



St Brigid's Primary School  
Haddington Road  
Principal's Bulletin  
September 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your children have had a good start to the new school year. Our new Junior Infants are settling in well and getting used to the routines of 'big school'. We also welcomed new pupils to other classes and they have settled in very well and are making new friends.

**This month's bulletin includes important reminders and updates for you.**

The Board of Management assumes responsibility for the pupils from 8.50am to 1.30pm/2.30pm. Children should not be left unsupervised in the school grounds before the official starting time of 8.50am, or after school ends at 1.30/2.30pm.

The Board of Management is not responsible for the children before/after these times and so it is important that an adult looks after them.

*On very wet days*, the door may be opened a little earlier and you may take the children into the front hall; you should remain with them until the teachers come on duty at 8.50am. Children should not be left in the classrooms. As the space is very limited, it is advisable for those who travel by car to stay in the car until 8.50am.



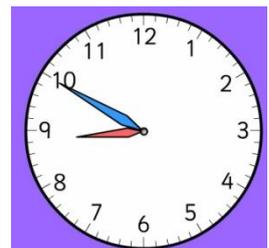
Otherwise, the corridors can get very crowded.

Our curriculum is a busy one with a lot



for each class to cover in many different subject areas. We ask that you make every effort to have your child in school on time every day. **The bell goes at 8.50am and lessons start at 9.00am.**

Children who are often late miss an important start to the day.



Teachers collect the children from the playground and bring them into the school. We ask parents to encourage their children to go in on their own to develop their independence and confidence.

Please avoid crowding in the corridors and halls, and allow the children space to come in safely. Please leave buggies/strollers outside. We really appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

**At home time:**

In the afternoon, please note Junior Infants go home at 1.30pm from their own classrooms; Senior Infants go at 1.30pm through the front door. 1<sup>st</sup> Classes go home at 2.25pm from the front door. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Classes exit through the back

from their classrooms. 4<sup>th</sup> Classes exit either through the front or back (whichever best suits for collection arrangements). 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Classes go through the front door.

Arrangements can be made for brothers/sisters to go by the same exit.

Children who go to an After School Care service go through the back door where they are collected and signed out. Children going to St Andrew's After School Care at 2.30pm are collected at the front door.

Please inform the office of any changes to your After-School arrangements.

### **Our new school building:**

Many of you have questions about the new school and what is happening with the building. Some of you have heard rumours and that is understandable in the absence of updated information from the schools. However, we would appreciate if you could avoid listening to the rumours until we can give you accurate information.

We will soon be sending you an update regarding the ongoing delay with our new school building. The Boards of Management of St Brigid's and St Mary's will be meeting this week and next and we will then send you the most recent update we have received from the Dept of Education. It is both disappointing and frustrating but the delays are outside of our control.

### **Notification of absence:**

Parents have a responsibility to have their children attend school every day. If your child cannot attend, please remember to complete a 'Reason for Absence' form,

either from the website or on the forms provided to you, (extra forms in the office).

### **Text-a-Parent**

We send text messages to keep you updated with information.

Please let us know any change in your mobile number as soon as possible. You can do this through our website ( in the Parent Teacher communication section).



### **Emails:**

Remember to send in your email address if you haven't done so already. We want to continue to reduce our paper usage and sending you information by email will help in this regard.



### **Book Rental and School Expenses:**

Thank you for continuing to support the school through your payment of your child's school expenses fee. This fee covers Book Rental, stationery, photocopied material, art supplies and book bag (for Infants). Your book bill would be much more expensive without our Book rental Scheme and so it is very important that parents continue to support this scheme.

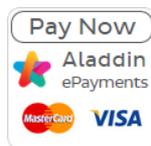


We do not charge a 'voluntary contribution' as many schools do.

If you have mislaid your expenses form it is available on the website (under the Information for Parents tab).

Many parents prefer to pay online and this can be done through our website as follows:

1. Go to [www.stbrigidprimaryschool.ie](http://www.stbrigidprimaryschool.ie)
2. Scroll to the end of the page
3. Click on



4. Insert the email address you have registered with us and click send. You will then receive a link to your child's payments.

**Payments for boys in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Classes** cannot be done online through the St Brigid's website and so we appreciate if you pay through the school office. Alternatively, you can ask the school secretary in St Mary's to send you a payment link. We apologise for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause and appreciate your patience.

### **Birthdays**

Please remember that we do not have birthday parties at school. Teachers cannot accept cakes or party bags for the children.

*We also remind you that party invitations are not to be given out in school. It can be very upsetting for children if they don't receive an invitation while others do.*

### **Mobile Phones:**

Our School Policy on children's mobile phones is that any child who brings a phone should have it turned off inside school grounds. Phones should only be switched on again when children have left the school grounds, at the end of the school day, unless by arrangement with a teacher. We appreciate your continued co-operation with this School Policy.

### **Head Lice:**

Unfortunately, wherever children gather, headlice can too. We remind you to check your children's hair regularly and treat if necessary. Your pharmacist will advise you on appropriate products.

Long hair should be tied up, and all children should be reminded not to share hats, scarves, hairbrushes etc.

If your child has headlice, please do let us know so we can send a note to the class and parents will then know to check their children's hair.

### **Lunch**

Remember that if you want to make changes to your child's lunch order, you can log on to [www.carambola.ie](http://www.carambola.ie), put in your child's ID code (you will find this underneath your child's name on the lunchbag), and the password 'carambola'; you can then edit your child's order. Changes made by Friday at 3pm will be effective for the following Monday morning.

Children need to bring a lunchbox to school and

are asked to bring all of their lunch waste and packaging home in the box.



## Home School Liaison Teacher

Ms.Liz Gaire is our Home School Liaison teacher. Ms.Gaire works between both St.Brigid's and St.Mary's schools and can often be found in the playground at hometimes. She organises courses for parents and sends information regularly. She also puts posters outside the gates so keep a look out for something that might interest you.

The following courses have already started:

**Aerobics/body conditioning:** Monday

**Art:** Tuesday

**Yoga:** Thursday

**Walk to Run:** Friday

There will be a First Aid course in November and there are a limited number of places left on this course.



More information and bookings can be made with Ms Gaire at [lgaire@eircom.net](mailto:lgaire@eircom.net) or on her mobile at 086 0235305.

## Would you like to volunteer to help with Hallowe'en Activities?

Please let Frances or Veronica know (in the office) if you are available on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup>. The children really enjoy the Hallowe'en fun organised and run by parents and we need volunteers for at least an hour or two in the morning, between 9.15am-12.30pm.

We also need some volunteers to help put up the Hallowe'en decorations on Monday, October 23rd. Can you help?

Thank you!

## School Calendar

If you have mislaid your calendar, it is available on the website (under the Information for Parents tab).

### Here are some important dates for this term:

#### Midterm Break:

Monday to Friday: Oct 30<sup>th</sup>-Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>

Re-open on Monday, Nov.6<sup>th</sup>

#### Parent-Teacher Meetings for Senior Infants-6<sup>th</sup> Classes:

November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (you will receive more details about this)

#### Christmas holidays:

Last day of term: Thursday, Dec.22<sup>nd</sup>.

Re-open on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Best wishes to everyone for a super school year!

*Annemarie Hogan*