

St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

February 2018



Storm Emma / Snow storm

The country was hit with a freak weather event last week and our school closed as a result under direction from the Minister of Education. The decision to close is never taken lightly and the BOM always has the health and safety of its pupils to the forefront of any decision taken.

There was some confusion over the closure on Wednesday 31st Jan. At 7.30am the school was going to open along with local Birr schools but at 8.06am following notice that school transport was cancelled and schools in Offaly were closing, a decision to close was taken.

A text message was sent immediately through the text-a-parent system, midland radio was informed and the PA posted on their Facebook.

Unfortunately due to huge pressure on the text system the text did not reach parents till after 10am. Thankfully a notice was on the gate with staff member present but no pupils were stuck at school. This was a phone operator fault and was not under our control and we apologise for parents for this delay. In making up the lost tuition time for the school closure ,the BOM will review the Ministers guidelines to schools under recent circular and the school will endeavour to ensure that learning will not be disrupted

Comórtas Scríobh Leabhar Gaeilge 2018

Ghlac rang a cúig páirt sa Chomórtas “Scríobh Leabhar Gaeilge.” Bhuaigh Barry Tierney agus Eoin Hoare gradam don a gcuid leabhair. Maith sibh a bhuachaillí ! Bhain an rang go léir an taitneamh as.

Dates for your diary:

Mondays/ Thursdays Gymnastics with Emer—all classes

Wednesday 14th March—FAI 5-a-side comp for 6th class- Tullamore

Friday 16th March- Grandparents day for 2nd / 4th classes

Friday 23rd March @12.30pm School closed- Easter Holidays

Monday 9th April School reopens

Hurling Coaching

We are delighted to welcome back Eoghan Cahill for 10 weeks of skills coaching in the school. Coaching will take place—FRIDAY'S

All classes asked to bring in hurls / helmets if they have them. This week senior classes 3rd-6th (outside) while JI-2nd (Indoor / Yard)

Sacramental notes

We held a lovely service in school for Ash Wednesday , also Valentines day and also the anniversary for our dear departed friend Tommy.

Congratulations to the boys from second class who made their 1st Confessions last night. You sang beautifully and were very respectful of the occasion and were well prepared by your teacher / SNA.

Also great to hear praise for our boys 2nd / 6th as they do readings / prayers and bring up gifts in a manner that represents the whole school in good light. Mile buiochas to all.

Attendance Trip to Glanmore foods in Dublin

On 12th February , 44 lucky boys who had won attendance awards travelled to Blanchardstown in Dublin to get a tour of the Glanmore Foods Factory . Glanmore Foods are our school lunch providers this year and we were delighted to accept their kind offer of a tour. The boys ranged in classes from 1st-6th and either had 100% attendance or were on the winning teams for our attendance awards (School attendance plan). School attendance promotion is very important at our school and previous rewards have included OEC , tearaways and local pool.

The staff in Glanmore were amazing as they suited the booted all the boys in protective gear and toured the working factory to show them how their lunches are made each day. The boys saw the bread being baked, sandwiches being individually filled to order and fruit being chopped and sorted by the ton ! Each boy was then given a goody bag at the end.

Then it was onwards to the swimming pool in Roscrea for a well-earned dip in the pool and fun—then back to Birr tired and happy. Thanks to Glanmore foods for having us and to Mr Crofton, Ms.Treacy, Mrs Gorman, Mr Bergin and Mr Carroll for travelling with the group. (photos on website)

School Notices

- Staff car park is for STAFF ONLY . Please respect this.
- Enrolment week is now over for Sept 2018 and we have contacted families who have applied for enrolment . Please inform any families still considering enrolment of their son next Sept to contact school ASAP.
- Please inform school of any changes to mobile numbers.
- Final day for returning LAFAYETTE money for photos—Fri 9th March

School Uniform

Again thank you to all families who make the effort to wear the full uniform on the designated days. We have a fabulous Easter hamper as a prize to motivate our boys to wear the uniforms in the coming weeks. If a pupil is wearing the full uniform on the outlined days- he gets a ticket for the draw. The more tickets you get the better chance you have of winning! Best of luck to all. The dates chosen are not school tracksuit days—gymnastics / hurling.

The uniform dates are — March

Wed 7th / Tues 13th / Thurs 15th / Tues 20th / Wed 21st

PA TABLE QUIZ FUNDRAISER

Friday 9th march at 9pm—Fighting Cocks Pub—€20 for table of 4

All funds go towards our garden playground redevelopment.

Spelling Bee 2018

The school held its annual spelling Bee in the hall in February for 5th and 6th class boys. All were invited to take part with a huge participation rate of over 90% !! It was a close run competition run by Mr Cunningham and Ms Ward (class teachers) - Winner in 5th was Eoin Hoare with winner from 6th was Conor Lally-Greijmans.

Both boys took part in a 20 spelling shoot-out the next day to find our school spelling Bee Champion. Conor LG won out and went on to the Eason Offaly Spelling Bee in Tullamore Educate Together.

Conor came a well-placed 8th on the day and all at St Brendan's PS are very proud of his spelling exploits !



Class activities in February 2018

Junior Infants: The boys in Junior Infants really enjoyed having their parents into the classroom to do some Valentine's Day art and crafts. Mary O' Connor came in and read the boys a story and then the boys made hearts and cards. The boys also posted Valentine's cards to the most special lady in their lives – their mammy and really enjoyed the process and trip to the post office.

Senior Infants: Senior Infants learned about St. Brigid and Spring in February. We made St. Brigid's Day crosses using coloured card. We also made little chicks in their nests and we learned some new Spring songs.

First Class: The boys enjoyed learning about the seasons of Spring. They identified the various signs of Spring time such as the trees, flowers and baby animals. The boys even created their own spring flowers using beautiful bright paper and paper plates. The boys are looking forward to bringing these home.

Second Class: Second class went on a trip to the Theatre in Birr to watch a fascinating show during Engineer's Week. Over the past few weeks the boys have been busy visiting the Church practicing for the sacrament of reconciliation, which they received this week. This was a fabulous night; all of the boys did an amazing job and should be very proud of themselves.

Third Class: Throughout February 3rd class learned a lot about the history of their area. They learned about the Manchester Martyrs and the Market Square. Also they learned about Cumberland Square – now Emmet Square and the history behind it. They extended their learning by creating picture extensions of local landmarks. These pictures were displayed in the local library.

Fourth Class: For the month of February the class have been perfecting their baking skills. They are also busy preparing for Grandparents Day. For Engineer's Week the class investigated push and pull, drag, friction, aquaplaning for a Formula 1 car. The boys launched their parachutes to demonstrate the effects of push and pull and drag.

Fifth Class: This month we learned about the location and names of the major rivers in Ireland. In history we learned about the Penal Laws and the main developments in Ireland in the 17th and 18th century. In science we learned that oxygen is required for burning.

Sixth Class: 6th class enjoyed various activities for Safe Internet Day 2018. The boys created their own tips to stay safe online. One tip we can all practise "Be nice to people online".

Mr. Carroll's Class: Mr. Carroll's boys are enjoying swimming lessons for 8 weeks this term. The boys are also enjoying using their creative talents in arts and crafts projects.

Ms. Kenny's Class: The boys created a stained glass effect St. Brigid's cloak and made crosses to celebrate St. Brigid's day. Look out for the lovely cloak on our classroom window. We also made and enjoyed eating some delicious pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.