

1st March, 2022



Carpe Diem

March 2022 Newsletter

Very Important Dates For Diary:

- ⇒ **Due to the extra Bank Holiday this year we have an extra closed school day to take and this will be on Monday, 21st March, 2022.**
- ⇒ **Swimming programme will re-commence on Wednesday, 24th March for classes 1st - 4th. (*The full schedule of dates, times and cost will be notified to you week beg. 7th March.*) This will be a 6 week session and will be immediately followed by a 6 week session for classes 5th & 6th.**
- ⇒ **School will close on Wed. 16th March @ 2.40pm (1.40pm for infants) and re-open on Tuesday, 22nd March @ 8.50am**
- ⇒ **School will close on Friday, 8th April @ 12.00 noon for Easter Holidays and reopen on Monday, 25th April.**
- ⇒ **School will be closed on Monday, 2nd May for the May Bank Holiday**
- ⇒ **School will close on Wednesday, 1st June @ 2.40pm (1.40pm for infants) and re-open on Tuesday, 7th June.**
- ⇒ **First Holy Communion on Sunday, 8th May, 2022 @ 10.00am**
- ⇒ **Confirmation Ceremony will be on Friday, 27th May - time to be confirmed. This will be a normal school day for all other pupils.**
- ⇒ **Induction Day for our new Junior Infants will be on 17th June @ 1.45pm**



Primary Language Curriculum:

On Tuesday last our school took a half day to allow staff to work on our Whole School Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúil (Informal Irish) Plan as part of our Primary Language Curriculum Training and obligations. We have now revised and updated our plan with the aim of increasing the use of Irish throughout the school outside of our Irish teaching time every day. Each teacher will be providing the children with a document with some phrases they can use at different times of the school day. There have been many studies to show that studying a second language can greatly benefit a child's first language and so, we would encourage you to support their learning and use of these phrases at home also.



Report from most recent Board Of Management Meetings

21st Jan. 2022.

On November 9th 2021 our Divisional Inspector carried out a 'Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling Inspection'. This inspection covered our Child Protection obligations and Policy and our Covid-19 Safe Schooling Policy. The Inspectorate subsequently issued their report, which I am glad to say was excellent. We were found to be compliant in all aspects in both our Child Protection Policy and Covid-19 Response Plan and was very complimentary about the pupils and staff.

The Board formally accepted the contents of the Inspectorate report on Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling (Inspection conducted on November 9th, 2021)

IXL Maths Practice

I am pleased to tell you that we will be using a website called IXL in our classrooms for the remainder of this year. IXL is a comprehensive learning programme offering unlimited maths practice across thousands of skills - all of which are aligned to the National Curriculum. One of the best things about IXL is that your child can access it from home, so you have a chance to see their progress! To get your child started on your home computer, please follow these easy steps:

1. Go to <http://www.ixl.com>
2. Enter your child's username and password and click "Sign In". (All the pupils have made note of their own username and password.)
3. Click on any skill to start learning!

IXL is designed to help your child learn at their own pace. The programme is adaptive and will adjust based on your child's demonstrated understanding of the material. All of your child's results will be saved, so you can monitor their progress anytime by clicking on Analytics. For the on-the-go practice, you can download IXL's free mobile apps for Apple, Android or Kindle and sign in with your child's username and password.

This programme represents another significant investment by the school and I hope you'll encourage your child to use IXL regularly. Here's to the remainder of the year working together to make learning fun!



Entrance Assessment

The current 6th Class will sit their Entrance Assessments for Coláiste Bhríde in Carnew on Saturday, March 5th. It is important to assure your child that this exam is to help Coláiste Bhríde best support students when they begin their secondary education. All students must bring their own pencils, eraser and pencil pointer. Also, encourage the pupils to listen carefully to instructions given.

I'm sure all of the pupils will be excited to spend some time in what will be their new surroundings in the near future.

Seachtain Na Gaeilge

The school will be joining in with the rest of Ireland to celebrate our national language and other aspects of our culture from 1st - 17th March. Use of informal Irish will be emphasised in and outside of the classroom we have plans for a 'gathering' in school where every classroom will get a chance to participate in 'as Gaeilge', dánta, amhráin, drama agus rince!!!





GAA Skills

Paul Garrigan continues to visit our school every week and he has built up an excellent training programme with all classes. The children's skills have really improved and with the local juvenile club being so active the children will have every opportunity to continue to practice and build up their skills during the Go Games and Juvenile GAA Season.



Rugby Training

Rugby Training will begin here on Monday 7th for all classes for a 4 - 6 week programme. This will be a great opportunity for the children to learn the basic rugby skills in a non-contact capacity and to introduce them to a sport that has not yet been practised in our school. I am sure they will all enjoy it and we are very excited about it here.