



Scoil Bhride,
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Newsletter November/December 2021

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Welcome back

Welcome back to all our school community after the Halloween mid-term break.

Team Hope

This year Scoil Bhride and Lisdowney Montessori Play school together collected 82 boxes and many families donated to the shoe box appeal online. These boxes are on their way to bring a little joy to less fortunate children in war torn countries. A sincere than you to all families who participated. This is a super achievement from a small community and a credit to the children in our school community. It helps us all to focus on the true meaning of Christmas and giving.

School Uniform/Changes

The school uniforms have been looking very smart and neat. Well done. Reminder to label/name all uniform items to avoid confusion. In the interest of Health & Safety, please ensure that your child wears proper runners for PE classes Children from 3rd to 6th class need to bring in a change of runners and tracksuit each week and a change of socks daily also. These must be brought home each Friday for washing.

Absences

We would like to remind you that if your child is absent that you notify the school via text mobile number 086-1445629 or send in a note following absence. If your child is sick or unwell please keep them at home until they are completely better—to avoid spreading any infection.

Science Week

This was a great week for celebrating Science. Teachers and pupils embraced the week and carried out exciting experiments while learning fun Science facts.

Infants

- checked what materials were waterproof.

1st and 2nd class

- made salt crystals,
- examined where most germs are found using bread,
- studied the water cycle,
- discovered that oil and water don't mix using marbeling inks,
- discovered how water is filtered.

3rd and 4th class

- checked how water is absorbed in plants and in paper,
- created lungs using plastic bottles and examined how our lungs work,
- learned about how our skeleton works.

5th and 6th

- examined lenses and how they work, discovered what pixels are and created cool pixel art,
- made instruments using straws and discovered how sounds are made,
- discovered how to say our names using sign language,
- completed experiments on conduction, convection and radiation.

We have our
Winners!!!

Fun Run Results 2021

Halloween



Our Halloween dress-up day fundraiser yielded a whopping €457. A huge thank you to all the families who supported this initiative. We will be purchasing board games and class resources out of the money raised.

Safeguarding Children

The designated Liaison Person is Ms Dowling and the Child Protection Deputy Liaison Person is Mrs O Donovan. The his Child Protection Safeguarding Statement is displayed on the school's website. Copies of the school's CP Safeguarding Statement are also available on request.

Fun Run



Thank you to our Fun Run Committee and the Parents Association on organising the 7th Annual Fun Run on 23rd October 2021. It was as we had hoped a very successful fun filled, healthy community event for all to enjoy. Fortunately the rain held off for the morning and all participants completed the course before the rain started to fall. This event raised a staggering 5300 euro for which we are very grateful. This will be used very carefully to help support and enhance facilities at Scoil Bhríde. Thank you very much to all that helped or participated in this event in any way.

8k Male	8k M U16	4k M Rosette
1 st Paddy Bowden	1 st Robert McEvoy	1 st Odhran Murphy
2 nd Willie Kenny	2 nd Michael John Banville	2 nd Seamus Costello
3 rd Paul Walshe	3 rd Ben Walshe	3 rd Donnacha Burns
4 th Aaron Fogarty	4 th Jamie Maher	4 th Sean Moran
5 th Jamie Bergin	5 th Robert Thornton	5 th Jack Costello
6 th Niall Grogan Eddie		
8k Female	8k F U16	4k F Rosette
1 st Grace Reilly	1 st Orla Phelan	1 st Laura Walshe
2 nd Louise Mahony		2 nd Amelia Campion
3 rd Joan Mahony		3 rd Ester Kennedy
4 th Aine Mahony		4 th Sophia O'Shea
5 th Laura Mahony		5 th Liz/Aoibheann Murphy
6 th Joya Burns Louise O'Shea Mag O'Shea		6 th Lisa Thornton

Meeting Teachers

We would like to remind parents wishing to contact teachers, to discuss queries or issues that arise, that they contact the teachers by emailing the school at lisdowneys@gmail.com or by phone - 056-8833495/0861445629.

