

### 3. Nuachtlitir

05/10/2021

A Thuismitheoirí, a chairde,

#### **Retirement of Nora Murphy**

Ms Nora Murphy is retiring from her teaching position in Scoil Bhríde. Nora has been teaching as a special education teacher in our school since 2003. We thank Nora for all she has contributed to life in Scoil Bhríde over the years and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

#### **School Extension**

The Department of Education has approved another substantial extension for Scoil Bhríde. The extension will consist of 2 mainstream classrooms and 2 special needs classroom suites. The design of the extension will commence shortly. In the meantime, the Department has given its approval for the renting of 2 portacabin classrooms. These classrooms should be ready for use at the end of January 2022.

#### **School Photographer**

A school photographer (Memory Lane Photography) will come to the school Wednesday October 13th. This year we will take photographs of children in Junior Infants and 6th Class, individually and with their siblings. Parents will get sample photographs to view but there is no obligation to purchase photographs. Please ensure that your child/children is/are wearing full uniform (including tie) on Wednesday October 13th. If parents of children from other classes wish to have photographs taken, please contact Anke.

#### **School Closure October 14th**

The school will be closed for pupils on Thursday October 14th to facilitate staff training in the New Primary Language Curriculum.

#### **Mid-Term Break: Closing Friday October 22nd at 3 p.m. - Reopening on Monday November 1st**

#### **Science Federation Ireland Award for STEM activities**

Congratulations to all the pupils and staff on receiving the Science Federation Ireland plaque award for STEM activities last year. Special thanks to Ms Sharon Murphy for coordinating this project. Feedback received from adjudicators:

*“Congratulations to all the learners in Scoil Bhríde, Rathcormac. Your Log of evidence was clearly presented and contained descriptions, illustrations and photographs of the wide variety of STEM experiences you had this year. It is difficult to single out any aspect they were all so well documented. However, particular praise to you for your emphasis on skill development - investigation, prediction (did you prove the Vitruvian Theory?), sorting, communication, discussion, presentation; you mentioned that you have some budding engineers - I think you have many budding scientists. I loved the linkage of challenges with real situations - rescuing Rapunzel from her tower, saving the Gingerbread Man from the wily fox by constructing a bridge, designing a coat for the Gruffalo Child - Brilliant! I'm not surprised that your school was chosen to participate in the J & J Stem Academy and I'm delighted that it presented you with a wide variety of experiences.*

*You are most deserved recipients of the Plaque of STEM. Keep up the good work and maybe consider applying for the Badge of Excellence next year. It has a slightly different focus but would be well within your scope!”*

#### **Lost Property**

There are some lovely coats already in the Lost Property basket! Please ask your child to check the basket for missing items.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities for Pupils**

Last week we had a guest speaker from the Heritage Council to do a workshop on birds of prey and native Irish trees with Rang VI.

Rang III designed and created their own spaceships using Lego in a workshop facilitated by bricks4kidz.

Rang IV will be participating in the STEM academy in association with De Puy Johnson & Johnson.

### **Head Lice**

It has come to my attention that head lice are an issue. Please check your child's/children's hair tonight and treat if necessary. It is important to follow up treatment with further checking and fine combing to ensure that the infection has cleared. <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/head-lice-nits/>

### **Tracksuits**

We still have tracksuits in the office that were ordered by parents/guardians. If, for any reason, you do not need them anymore please let us know so that we can offer these to other parents who wish to purchase additional tracksuits.

### **Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) Consent**

Thank you to all families who have completed the 8 sections of AUP consent on Aladdin. There are some outstanding and we are asking everyone to check that you have all parts of this consent submitted.

### **Míle Buíochas**

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported our sponsored walk last Friday. The amount raised for "A Lifeline for Lucy" was €1000!

### **Report for Parents and Staff from Board of Management Meeting 30/09/2021**

1. The board approved school closure on October 14th to facilitate staff training in the new primary language curriculum.
2. The board approved the Anti-Bullying policy. Policy is available to view on [www.sbrathcormac.ie](http://www.sbrathcormac.ie)
3. The board approved an amendment to the acceptable use policy to include additional online platforms (Typing.com, MangaHigh, Read Theory).
4. The board thanked Nora Murphy for her long teaching service in Scoil Bhríde and wished her every happiness in her retirement. The board will make a presentation to Nora in the coming weeks.
5. The Rathcormac Development Committee has contributed financially to the development of Scoil Bhríde over the years. They are now appealing to parents to "help out" at the car boot sales. The next car boot sale is October 24th. If you can give 2 hours of your time to help out, please contact the principal.
6. The board are delighted with the Department's approval of a further school extension and the approval to proceed with the rental of 2 portacabin classrooms in the interim.
7. The board congratulated the teachers and pupils on receiving the Science Federation Ireland plaque award for STEM activities last year.