

MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Number 3

25th November 2021



New School Building Project

Work is continuing on the new school building project. Windows are beginning to appear and work continues in preparation for the installation of the roof. It is almost one year since work commenced and the scale of the changes to school life in that time are hard to quantify. Needless to say, we are keeping a close eye on progress while planning for our big move all the time.

Aerial Views of St. Mary's BNS



Enrolments for Junior Infants and Croí Na Coille intake September 2021



Enrolment applications for Junior Infants 2021 will be accepted from **Tuesday 1st December 2021** and the Annual Admissions Notice has been published on the school website. It is important to submit an enrolment application for your son as soon as possible after **1st December 2021**. The closing date for enrolment applications is **28th January 2022**.

The school published a new Enrolment Policy recently.



This is available on the school website or by request from the school office.

Croí na Coille

Croí na Coille is the name of our new ASD unit. It will open in September 2022 and provide specialised support for boys with a diagnosis of autism. There will be two classes in Croí na Coille, Acorn (for Junior Infants to 2nd) and Oak (for 3rd to 6th). Each class can accommodate 6 pupils. (See enrolment application details above.)

School Closure - Half-day closure, Friday 17th December

The school will close for a half day to facilitate teacher in-service on Friday 17th December.

- Junior & Senior Infants finish at 12:00pm
- 1st & 2nd class finish at 12:10pm
- 3rd - 6th class finish at 12:15pm

Full Day Closure - Monday, 7th February 2022

The school will close to facilitate a staff in-service day on this date.

St. Vincent De Paul Virtual Food Appeal

Due to restrictions this year unfortunately St. Vincent De Paul will not be running their usual food collection and therefore St. Mary's BNS won't be collecting food. We do however want the boys to remember that Christmas is a time of giving and caring for others. If you would like to take part in the Virtual Food Appeal

you can buy a hamper on the SVP website so some essential food items and Christmas treats can be given to people in your community.

You can choose to donate a virtual hamper to one person, two people, or a family, to help them this winter and beyond.

Your donation will ensure that people in your local community can share in the joy of Christmas, and will ensure that a child's first bike or a board game for the whole family can be under the tree and that there won't be an empty plate on the table.



St. Vincent De Paul will make sure your donations reach a good home in time for Christmas.

Please use the following link to donate: <https://www.svp.ie/appeal-2021/food-appeal.aspx>

Wishing you all the best for the Christmas season,

Ms. Kelly 

Before and After School Drop-offs and Collections

Vehicles

Ongoing caution is needed at the busy times for morning drop-offs and afternoon collections. The school will continue to restrict vehicles entering the bus bay on the Moyglare Rd to buses, emergency and disability access. Please drive carefully when in the vicinity of the school at all times.

Arrivals

Pupils should arrive at school at their assigned times (Group A: 9:05 - 9:10am, Group B: 9:15 - 9:25am, Group B pupils with younger siblings in Group A: at or close to 9:15am) There is no supervision of pupils before their assigned arrival time.



Collections

Please ensure there is a safe and consistent arrangement in place for your son's collection and please be on time for collections. Collection by a parent/guardian or other known adult is strongly advised for all children.

Road Safety



We hope to have visits from an Garda Síochána and the road safety section of Kildare County Council in the near future. The visits will involve presentations to pupils while they remain in their class bubbles.

Additionally, Kildare County Council will reassess whether a School Warden is needed at the pedestrian-controlled lights outside the school at busy times.

Please support the school by discussing the importance of good road safety with your son.

Folens Christmas Annuals



The ePayment link has now closed. All class annuals should be distributed next week to those who placed orders and paid online.



Christmas Cards

There were lots of beautifully designed cards this year, well done to all of the pupils – the cards will be sure to bring a smile to the face of all who receive them this Christmas. The Christmas card order has been sent to the printers and cards will be distributed as soon as we receive them.

REMINDER: Forgotten lunches, drinks or school bags

If you need to come to the school to drop off lunch, a drink or a schoolbag for your son, please ensure it is clearly labelled with your son's name and class. As there are **no** visitors permitted in the school building, there is a drop-off point in the porch area where you can place your son's belongings.



Group A Box - Junior Infants to 2nd Class

Group B Box - Senior Infants 3rd to 6th Class

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will be held on **2nd and 3rd February**. We will use Zoom to hold these meetings again this year. There will be more information for parents in relation to booking times in January 2022.



COVID 19 Update

Thank you to everyone for their cooperation to date.

- Parents are reminded that the Board of Management have requested parents and visitors to wear masks on the school grounds.
- Visitors to the school including parents should make an appointment in advance. Please contact the school by phone before arrival. The office phone number is 01-6293021.



Please remember **do not** send your son to school if:

- They or any member of the household has tested positive for Covid 19
- They are feeling unwell, or if someone in their household is feeling unwell with symptoms of Covid 19
- If they are a close contact of a confirmed case and/or awaiting a test or test results

All of the information you require in relation to Covid 19 is available on the HSE Isolation Quick Guide.

