

St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

Halloween 2018

HSCL Pumpkin Carving —Thanks to the parents who helped our 4th class have a great Halloween art activity- Mile buiochas to Ms Treacy for organising and Mercy Primary for having the boys over! Great to see so many parents turn up to lend a hand.



Fire safety at Halloween .5th and 6th classes got an information chat about bonfire and firework safety at Halloween from our community Garda Grace Heffernan. It was an excellent talk with many questions from the boys. There were some hard photos of injuries that can occur from fireworks and bonfires so we ask all our boys to stay safe this HALLOWEEN.

H.S.C.L Update:

What a fantastic first half-term. It was lovely meeting all the new Junior Infant families who are now a big part of St Brendans Primary school Community. A big thank you to all the parents who got involved in Baking , our walking group , pumpkin carving and maths for fun with 2nd class. I had a lovely coffee morning with Senior Infant parents also and want to thank them for coming. I look forward to all the exciting things planned for the rest of the year and wish you all a happy and safe mid term. Happy Halloween—Richelle

Hullabaloo arts festival in Birr- Booklets were sent home with all boys last week. Great events on for the boys during Halloween. Enjoy !

Parents Association News

The parents association are holding a HALLOWEEN DISCO in the Marian Hall on Thursday 1st November . 7.00-8.30pm This is a fundraiser with Mercy Primary so please come along and support. €5 / €15 family

Dates for your diary:

MID TERM School closes 2pm/3pm (as usual) Friday 26th October
School reopens (as usual) Monday 5th November

Travelling theatre show- 1pm—cost €2 :Fri 16th Nov

Parent Teacher meetings Wednesday 21st November 3-6pm

Thursday 22nd November 3-6pm

St Brendans day—Thursday 29th November- 10am mass St Brendans church

End of term—Fri 21st Dec 12.30pm

Note for families —There have been some enquiries about holiday closure times. Our school finishes early as with primary school traditions at Christmas / Easter and summer—End of terms only.

Hurling Coaching : Coaching will continue in November with Eoin Pilkington for classes 1st—6th. Boys asked to bring gear on TUESDAYS and we would LOVE to see the boys using the ball wall every day. We will be selling special wall balls for € 5 after mid-term and would encourage boys to buy their own ball to go to the ball wall with in coming months.

Tag -Rugby Coaching : We welcome Denis Rusu back to the school and he has begun rugby coaching with 2nd / 3rd classes each Friday. The boys did 4 weeks coaching and loved it. Now Denis is moving on to 5th / 6th classes. Boys are asked to bring in old runners / jumper etc as the pitch will get mucky after mid term. There will be a tag rugby blitz for local primary schools so boys who take part in traing may go and represent the school and wear our school jersey with pride.

Green Schools *Cycle safety: ALL boys to wear helmets (Jackets will be given out in November for dark mornings) Green school committee will be run by Ms Hogan this year and further news and updates will follow.*

Shoebox Appeal: Thank you to all who are participating in the shoebox appeal. Mr Kennedy and his class are embracing this project once again and ask that all completed shoeboxes are back in the school by the THURSDAY 8TH of November. Full boxes returned will get a homework off voucher.

Gaelic Football team

A great season for our schools Gaelic Football team. The boys really bought into the idea of playing the game for September and October and we had huge numbers 70+ playing the lunchtime league with Mr Crofton. The panel of 31 boys then training each week under guidance of Mr Kennedy and great to see such good numbers from 6th class this year playing.

They started off the campaign with a good win over Dromakeenan and then also won against a weakened Banagher side and young Gaelscoil Tullamore side to reach the final in St Brendans park. The boys really had it put up to them by a strong Banagher team with a goal only in it at half time. That's when the men stood up and led by some outstanding performances by 6th class they eased away with 5 mins to go. The honour of lifting the cup fell to Adriano Szoma as captain.

Thanks to Mr Kennedy for his passion and dedication to the team- the school staff who supported the team as various matches and attended in great numbers at the final and to the great parents for support as each match too Full report in this weeks midland tribune and we also hope to write our school magazine after mid term with some reports—



GAA IN OUR DNA— Biorra abu !

October wellness 2018

Each year we try to run a wellness programme for all the boys in the school. This year was another great one with lots of class and whole school activity.

Central to this year was DANCE . The boys from Junior Infants to 5th class really loved the 5 weeks of modern dance with Lisa Hogan of "Dance it Out Ireland". We finished off the programme by with a performance afternoon in our school hall. The hall was packed , the beats were hopping and the dance moves were unreal . Most pleasing of all was that all boys took part regardless of ability , interest or coolness- they performed with a smile which showed enjoyment of dance and added to their general wellness ! Dance it Out are holding a dance workshop and dance disco for Halloween in the school hall and also are going to run a 6 week after school dance programme for any boys or girls from Birr- See facebook for further details.

Tom Wells of Scholar and warrior studio also did a workshop on karate and self-defence for all classes in October. Tom is running classes each Thursday at 6.30pm in the school hall for any boys who are interested.

Kayak level 1 training course- Our 6th class boys got a fantastic opportunity as they each earned certs from The Irish Kayak Association of Ireland for level 1 kayak skills. The OEC organised through the excellent Yanni and he had the boys out paddling the Shannon and overcoming their fears and anxiety in no time at all. It was great to see the boys excel at this activity and all really enjoyed the outdoors—maybe as a future alternative to FORTNITE!

Our Parents Association also organised a ZEEKO on line safety programme for boys / staff and parents. This programme will be rolled out after mid term in school. Again the school must remind parents that your childs on line internet / social media actions and behaviours are your responsibility and it will have serious consequences for them into the future. The parents who attended the talk found it very informative and a useful tool for them to support their children into the future.

Hope you all have a happy and safe Halloween break.Kind regards, Niall Crofton (Principal Teacher)