

January 2022 news from the classes

Junior Infants visited the park for a winter walk. They learned about all the animals that live in the North and South Pole and made some penguins in Art. They also made some melted snowman cookies and really enjoyed mixing the icing to decorate their snowman!

Senior Infants enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year, and drew lovely tigers to celebrate the year of the tiger. They also explored the properties of magnets, and loved their experiment.

Over the past few weeks, first class, have enjoyed using the gymnastics equipment. The boys learnt all about pandas and wrote some lovely reports about them. They also created some brilliant drawings of Pandas. In science, we were learning all about our 5 senses and looked at some optical illusions and smelled some mystery scents. The boys had great fun guessing the different smells - garlic, fresh grass, vinegar, soap!

For the first time this year the boys from second class attended mass in St Brendans Church. The boys received a blessing from Fr. Tom. The boys were very busy learning all about the theme of "food". The boys created some lovely prints using the different foods.

In Third Class the children looked at some Winter Poems in Irish and English. They wrote some lovely poems also and created a lovely Winter Scene display. For History, the children learned all about farming through the ages and in SPHE they explained the many Special Gifts they each have. For Catholic Schools week, they designed their own creative image on the importance of Religion in their lives and what it means to them. Hoping everyone is healthy and keeping safe.

4th Class enjoyed learning the keyboard in Music Class. We enjoyed our first nature walk in the castle of 2022 and had a great time in the castle playground.

5th Class started more project work in January as part of our Digital Learning framework organised by Mr Cunningham. We are really enjoying researching information about different animals and our typing skills are definitely improving. We also finished our novel "Goodnight Mr Tom" and we have started watching the movie and making comparisons. So far, the book is much better!

6th have completed some interesting SESE projects over the month of January. We learnt about and completed projects on the country of Japan, The Maori Culture in New Zealand and Rainforests of the world. We are delighted to use our computer room to type our projects and our new schools iPads for further research.

Cairdeas 1 have been talking all about Spring. We have been keeping our body and minds healthy through gymnastics and yoga and know the names of our body parts. In art we made life-size portraits of ourselves and learnt about the Russian artist Kadinsky. We made Spring trees inspired by him

Cairdeas 2 were busy learning about Winter. We listened to a lovely Winter story called One snowy day and we created lovely Winter trees. We also discussed our likes and dislikes as part of our RSE. We were really good at choosing pictures of what we like and don't like.

Mr Kennedys class have been upskilling their culinary skills by learning how to make pizzas. The boys are also enjoying their swimming lessons every Thursday.

St. Brendan's Boys P.S. January/ February - 2022



Spring is finally here!

Our school had a busy and equally challenging month of January and we look forward to the joy and warmth of spring. Pictured above are our junior Infants who enjoyed a January nature walk around the fabulous park in Birr.

Junior infants - September 2022

We are now accepting applications for enrolment September 2022 for junior infants - please contact the school 0579121033 or secretary@stbrendansps.ie for enrol forms. Forms and admission statement 2022 regarding the number of places available can be viewed on school website also.

For any new families we can arrange a Covid safe look at the school upon request as always. Looking forward to having another amazing group of boys starting their primary school journey at the school.

Parent contact

We use mobile numbers for calls and texts but lots of information—re COVID 19 goes via email so every family should have an email address so that we can communicate with you.

Dates for your diary

Mid term break—School closed Thursday 24th and Friday 25th February 2022.

The **new national Bank Holiday** in recognition of the lives lost to COVID 19 during the pandemic was announced nationally - Friday 18th March 2022.

This day will be moved to start February 2023 and will be included in our calendar planning. For this school year we have to amend our school calendar to include this day.

School is already closed that day so with agreement of Mercy Primary this day will be moved to Monday 21st March as school closure. School will follow DES advice on the matter if it is issued as no guidelines to date.

So to summarize the school will be closed Thursday 17th, Friday 18th and Monday 21st March. School will reopen on Tuesday 22nd March.

Easter Holiday—Closing Friday 8th April at 12.30pm—Reopening Monday 25th April 2022.

Catholic schools week took place at end of January 2022.

During the week classes attended 10am mass, visited the church and we had daily reflections read out by boys over the school intercom.

Details for boys in 2nd / 6th receiving sacraments this year.

1st Confessions for 2nd class boys—Tuesday 8th March @ 7.30pm. (Boys to wear full school uniforms)

1st communion for 2nd class boys—Saturday 14th May @ 11am

Confirmation for 6th class boys—Monday 30th May @ 7.30pm

Sacramental masses of preparation to attend:

Sunday 13th February at 10.30am

Saturday 5th March at 7.30pm

Sunday 27th March at 10.30am

Catholic Schools Week Art by 1st class, including a stained glass window inspired by St. Brigid.

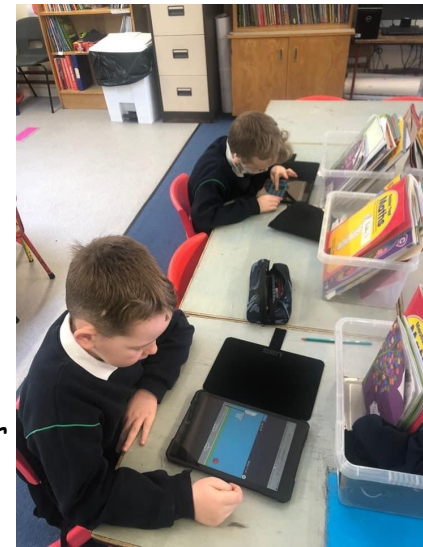


New set of 20 I-Pads for our school

We are delighted to have a new set of I-pads purchased for the school. Thanks to our Parents Association for their valued support in upcoming fundraisers to pay costs.

1st class were very excited to be the first class to use our new set of I-pads this week.

Lots of tens and units practice. All classes will get great use out of the I-pads over the coming years in supporting their learning through the schools digital framework. We look forward to seeing all their progress.



Hurling coaching continues with the excellent Adrian Clancy GDO. This week we have given all boys from SI to 6th class a little survey to see how we can support hurling in our school going forwards and also how to strengthen our links with Birr GAA club and get more kids playing.

“Hands up if you love swimming” Thanks to Birr Leisure centre for a great session again enjoyed by Mr Kennedy's class.

Senior Infants really enjoyed learning about St. Brigid and making St. Brigid Day crosses. Super work boys.

