

# St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

November 2019



## ***Just Being me—Dance programme 2019***

We are delighted to be able to implement a modern dance programme for 5 weeks again this year with thanks to Offaly County Council ( Arts Grant) and support from our parents. Each boy in JI-5th got the amazing and unique opportunity to learn and perform a new modern dance. Thanks to Lisa and Dance it Out Ireland for their creativity and passion in bringing dance to life in our boys school. Performance of all dances for parents on WEDNESDAY 27th Nov at 1.15pm- All welcome.

## **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 Christmas 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—dance/Rugby / hurling.

The uniform dates are — November / December

Thurs 21st Nov / Fri 29th Nov / Thurs 5th Dec / Tues 17th Dec —  
Draw wed 18th dec

## **Board of Management**

We would like to thank and acknowledge the dedication and hard work of our previous BOM whose term concludes this December. Thank you to all the parents who put themselves forward for election as Parent Nominees this year. The two parents who received the most votes when counted by PA / BOM were—DAD ( Dominic Plunkett ) and MAM ( Amanda Hogan) The teacher nominee is Mr Damien Cunningham. The remaining BOM members are still to be finalized under the continued Chair of Mr Pat Teehan.

## Dates for your diary:

Parent—teacher meetings Wed 20th / Thurs 21st : 3pm-6pm

"The BlueBird" - Travelling Theatre in our hall- Friday 22nd Nov 1pm- we ask for **2 euro** Per pupil towards cost please

Dance show for parents—1.15pm Wed 27th Nov

SCHOOL CLOSED- Staff inservice PLC- Thursday 28th Nov

St Brendans day- 10am mass in Birr church— Classes 1st to 6th will attend with song and music-All welcome

Carols for Birr xmas lights- Choir from 5th and 6th- Fri 29th Nov at 2pm in Connaught st

Community School open night re enrolment- Thurs 5th Dec at 7pm

Christmas Panto ( JI-2nd ) Birr Theatre- Tuesday 10th Dec at 11.30am

6th Class carols- Sandymount daycare—Thursday 19th Dec 1pm

PA Christmas Draw—Tuesday 17th Dec @ 11.30am

Christmas Holidays : Friday 20th December at 12.30pm ( No school lunches that day)

School reopens : Monday 6th January 2019

MOBILE NUMBERS- Please inform school if you change number for textaparent

## Christmas at school

Once again we bring this message to our families. As a catholic school, each year we have Christmas shows , advent assemblies , concerts and activities. It is a special time when we prepare for and celebrate the birth of baby Jesus. Our ethos is inclusive so we allow all to take part. If a child has other beliefs then we respect their right to those and do not impose on them. Likewise we must insist that all pupils respect the right of families and pupils to celebrate the magic and uniqueness of Christmas-Santa and all that this brings both in class and at play. We look forward to this special season!

**Folens Christmas annuals** will be on sale for any boys who wish to purchase from Monday 2nd December . Cost € 4

Hurling Coaching every Tuesday continues under Mr Adrian Clancy with boys movement and co-ordination skills improving each week.

## St. Brendan's PS

Each class in conjunction with school music plan / Music Generation and being mindful of other school projects decides in November what aspect of Christmas they would like to prepare for and celebrate. This can range from carol service to advent service to school play for parents and community activities so that throughout their school years they will get a diversity of opportunities to express their artistic , dramatic and musical talents.

## For the Christmas season 2019-

5th / 6th class will perform HOSANNA ROCK

1st / 2nd will perform SNOWMAN AT SUNSET

These 4 classes will also host an evening performance of their plays on WEDNESDAY 11th December at 7.30pm on our school stage and we invite parents from those classes to join us on the night.

Junior Infants- SLEEPY SHEPHERD Friday 13th at 1.15pm

Senior Infants- Christmas songs as part of Home school activity morning Fri 13th Dec—time TBD

3rd class- Christmas instrumentals , poetry and song—Thursday 19th Dec Time TBD

4th class- Christmas Carols in Foyer for above shows and Thurs 19th Dec We hope to allow each class to sing and perform for the other classes on the Thursday 19th Dec as Ms Killeen will be with us that day and any parents who miss the above shows are welcome to join us that day if they wish—limited seating.

## VEX ROBOT CONSTRUCTION AND BATTLES

Mr Cunningham and Ms Doyle are rolling out a new and exciting STEM programme called 'VEX Robotics' which Offaly County Council rolled out to 16 primary schools in partnership with Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) during the last school year. This Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM) programme provides a fun, engaging, and hands-on opportunity for students to explore and experience STEM fundamentals within the context of building a robot using Vex IQ. Students design, build, code and compete with their robot and it gives children as young as five years of age their first opportunity to learn about engineering and robotics whilst having fun. Boys are taking part from top maths groups in 5th / 6th in this term.



# **How Parents Can Help Make Every School Day Count:**

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time – not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness – this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
- Take truancy seriously – if your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk – Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Take family holidays outside term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homework).
- Attend parent evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – staff are there to help and will be supportive.

St Brendans PS 2019/ 2020  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November to wed 18<sup>th</sup> December  
( 20 school days )