Parents Association

Well done and congratulations to the Fun Run Committee and the Parents Council on raising €5,300 at this year's Fun Run. It was fantastic to be able to host the event and to see so many families participating. A huge thank to the whole school community and the wider community for their support.

Thanks to the Parents Council who will organise the Christmas cards again this year and will also host the annual trolley draw at Easter time. Scoil Bhríde Parents Council include the following: Loraine Kenny Chairperson, Leanne Dziewa Treasurer, PJ Phelan Secretary, Lisa O'Shea, John Costelloe and Ger Murphy Committee members.

Head Lice

Most schools experience problems from time to time, with hair infestation. It would help if every child's hair was checked and finely combed at weekends. Long hair should be tied up. If infestation is discovered please treat immediately and inform the class teacher. All information is dealt with discreetly.

Board of Management

A Board of Management meeting will take place on December 14th 2021.

Weather

With the recent unpredictable weather we encourage all children to wear their coats and hats to school each day. Typically Irish weather prevails 4 seasons in one day. Also, classrooms are well ventilated and can appear cold, therefore we encourage children to wear layers underneath uniforms. Due to classrooms being well ventilated and the current cold spell children may wear their tracksuits until the Christmas holidays.

Healthy Lunches

Thank you for your co-operation. Make sure your child has some fruit for the Mid Morning Fruit Break. For the Lunch Break healthy options include fruit and vegetables meat/cheese/salad sandwich. Fresh ideas - a small tub of coleslaw, fruit yoghurt, dried fruit and water, or a carton of fruit juice. Please avoid unhealthy snack foods, eg crisps, bars etc.



Anti-Bullying Policy

A review of our Anti-Bullying Policy was recently carried out by the Board of Management. This has been published on the school's website: <http://scoilbhridenslisdowney.weebly.com/enrollment.html>

Green School Committee

Our Green School/Student Council Committee members are all 6th class students: Mark, Ciarán, Evan, Joanna, Mia, Meabh, Tristan, Blathnaid, Booklyn, Cillian, Ava, Carly and Emily.

5th class representative: Dylan

4th class representative: Julian

3rd class representative: Olivia

2nd class representative: Niall

1st class representative: Chloe

Senior Infants class representative: Sally

Junior Infants class representative: Michael

We welcomed Chiara Hanrahan Co Kilkenny Green School co-ordinator to our school on Monday 29 November. Chiara met with Ms Sweeney and will be back again to assist us in Green School work before Christmas.

School Collection

We continue to encourage all those dropping off and collecting children to continue to operate the three car rule on a daily basis. It is a very important for Health and Safety of all children. Please turn cars in the village to ensure cars are faced towards Ballyragget when collecting children. Cars can also be turned in the entrance to the pitch at the end of the school grounds.



Communion & Confirmation

Congratulations to our 3rd Class students who celebrated the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday 2nd October 2021. Thank you to Mrs O Donovan, Fr O Farrell and to all involved for their help and support in preparing for this occasion.

Students in 5th and 6th class have begun their work in preparation for the celebration of Confirmation later in the year. On the 4th October Fr O Farrell held an introductory Mass for Confirmation candidates. They are also preparing during Advent visiting the church each week.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Infants Room:

An elf is coming to see us. We are on our best behaviour getting ready for Christmas. Rian and Aoife celebrated their birthdays.

1st and 2nd Class:

Laoise celebrated her 9th birthday. Ms Sharkey was in our room teaching with Mrs O Donovan. We had great fun learning about space, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. We Learned about animals. We have been taking part in show and tell. We share our news each week. We have been studying coins but realised that we can not make up our own coins. We have been studying Caitheamh Aimsire and An gheimreadh.

3rd and 4th Class:

Donnacha celebrated his 9th birthday. We love playing on the grass everyday. Third class have been measuring. In Geography we learned how mountains are formed. We are speaking a lot of Irish.

5th and 6th Class:

Lisdowney won the U19 County Hurling County Final. Carly celebrated her 12th birthday. We visited the church preparing for Confirmation. We made cool pixel art. We are really enjoying playing basketball. Today we began our novel "The boy in the striped pyjamas".

