

SCOIL BHRÍDE
Stillbrook, Mountrath, Co. Laois
Roll No. 13343E
Telephone 057 8732423
Email: bridnaofamountrath@gmail.com
Website: scoilbhridemountrath.weebly.com

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Dear Parents / Guardians,

I hope this email finds you well. Just a few matters for your attention:

Living our Catholic Ethos.

We had a lovely week in school recently celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The children participated in various daily activities, celebrating the opening of the week by attending Mass virtually, celebrating Grandparents Day and lots more. Please see our website and twitter page for details. On 1st February all classes went to Mass in our parish church, in honour of St. Brigid. Back in school classes made St. Brigid's crosses, heard stories about St. Brigid and completed various activities in their own classrooms. The children were delighted to get a night free from homework in celebration!

Covid-19.

Please remember not to send your daughter to school if she has any Covid symptoms (see attachment). There is no easing of restrictions for schools at the moment. If your daughter becomes unwell in school, you will be immediately contacted so that you can collect her. Therefore, it is imperative that you are contactable during the school day and that we have your correct contact details on our system, if your phone number has changed please inform the school. Thank you for your continued support.

Advice for parents during Covid-19:

Symptoms to look out for

If your child has any of the following symptoms of Covid-19, do not send them to school and contact your GP:

- A temperature of 38 degrees Celcius or more
- A new cough
- Loss or changed sense of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or an existing breathing condition that has become worse
- Fatigue
- Aches or pains
- Sore throats
- Headaches
- Diarrhoea
- Runny or stuff nose
- Feeling sick or vomiting

For more see gov.ie/backtoschool

An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Basketball.

Children in 5th, 6th classes are enjoying basketball tuition in Bloom H.Q. These classes commenced after Christmas and will run for six weeks. The 3rd, 4th class girls are looking forward to attending basketball tuition in the coming weeks.

Parent / Teacher Meetings.

Our parent / teacher meetings are scheduled to take place the week of 21st February, they will be conducted via phone call. Your class teacher will be in contact with you shortly to arrange a suitable time for you. These meetings are very important - a chance for you to discuss your daughter's progress in all aspects of school life. Of course you are always welcome to contact your class teacher at any stage during the year if necessary.

Mountrath Library.

It is wonderful that we can access the facilities of our local library again. Some classes have visited the library since it has re-opened to the public. It is a fantastic resource in the town and Triona and her team are always so accomodating and welcoming. If your daughter isn't a member she might consider joining - a lovely way to pass a few hours immersed in a good book!

Sacramental Preparation.

We are looking forward to celebrating the sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the coming months. Preparing for the sacraments in school is only one aspect of preparation, the preparation at home is just as important. You can help your daughter prepare at home by praying with her, helping her learn her prayers and by going to Mass together as a family. Our whole school community is keeping all the sacramental children in our thoughts and prayers at this very special time in their lives.

School Calendar.

To let you know that the school will be **closed on Monday, 21st March** (extra bank holiday). I will remind you nearer the time.

That's all for now,

Slán agus beannacht,

M. Rohan