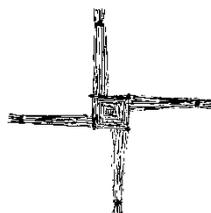


ST. BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 1st December 2021

Dear parent(s)/guardian(s)

December 2021 Newsletter

We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

We have included some key information in this newsletter that we would like to bring to your attention.

What should I do if my child has symptoms of COVID 19?

We'd like to remind you of the COVID 19 symptoms and the protocol you must follow if your child displays any of these symptoms.

The symptoms of COVID 19 are:

1. a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature); OR
2. a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); OR
3. a loss of or change in sense of smell or taste.

If your child has any of these symptoms it is very important that they do NOT attend school and should also [self-isolate](#) at home. You should book a PCR test for your child as soon as possible. They should continue to isolate until the result of the PCR test is available.

If your child is deemed a close contact and has any of the symptoms listed above, please ensure you get a PCR test.

If you were advised to get a PCR test, please take a screenshot of the outcome and forward to your teacher's email address and my email address (mkeating196@c2kni.net).

What should I do if someone in my household is COVID 19 positive?

If someone in your household is COVID 19 positive, then everyone in the household should book a PCR test as soon as possible and again on the 8th day after exposure to the virus. Anyone who tests positive, should isolate for 10 days.

Children, aged 5-17, who are not vaccinated, should isolate until they get their PCR result. If the results are negative, they can come out of isolation and return to school.

St Brigid's is managing the significant increase in COVID 19 cases. Therefore, we must ensure that we comply with the guidance and advice that is reported from school and Public Health.

Additional support available for pupils in St Brigid's Primary School

1. Extended School's programme

We are delighted to receive funding for Extended School's activities. To date we are able to facilitate the following clubs:

- *Accelerated Reading* programme in primaries four to seven classes. We have purchased a wide range of readers which suit the reading ability of primaries four and five pupils.
- *Reading Partnership* programme is facilitated by Katrina Rowland three days per week. The Extended Schools funding will fund additional reading material for primary three pupils
- *The Numeracy Catch Up* programme is facilitated by Michelle Kean. The funding will enable additional numeracy resources to be purchased for primary two pupils.
- *Mindfulness programme* is facilitated by Mrs JA Reel for primary seven pupils

2. After School Clubs

- *Literacy Club* facilitated by Mrs Donnelly for primary four pupils
- *Numeracy Club* facilitated by Mr Rooney for primary six pupils
- *Art Club* facilitated by Brenna Meehan for primary five pupils

3. ENGAGE programme

Miss Tennyson is working in St Brigid's for three days weekly. She supports children that are experiencing some difficulties with Literacy and Numeracy.

Healthy Happy Minds

As part of ongoing work with the School's Student Council, the Student Council provided feedback that we should organise more school trips in this academic year, to ensure pupils continue to enjoy school during this unusual period.

We are pleased to announce that the following trips have been organised:

- Primary 7 - Bagenal's Castle on Tuesday 30th November 2021

- Primary 2 - Southern Regional College, Armagh on Wednesday 1st December to begin their Christmas preparations.
- Primary 3 will visit Brian's Wood on 15th December 2021
- Primary 7 will visit Brian's Wood on 16th December 2021

We would like to thank An Tobar for subsidising the costs of transport for both classes.

Department of Education: Healthy Happy Minds Therapeutic and Counselling Service

We have received funding from the Department of Education to provide counselling support for some pupils that may need such support in school.

If you feel that your child would benefit from this support, please contact me via mkeating196@c2kni.net.

Christmas Arrangements

Christmas dinner will be on Thursday 9th December 2021 for all pupils.

We want to thank all our parents/guardians and sponsors for donating the beautiful prizes for our Christmas raffle. We will use all raffle proceeds to improve outdoor play facilities for the pupils in St Brigid's. The raffle will take place in St Brigid's on Thursday 16th December 2021. More details to follow.

Children will get their Christmas holidays on Wednesday 22nd December at 11.30am. Both buses will collect the children at the usual time in the morning. However, there will be no bus collection from school at 11.30am. Please can parents/guardians collect children at school at 11.30am.

If you need to contact me directly before Christmas, I am available via email only. Please email me using mkeating196@c2kni.net and I will respond as soon as practicable. All class teachers and the school office are available as usual.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Keating