



# January Newsletter



Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of 2017! A very happy New year to all and best wishes for a healthy & prosperous 2017.

Here are some points of interest:

**N.B:**

**Language Curriculum Day:** Reminder that Scoil Bhríde will be closed **tomorrow Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January** as all staff are attending an in-service for the New Primary Language Curriculum being phased in by the Department of Education.

**Christmas Carol Service:** Another wonderful night of music for the Christmas season was enjoyed on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Our thanks to Ms. Ryan and Ms. Marshall for leading the singing and music. Huge congratulations also to all the children who read, sang solos/in groups and played musical instruments for this service. Thanks also to past pupils and parents who always join with us to make this occasion so special.

**Carol Singing:** Ms. Ryan's new choir were invited to carol sing for the children with special needs in the Green Road KARE services pre-school on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. The choir also went in to Dunnes Stores on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December to carol sing and raise funds for more reading books. Our congratulations to all the wonderful singers and musicians who took part in both events and as always to Ms. Ryan who works so hard with them all.

**Santa Visit:** Santa visited Scoil Bhríde on his way to Temple Street Children's Hospital on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December. It was a great surprise for all the children with Santa in a most impressive sleigh. Thanks to all who sent in a donation for the hospital on the day.

**Grandparents Day:** On **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** (as part of Catholic Schools Week) we invite all grandparents (and great grandparents) to visit Scoil Bhríde in the morning. We will invite all to join us at assembly at 9.15 a.m. and then grandparents are welcome to visit their grandchildren's classes and enjoy some refreshments afterwards in the G.P. room. This is always a wonderful day in Scoil Bhríde and we look forward to another great visit this year. Grandparents who are less mobile are welcome to park in the basketball court area that morning.

**Staff Meeting:** Scoil Bhríde will close at **2.45 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017** to facilitate a staff meeting.

**1916 Commemorative Pin:** Our huge congratulations to Lorna Browne (4<sup>th</sup> class) who was a runner up prize winner in the Kildare County Council Decade of Commemorative competition to design a 1916 Commemorative Pin. Lorna and her family attended the awards ceremony in Aras Cill Dara on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December where all prize winners were presented with their prizes by the Mayor of Kildare.

**Avonmore T.V advertisement:** Fionn Sheehan (3<sup>rd</sup> class) was chosen to take part in a television ad for Avonmore. The advertisement will begin to appear on our screen at the end of January so keep an eye out for Fionn! Well done Fionn!

**St. Brigid's Well:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February is St. Brigid's Day – the patron saint of our school, Scoil Bhríde. All classes (weather permitting) will visit St. Brigid's Well in Tully, Kildare on this morning. Children will be taken by bus to and from the well. Please ensure children wear appropriate clothing & boots for the trip. We ask that children bring €1 towards the cost of the bus.

**St. Vincent de Paul:** The local St. Vincent de Paul group were delighted and astounded at the huge and generous response to the 6<sup>th</sup> class food appeal held in December. Thank you to all who helped out for this worthy cause. Congratulations to Ms. Cosgrove & Mr. Reidy and all of 6<sup>th</sup> class for their work (including the wonderful posters!) which ensured many local families had a happier Christmas this year.

**Curragh Walks:** Our Curragh walk takes place (weather permitting) on the last Friday of each month. A lovely walk was enjoyed by all on the morning of our Christmas holidays. Our next walk is scheduled for **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January**. All, as always, are welcome to join us. All children in school on the day are expected to walk as there is no supervision in school (as all staff are on walk). Please ensure your children bring appropriate clothing for the time of year and a change of footwear. €1 is also collected to cover cost of fruit distributed on day and other Healthy Lifestyle Committee events.

**Sheep Grids:** We are delighted that Kildare County Council have put in 2 sheep grids adjacent to our school (one at GAA Car-Park entrance and the other on the Stepside Hill). KCC have also fenced between both grids. We are hopeful that this will prevent sheep accessing (and soiling!) our school site.

**Coding:** Ms. Clare Harney (3<sup>rd</sup> class teacher) will be holding afterschool Coding classes this term. The classes will run for 6 weeks and take place on Tuesday's from 3-4 p.m. The classes will be open to children from **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class**. There will be a limit of 16 places for the course. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Parents will be sent an application form next week and it must be returned to Ms. Harney. Children who do not get a place will be placed on a waiting list. These children may gain a place on the course if one becomes available. The classes will commence on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017**. Our thanks to Ms. Harney for facilitating this course.

Le gach dea-ghui

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Kate Gallagher B.Ed.