Enrolments September 2022/2023

The Annual Admissions Notice has been published in October and has been ratified by the Board of Management. This confirms dates from which applications will be accepted as well as the closing date for completed applications.

PART 1 - Admissions to the 2022/2023 school year

Application and Decision Dates for admission to 2022/2023
The following are the dates applicable for admission to Junior Infants

- The school will commence accepting applications for admission on 1st Oct 2021.
- The school shall cease accepting applications for admission on 15th Feb 2022.
- The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application is 1st March 2022.
- The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission is 1st March 2022- 22nd March 2022.

School Self Evaluation

We are continuing to implement SSE in Scoil Bhríde. We continue to work on Oral Language problem solving, commonly misspelled words and writing genres. This year our focus will be on Gaeilge. We encourage children and parents to use their cupla focal at every opportunity.

Lisdowney Montessori

Lisdowney Montessori Play & Learn would like to thank you for all your continued support over the years. Our ECCE Scheme places are full for the coming pre-school year pending everyone taking their place.

However, if you wish to consider our service you can contact Helen 087-6978588. There is early drop off service from 8am available for primary school children. Contact Helen for more information.

Christmas Cards

Children did a wonderful job creating beautiful cards. Order forms have been sent home and cards will be ready early in December.

Frasaí na Seachtaine

Tabharfar isteach abairt nua as gaeilge gach seachtain. A new Irish phrase will be introduced and practised each week throughout the school. Encourage your child to use the phrases in their day to day language.



Emergency Works

The Board of Management have applied for emergency funding to fund repair work needed to address a leak in the flat felt roof of the ASD building. We are pleased to inform you that funding has been granted by the Department and the procurement process for this job is under way. We hope to begin works as soon as possible.



We are awaiting feedback from the Department of Education and Skills regarding the new classroom extension.

Dates for your Diary

- **Thursday 23rd December 2021 - Wednesday 5th January 2022 inclusive** - Christmas Holidays. School will close at 11:45am on Wednesday 23rd December for infants and 12 noon for the remainder of the school. School will re-open on Thursday 6th January 2022.
- **Clothes Collection** - The Parents Council will be organising a Clothes Collection early in the New Year - Date TBC.
- **Thursday 17th March 2022 and Friday 18th March 2022 inclusive** - St Patrick's Day - school will close at 2:40pm on Wednesday 16th March and re-open on Monday 21st March 2022.
- **Monday 11th April 2022 to Friday 22nd April 2022 inclusive** - Easter Holidays - school will close at 11:45am for infants and siblings and 12 noon for the remainder of the school on Friday 8th April and re-open on Monday 25th April 2022.
- **Monday 2nd May 2022 - May Bank Holiday** - school will be closed.
- **Monday 6th June 2022 - June Bank Holiday** - school will be closed.
- **Thursday 23rd June 2022 - Summer Holidays** - school will close at 11:45am for infants and siblings and 12 noon for the remainder of the school.
- We encourage parents not to remove children from school during school term time unless completely necessary. If at all possible please try to arrange appointments outside school times as it is very disruptive to school work and progress.
- School doors opens to receive pupils: 8:45am. Please do not drop children before this time to reduce congregations of pupils outside the school. Children are reminded to stand on red markings and sanitise before/on entering the school building.
- Class begins: 9:00am
- Small break: 10:55am – 11:10am (Lón)
- Big break: 12:25pm – 12:55pm
- Infants home time: 1:40pm
- Remainder of school home time: 2:40pm



Covid 19

Update on HSE and DES Covid 19 guidelines can be found on

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/>

All recent information from the Department of Education and Skills have been forwarded to parents via email.



Warm Christmas wishes to all involved in Lisdowney NS.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lisdowney NS school community for your support and commitment to the work of the school during the year. I would particularly like to acknowledge the support received from the BOM, the Parents Council and the Fun Run committee. Your input makes a significant contribution to the vibrant character and atmosphere of our school. Nollaig shona daoibh.!

