



**St Brigid's Primary School
Haddington Road
Principal's Bulletin
September 2018**

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.



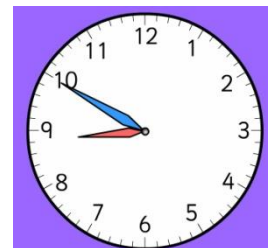
On very wet days, the door may be opened a little earlier and you may take the children into the front hall; you should remain with them until the

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.

Morning entry:

Teachers collect the children from the playground and bring them into the school. **All children should walk in with their classmates and teachers;** parents please say your goodbyes in the playground. We ask parents support in encouraging your child's independence and sense of responsibility.

At all times, 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.

Parents who need to come into the office, or need to speak with the teacher should come in after all of the children are safely inside.

At home time:

In the afternoon, please note Junior Infants go home at 1.30pm through the front door. Senior Infants go at 1.30pm from their own classrooms.

Arrangements can be made for brothers/sisters to go by the same exit. Children who have brothers/sisters in 5th Class should exit via the garden at the back as 5th Class pupils cannot come back through the school; this is for safety reasons.

After School Care Services:

We have eight services who collect children at 1.30pm and 2.30pm. Parents need to keep the school informed of any changes to their child's collection arrangements. Please do so by sending an email to stbrigidsprimary@gmail.com.

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.



We also send links to slideshows of photos via email.

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.

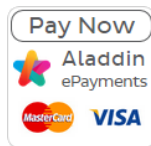


We do not charge a 'voluntary contribution' as many schools do.

If you have mislaid your book rental 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.stbrigidsprimaryschool.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 1st, 2nd and 3rd 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 (Phone: 016603742). We apologise for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause and appreciate your patience.

Lunch

Children need to bring a lunchbox to school and are asked to bring all of their lunch waste and packaging home in the box.



In order to offer more healthy options to your children, Carambola lunches have made some menu changes this year.

Under new Data Protection laws, you will need to contact Carambola in order to get your child's password; you will need this if you want to make any changes to the order. The phone number is 1850 812 300

Please do not give your child grapes until they are chopped up, or nuts of any form. Sweets are not allowed.

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.

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.

Tracksuit days:

Junior and Senior Infants: Mondays and Fridays

1st-6th Classes: tracksuit days vary depending on activities scheduled (swimming, tennis, rugby, GAA, dancing etc).

Teachers will let their classes know what days they need their tracksuits.

Lost property:

Please put your child's name on all clothes



items...jumpers, tracksuits, jackets, hats, scarves etc. We have a lost property section but it is very

difficult to locate items with no names on!

Early collection: If you need to collect your child early, please go to the school office where you will be asked to sign the 'Early Collection' book. The office will call your child from her/his class. Parents are asked not to go directly to classrooms; security in our school is very important and so all parents and visitors must go through the office.

School Calendar:

The school calendar is available on our website, and you should also have received a copy.

Here are some important dates for this term:

Friday October 26th: School closed for election.

Midterm Break:

Monday to Friday: Oct 29-Nov 2nd

Re-open on Monday, Nov.5th

Parent-Teacher Meetings for Senior Infants-6th Classes:

November 14th and 15th (you will receive more details about this)

Christmas holidays:

Last day of term: Friday, Dec.21st

Re-open on Monday, January 7th 2018.