd

World Book Day is on Thursday, March 2nd. This is a day of celebration to promote the enjoyment of books and reading. On this special day, your child can come to school dressed as a favourite character from any book, if they wish. Also during the week Feb 27th - March 3rd, the children will be participating in lots of exciting activities, sharing their own favourite book from home and sharing teachers' favourite books. As always, the importance and power of reading, particularly, Reading for Enjoyment is at the heart of World Book Day celebrations. We would be delighted if you can spend time reading a story at home in preparation for this special week and if possible visiting the local library.

Dates for your diary

Special information evening for parents of First Holy Communion pupils	Monday, February 27th at 8 p.m. in Scoil Bhride
1st Confession for First Holy Communion pupils	Monday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 14th at 10.30 a.m. in the Church
Service of Light for children making confirmation	Thursday, March 23rd at 7.30 p.m. in Church

Board of Management Meeting 13/02/2023

The agreed report for parents and staff is as follows:

The board has approved the revised Attendance Strategy and the Administration of Medicines. Both policies are available on the website.

Enjoy your mid-term break. See you all on Monday!

Mise le meas,
Margaret Howard.