



# June Newsletter



Hello & welcome to our June 2018 newsletter! It's hard to believe we are coming to the end of another school year – and what a busy and productive one it has been!

Here are some points of information:

**“Bug Hotel”:** Our sincere thanks to the McDonald family, Paul, Elaine, Ella, Hannah & Clodagh who built a ‘Bug Hotel’ for the school. Paul put this in place at the rear fence of the school in early May and the children are now ‘furnishing’ it with moss, plants, stones, etc. so that it will be a comfortable home for our native insects. As they say ‘Build it and they will come’. A great addition to the wonderful natural environment we aim to create and maintain for your children as they learn about the world around them.

**Sponsored Silence:** Our 2 6<sup>th</sup> classes and their teachers spent Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> in complete silence and were sponsored to do so. The children and teachers maintained the silence for the day, even at break times and we are very proud of them all. Not an easy task! Thank you to all who supported them by sponsoring them in their efforts. Altogether they raised €2,426.40 and this money will be used to purchase a defibrillator for the school. Well done one and all!

**Football: Cumann na mBunscol Boys Football.**

A committed group of both Senior boys and Under 10 Boys have been training on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 3-4 pm with the help of parents Gill Gorman, Sine Smith, Eamonn Dunne, Tommie Gorman, Declan Smith, Fergal Cleary and Derek Gallagher for games in the Cumann na mBunscoil League.

The wet weather in March led to some distribution with the fixture schedule. When we got going the Senior Boys played 3 league games. The first game was away to Nurney and ended with a narrow defeat, Next up they played Churchtown and lost to a really good Churchtown team who went on to win the league. The boys then travelled to St. Laurences GAA to play Kilmead and put in a great performance to win the game. Well done to all of the Senior Boys for there commitment both at training and games.

The Under 10 boys were in a league of 5 teams and started with a home defeat against Ballysax. The boys played Newbridge Educate Together, Kilashee and Ballycane winning all three games to qualify for a Semi-Final against Timahoe. They played really well to win a tough Semi-final match and earn a place in the final. The final was played in Moorefield against Ballysax and ended in an agonising two point defeat.

**ATHGARVAN GAA CÚL CAMP REMINDER:** Athgarvan GAA are running two Kellogg's Cúl Camps this summer; Football (Monday 9th July to Friday 13th July) and Hurling/Camogie (Monday 13th August to Friday 17th August). The Cúl Camps are a great way for kids to pick up skills if it's their first time or enhance the skills they already have. Kids of all ages are very welcome.

Places are filling fast and so to book your place, please go

to: <https://www.kelloggsculcamps.gaa.ie/booking/?county=Kildare>

For more information about these camps, contact:

**Football Cúl Camp**

Derek Gallagher (086 830 0212) [derek.gallagher@ucdconnect.ie](mailto:derek.gallagher@ucdconnect.ie)

**Hurling/Camogie Cúl Camp**

John O' Sullivan (086 814 7898) [jfosullivan74@gmail.com](mailto:jfosullivan74@gmail.com)

Huge congratulations to the boys for their commitment to both Scoil Bhríde teams.

Thanks to the parents for their support and helping with transport. A big Thank You to all the coaches of both teams and to Trudy who co-ordinated it all. Most importantly well done to the players who gave it their all, they have been courteous and sporting at the games and represented Scoil Bhríde with pride.

The boys have shown great courage and there is plenty of reason to look forward to next seasons Cumann na mBunscol leagues. To the 6th class boys who are moving on keep up your involvement in sport and Gaelic games. Best wishes with secondary school.

**Communion Day:** What a wonderful day was had by the children and families of our 2 second classes on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Despite weather predictions, the sun shone all day! The boys & girls looked fabulous and were very reverent and prayerful during the ceremony with Fr. Michael & Fr. Joe. Thanks to both of the priests for all their help during the year. The families then came back to Scoil Bhríde to be welcomed and treated to a wonderful reception of chat and refreshments. A big thank you to all the first class parents – Eimear Keane, Niamh Dempsey, Suzanne Daniels, Sinead Mahon, Breda Moran, Aisling Donagh, Pearl Buckley, Kathy O' Connor, Teresa Treacy, Nicola English, Olivia Archbold, Tracy Gallagher, Catherine Murray, Michelle McGreal & Sonia Deasy – who organised and contributed to the refreshments back in the school. All efforts regarding the food, treats and decorations were much appreciated. All helped to create a memorable afternoon for the children and their families.

**Active Schools Week:** Last week was a very busy and active week for all your children. Each day sporting events were organised for each class. From running to orienteering, basketball, dodgeball, hockey, football & tag rugby. I'm sure they went home tired each day. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June was our Sports Day with races in the morning and a picnic Curragh Walk to follow. Thanks to Ms. Kelly and all the teachers for their organising. The classes also took part in "10 at 10" each day which was an extra 10 minutes of activity at 10am each day. Our thanks to your Parents Association for funding the medals awarded on Sports Day.

