



hingram447@c2kni.net

Tel:02866348598

January 2022 Newsletter

School Closings: Spring Term

The school will be closed on Thursday 17th, Friday 18th and Monday 21st February for the mid-term break.

The school will be closed on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th March for St Patrick's Day. (Please note 18th March is additional day in lieu of the extra Bank Holiday this year.)

The Gathering Drum

The Gathering Drum visited the school on Thursday 20th January. It was a fantastic day with all children taking part enthusiastically, The children really enjoyed the drumming and the craic. There are lots of videos on the school website for you to take a look at.



The P.4's are really concentrating on their drums.

Covid-19

Please continue to be vigilant for symptoms of Covid-19 in your children. We have been informed that the current wave of Omicron is expected to peak in schools over the next few weeks, so please continue to follow the guidance as outlined below.

***PHA Guidance effective from Monday 24th January**

What to do if a pupil develops new symptoms:

The current advice remains that if a child is aged 5 and over develops new symptoms of COVID-19 they should isolate and arrange a PCR. A PCR test should then be booked via gov.uk or by telephoning 119. This applies even if they have had COVID-19 within the previous 90 days or have had a negative lateral flow result on the same day as developing symptoms or a negative PCR test prior to developing symptoms.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of

- A new continuous cough and/or
- A high temperature and/or
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Please be advised a lot of children are presenting with a tummy bug and a sore head before testing positive for Covid-19

If the child tests positive they must isolate for 5 full days initially, if they test negative on lateral flows on days 5 and 6 consecutively and do not have a high temperature they may return to school on day 7. If they continue to test positive they must isolate for the full ten days before returning to school.

If there is an outbreak in a class, non-symptomatic pupils will be asked to take a lateral flow before returning to school the next day. If their lateral flow is positive they should isolate for 5 full days. They can return to school if they have had negative lateral flow test results on days 5 and 6 consecutively and do not have a high temperature. If the result is positive on these days they should continue to isolate for the full ten days. If at any time they become symptomatic they should get a PCR test as outlined above.

Outdoor Garden

We are currently working on developing a garden in the field at the back of the school. We hope to have an outdoor classroom, poly tunnel, picnic benches, a potting shed, a wildflower area and lots of different types of trees and hedging to attract small insects, animals encouraging bio-diversity back to the area. This will be a fantastic resource for all of our community to use and enjoy when it is finished. However, we will need lots of help with planting and digging as well as help to buy plants and trees.

A fruit tree costs £25, a native tree costs £10 and we are going to need lots of them. If any family would like to sponsor either a fruit tree or a native tree that would be great. Then once we have ordered and received the trees, we will get you in to help with planting them. We are hoping to plant the trees before the mid-term break and ideally we will need adult help with digging out holes as they need to be quite deep and wide. The children will be able to help out with planting flowers etc. If anyone is available to help us out during the first and second week of February please let us know as soon as possible.

We already have a number of parents who are helping us with the groundworks and we are so grateful for all your help and support. This will be an amazing place whenever it is finished. Thanks again.

First Penance

First Penance will take place on Tuesday 15th March at 6.30 p.m here in St Mary's Church.

First Communion

First Communion will take place on Saturday 21st May at 11.00 a.m in St Mary's Church Arney.

Confirmation

Confirmation will take place on Wednesday 30th March at 6.00 p.m in St Mary's Church Arney.

Applications for Post Primary

Applications for Post Primary Admissions will open on Tuesday 1st February at 12 noon and will close on 23rd February at 4.00 p.m. All applications must be completed online. All the information you need is available at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/post-primary-admissions-guide>

If you would like any help or support with the process, please let us know and we will do our best.

Bellanaleck Club banners

The children in year 5, 6 and 7 have been helping to design and make banners for our new pitch. They were all based around Take 5, five different ways of promoting mental health and wellbeing. Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice, Give and Connect. They will look fabulous around the pitch.

These will be unveiled over the weekend when the GAA President will be visiting the pitch.