We expect new guidance around the use of antigen tests and notification of cases in schools by the end of this week. This will be communicated to parents at the earliest opportunity.

New school website

We will be making some big changes to our website over the next few months to coincide with the grand opening of our new school. Watch this space! In the meantime, we would really like to get some up to date photos for our site. We are asking if any parent/friend of our school would be able to volunteer to help. If you have an interest in photography and think you could assist us, please drop us a line at schooloffice@maynoothbns.ie - Mr. Davis and Ms. Flynn

Christmas Jumper Day



We will be holding a **Christmas Jumper Day** on **Tuesday 21st December**. Pupils are asked to **donate €2** for this worthy cause and to wear their Christmas jumper to school on the day. Donations will go to our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin and the National Children's Research Centre.

Day after day their staff do whatever it takes to deliver extraordinary care, transformative treatment, early diagnosis, cutting-edge technology, support and hope to Ireland's sickest children and their families. When a child you love is sick, your top priority is finding the best care available. **CMRF Crumlin** together with donors and partners fund initiatives, research, equipment and projects with three main aims: saving young lives by funding critical research and equipment, supporting small victories every day for children living with illness by improving their quality of life, creating brighter days for sick children and their families by funding comforts through the CMRF Crumlin Giggle Fund and enhancing their environment.

Please note: all donations are voluntary and will not exclude pupils from wearing a Christmas Jumper and joining in the fun. Thank you for helping us do **#WhateverItTakes**.

Best wishes for the coming season, Ms. Kelly.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

County Kildare Access Network (CKAN) are prompting a Light Up Kildare Purple event on 3rd December to coincide with International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The aim of the day is to promote the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities and increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities. To support this initiative, the school will display a purple flag on the day.

Halloween Dress-Up Day

Halloween dress-up day was held on **Friday 22nd October, 2021**. Instead of wearing their uniform to school, the boys wore their Halloween outfits and there were prizes for the 'best dressed' in each class. Everyone had a fantastic day and the school was full of fun and laughter on the last day before mid-term break. The following is a list of the prize winners in each class:



Class	Teacher	Pupil's name
Junior Infants	Ms. Dineen	Elliot Murphy
Junior Infants	Ms. Drislane	Max & Charlie Seddon
Junior Infants	Ms. O'Regan	Robbie Niedra
Senior Infants	Ms. Kelly	Nathan McEvoy
Senior Infants	Ms. Courell/Ms. Harkin	Fionn Steele
Senior Infants	Ms. Patten	Tommy Lyons
1 st Class	Ms. Dunning	Oisín D'Arcy
1 st Class	Ms. Mulroy	Eoghan Morgan
1 st Class	Ms. Gillen	Henry Rayfus
2 nd Class	Ms. Daly	Adam Sutton
2 nd Class	Ms. O'Mahony	Jake Fowley
2 nd Class	Mr. McGrath	Uvindu Perera
3 rd Class	Ms. Lillis	Ahmad Imran
3 rd Class	Ms. Cowley	James Curran
3 rd Class	Ms. Lyons	Evan Donlon
4 th Class	Ms. Toolan	Martin McDonagh
4 th Class	Ms. Nolan	Matthew LeGood
4 th Class	Mr. Terry	Cian Byrne
5 th Class	Ms. McMahan	Odhrán Van Velzen
5 th Class	Ms. Mahon	Cian Igoe
5 th Class	Ms. Griffin	Joseph Monaghan
6 th Class	Ms. Meehan	Seán Munro
6 th Class	Mr. McGeady	D.J. Dunne

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our fundraising on the day. A total of €450 was raised. Much of this has been used to purchase much needed maths resources, and the remainder will be used to purchase additional resources.



Virtual Book Fair

Just a reminder that the Virtual Book Fair is open for purchasing at present. We are delighted to announce that Tarabookco.ie are hosting our Virtual Book Fair. It opened on Wednesday, November 24th when the children received the Book Fair leaflets. It will close on Tuesday, December 7th. An email was sent out to all parents outlining how to purchase books for your family and friends coming up to Christmas. Please support our Virtual Book Fair as some of the funds raised will go towards our new library stock in the new school.

Colder Weather

There has been a noticeable drop in temperature over the last few days, but in order to follow public health guidelines we must continue to keep our classrooms well ventilated by opening windows. This means that we are losing a lot of heat from the building. While the heating is on, we advise that pupils wear an extra layer of clothing under their school uniforms during the coming weeks.

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Annuals	To be distributed in the week of 29 th November
Enrolment for Junior Infants 2021	Wednesday, 1 st December 2021 - Friday 21 st January 2022
Virtual Book Fair	Wednesday, November 24 th - Tuesday, 7 th December
Half Day Closure - In Service Day	Friday, 17 th December 2021
End of term finish at 12.00 Noon	Wednesday, 22 nd December 2021
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 16 th December 2021
Christmas school holidays	Wednesday 23 rd Dec – Wednesday 5 th Jan 2022 (inclusive)
In-Service Day Closure	Monday 7 th February 2022 (Curriculum In-Service)