**Holidays:** Scoil Bhríde will close for summer holidays on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 12.30 p.m.** School will re-open for the new school year 2018-2019 on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2018 at 9.15 a.m.** We take this opportunity to wish all children and their families a happy & relaxing summer break with hopefully lots of sunshine! I would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents for your support over this school year – it is by working collaboratively and co-operatively together that we achieve the best educational outcome for your children. We congratulate you all on the wonderful boys & girls you send to us daily – it is a pleasure to have them! Happy Holidays.

**6<sup>th</sup> Class:** June 2018 marks the end of the primary cycle for our 39 6<sup>th</sup> class students. It has been a pleasure to guide them, teach them & watch them grow and mature into the wonderful young ladies and men they are becoming. We wish them all every best wish as they embark on the next step of their educational journey. All the secondary schools they will attend are very fortunate to have them joining them. The 6<sup>th</sup> class variety evening show will take place **on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 p.m.** in the G.P. room. The graduation ceremony for the students will be on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 p.m.**

**Reports:** Your child(ren)'s report cards and booklists will be posted on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018.** Please ensure you have sent in a stamped addressed envelope, addressed to yourself for this information.

**Class Teacher Lists:** The list of class teachers for the school year 2018-2019 will be sent out mid-June.

**Night at the Dogs:** On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May, a wonderful night of fun & fundraising was organised by the Parents Association. To all who bought tickets, came along on the night, sponsored raffle prizes, gave donations and/or took out an ad in the booklet, a huge thank you. To Karen & her wonderful team of volunteers on the Parents Association an even bigger well done and thank you! A lot of time, effort & work went in to ensuring this night was so well done and was so successful. The total amount raised on the night was €5,000. It is because of you and events like this that we continue to be able to provide the facilities and resources for your children in Scoil Bhríde.

**Book Fair:** Every year as Ms. Reddy organises our Annual Book Fair we are grateful for the huge support you parents give to this event. Over 3 days of book sales over €1,900 was spent and over 60% of this comes back to Scoil Bhríde in purchases which replenish and add to the classrooms libraries. Thanks to Ms. Reddy for organising the Book Fair and to the volunteer parents who helped her out over the 3 days.

**Standardised Test & Results:** As you are aware, we are required to do literacy and numeracy standardised tests with your children each May. These tests were carried over the middle weeks of May. The STEN result for your child will be written on their school report. Please remember that these standardised tests and results are merely providing a snap-shot of your child's performance in literacy and numeracy and are administered (as they must be) in a standardised setting for all. As always if teachers and/or parents have any concerns with regards to your child's learning we have steps and procedures in place to highlight this, plan for intervention if needed and help your children. As always if you have any queries, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Book Rental Scheme:** A letter will be sent out mid June to all 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Classes for next year outlining book rental arrangements. Current books will be collected up soon.

**Voluntary Contribution:** Sincere thanks to all parents who support the resourcing of your children's school by paying this contribution each year. Because of your generosity we are able to provide properly resource classrooms and maintain a healthy school environment. The contribution for next school year of €130 per child to a max of €300 per family will be requested next September. Any parent(s) who wishes to pay this contribution in June will be facilitated. If any family contributes €250 or more we ask for future help by allowing the school to reclaim some of the tax paid as a further benefit to the school. The form is available from the school office.

**School Tours:** It's that time of the year again when the children head off with their class and teacher(s) for a day out. Indeed 1<sup>st</sup> class have already been! Details of all other tours will be sent out by individual teachers. We wish all children and staff a great and enjoyable day out.

**New Junior Infants:** On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June, we welcome 48 new junior infants for 2018-2019 (2 classes of 24) to Scoil Bhríde. We look forward to getting to know them all as they join the Scoil Bhríde family.

**Staff Meeting:** The final staff meeting for this school year will take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018**. To facilitate this meeting, all pupils (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) will be dismissed at **2.45 p.m.** Please ensure prompt collection of your children.

**Curragh Racecourse:** Every year our 5<sup>th</sup> class students are invited to an open day at the Curragh Racecourse. This is always an interesting & exiting visit. Our 5<sup>th</sup> Class visited the racecourse on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June where they got to see a farrier at work, talked to a horse trainer and even tried out the horse simulator. A huge thanks to all at the racecourse for organising this event.

**Parents Association:** As we approach the end of another busy school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful parents association for all their work and support on your behalf. For the teas served, monies raised, buns baked, etc. Sincere thanks. The Parents Association through their fundraising efforts, generously supported by you the parents, have enabled us to purchase new I.T. equipment, books, maths resources, art & crafts resources and many other resources which allow and enable us to provide the all round proper education and care that your children deserve.

**Website:** The Scoil Bhríde website is a great source of information about school life. Please make sure you visit it regularly and sign up for the email updates ([www.scoilbhrideathgarvan.com](http://www.scoilbhrideathgarvan.com)). Sincere thanks, as always, to our wonderful web administrator!!! We are very grateful to Marguerite Farragher of 'Stella & Dot' who kindly sponsored our website for the past year. A huge thanks to Sonia Deasy of 'Pestle & Mortar' who is sponsoring the website for the school year 2018-2019.

Le gach dea-ghuí

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Kate Gallagher B.Ed.