

11/03/19

Dear Parent/Guardian,

STAFF IN-TRAINING – SCHOOL CLOSURES

We wish to remind parents/guardians that school will be **closed** on the following dates for Staff In-School Training: **Wednesday 20th March** and **Thursday 4th April**.

FUNDRAISING

The school is planning to raise funds to provide a Sensory Garden for the school. One of our parents, Fergal Brennan, is taking part in the Connemara Marathon on Sunday 14th April and hopes to raise €5000 for this cause. Any donations can be made via the following link: www.ifundraise.ie/connemamarun4MB. School staff will be contributing to this event with proceeds from a staff coffee morning. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Fergal for undertaking this huge challenge and look forward to everyone's support!

CONFIRMATION 2019 – FIFTH / SIXTH CLASSES

As previously advised, 5th and 6th class Confirmation pupils will visit the North Cathedral this **Wednesday 13th March**. The visit will include a tour of the Cathedral where the children will attend Confession. We request that pupils wear their **main school uniform, including tie** for the above school trip. To cover the cost of transport in respect of the above, there will be a charge of **€10.00** per child. Payment may be made by ePayment or by forwarding the money to class teacher. Payment should be made no later than **Wednesday 13th March**.

FIRST CONFESSION

The First Confession will take place on **Monday, 25th March** at **7.00 pm** in the **Sacred Heart Church, Minane Bridge**. First Holy Communion pupils have HS note today outlining details of same.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

With regard to general traffic safety outside the school, the Board of Management wishes to advise parents/guardians once again of the following recommendations:

- 1) *Safety would be improved if parents/guardians drop and collect their children as close as possible to the designated times. It is particularly important that children are supervised if they are crossing the road.*
- 2) *Parking facilities around the school are very limited so it is preferable to avoid double parking and a build-up of a large volume of traffic. Parents/guardians might, therefore, endeavour to make space for other cars once children are dropped off and collected,*
- 3) *Parents/guardians collecting **Junior and Senior Infants** are requested to wait for their children **inside** the school gate area.*

SHROVE TUESDAY / PANCAKE DAY

Shrove Tuesday was celebrated in traditional fashion at Knocknamanagh NS as each class got an opportunity to sample Mr. O'Callaghan's delicious pancakes! Photographs of pupils enjoying 'Pancake Tuesday' may be viewed on the school's website: www.minanebridgens.com.

OPEN DAY FOR 2019 ENROLMENTS

As previously advised, the school will hold an **Open Day** this **Friday, 15th March** at **2.15pm** for **2019 Enrolments**. Parents/guardians, together with their children who are commencing school in **September 2019** are invited to attend.

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WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March was designated **World Book Day** and to mark this event, a number of activities took place including:

- Book reviews
- Design a Book Cover
- Design a Bookmark
- Book Quiz
- Book tokens distributed to pupils

In addition to the above, children (and staff!) were encouraged to come to school on that day dressed as a character from their favourite book. There was a great response to this and Thursday morning saw the arrival of many fascinating and colourful characters to school, proving that children's choice of books is as interesting as it is diverse. We would like to thank Ms. Catherine O'Dea, Organising Teacher, for co-ordinating this event. Photographs of our World Book Day celebrations are also available to view on the school's website.

We would like to take this opportunity to make parents/guardians aware that **Carrigaline Library** is an excellent local amenity and is easily accessible to all. Literacy is at the foundation of all learning and children should be given every opportunity to avail of the local library service.

SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE

This week the school will celebrate *Seachtain na Gaeilge* and pupils will be encouraged to make an extra effort to speak Irish. They will also be participating in a number of activities which celebrate the Irish culture and language.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

Pupils and staff are hoping to raise awareness for Down Syndrome by participating in the '**Rock your Funky Socks**' event on **World Down Syndrome Day** which takes place **Thursday, 21st March**. We are asking everyone to come to school wearing **funky socks** or **colourful tights** on this day and make a small donation (eg. €2) to this worthy cause. Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPLICATIONS FOR NEW SCHOOL ENTRANTS TO PRIMARY & POST-PRIMARY (SCHOOL YEAR 2019/2020)

Bus Éireann is offering an online application system for School Transport for new entrants to primary school and post-primary school for the 2019/2020 School Year. Online applications can be made on www.buseireann.ie. Alternatively application forms are available to download. Completed forms should be returned to *Cork School Transport Office, Bus Éireann, Capwell, Cork (Tel. 021 – 4557129)*.

If you have another child starting in Junior Infants, transferring from another primary school or transferring from primary to post-primary school in September 2019, you will need to make an application for this new school entrant, quoting your *Family ID No.* which is located on your existing school-going child's bus ticket, *School Roll No.* (17804L) and *Class Year Definition* (e.g. Junior Infants is Yr 1 etc). If you need to make an application, it is now necessary for parents/guardians to apply directly to *Bus Éireann* for School Transport. The closing date for applications for the 2019/2020 school year is **Friday 26th April, 2019**.

Yours faithfully,

Con O'Callaghan
School Principal