SCOIL BHRÍDE Stillbrook, Mountrath, Co. Laois Roll No. 13343E Telephone 057 8732423 Email: <u>bridnaofa@eircom.net</u> Website: scoilbhridemountrath.weebly.com.

10th September, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A warm welcome back to all and a very special welcome to our new Junior Infants and parents. Also, welcome to those who have joined us from other schools.

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND BOOKS

All children look very smart in their school uniform. Thank you parents for your great work in preparing them for the new school year. The girls are reminded in school to try and keep their uniform clean and to respect their school books and belongings. Please remind your daughter of the same at home. The school uniform consists of white blouse, red tie, navy skirt/gymslip or formal navy trousers and red jumper/cardigan **and must be worn at all times. On P.E. days children wear a navy tracksuit bottoms with red, white or navy top. Runners must be worn during P.E. Class to enable children to fully participate.**

SCHOOL RULES

We ask your co-operation in ensuring your child understands and complies with the rules of the school. We remind everyone that school starts at **9.20** a.m. and finishes at 3.00 p.m. Your daughter is supervised between these times. The BOM does not accept responsibility for children on school premises before or after the official opening and closing times. Children can wait in the school hall from 9.10 a.m. If it is raining they go to the shelters at the front and back of the school.

SCHOOL MAINTAINANCE

Our school caretaker has been hard at work over the summer maintaining and improving the school grounds. I wish to thank him (Piotr Glanert) most sincerely for all his hard work. Thanks also to Gerry Maguire (BOM) who organised and supervised works carried on over the summer on the trees in our school. Also, Viola (school cleaner) has our classrooms looking lovely. Many thanks to her.

ABSENTEEISM

Parents please inform the class teacher in writing if your daughter is absent from school. If any child is absent for more than 20 days within the school year, the school is obliged to notify the Education Welfare Office in Dublin. This is in keeping with the directives outlined under the Child Welfare Act.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- In the morning and on collecting your daughter from school please do not obstruct the flow of traffic at the front of the school. Be mindful of children entering/exiting the school grounds. Bus and car drivers as asked to drive around the grey railings to collect children who have been told to *wait inside the grey railings*. Most children should now be able to come into school alone. If infants need to be brought in please do so as quickly as possible, and parents do not double park at the front of the school. Children are *not allowed* to go to Patrick Street to be collected. They must remain in the school grounds. The girls have been very good at adhering to these rules. I would ask parents full co-operation in ensuring the safety for children.
- 2. **School meals programme**: Glanmore Foods have been chosen as the supplier for our complementary school lunches and snacks. The children are very much relishing the wide variety of foods available on the menu.
- 3. REMINDER; Please make sure your daughter's hair is tied back during the school day. Also parents please routinely check your daughter's hair.
- 4. <u>Wearing of jewellery is not allowed in school (hoop earrings,</u> <u>bracelets etc).</u> due to Health and Safety concerns on the playground, during P.E., as well as the upset that can be caused when such items are misplaced.

ACTIVE FLAG

We are working hard to achieve our first Active Flag. We are implementing the "Mile a Day" challenge (weather permitting) and encouraging the children to do "active homework".

<u>"SPLIT THE POT"</u>

"Split the Pot" has resumed once again. On Mondays envelopes are distributed to the children and are collected up on Wednesdays for a weekly raffle. The cost of entering the weekly draw is $\in 2$. This is in conjunction with the Mountrath Forum.

<u>SEN</u>

Your class teacher and Special Education teacher (Ms, Brereton) will be in contact with your shortly to discuss I.E.P. (Individual Educational Plan) for you daughter if she is attending Learning Support.

FINANCIAL

Book Rental, Art/Craft money is now overdue. Please bring it into your class teacher by Friday 13th September. Ms. Brereton has worked very hard with our Book Rental Scheme so that the cost of books is greatly reduced.

HOME/ SCHOOL LINKS-HOMEWORK

Your daughter is encouraged to complete all her homework at night. Homework is a consolidation of work being taught in school and an extension of same. Reading with your daughter at night is very important as it is helping her with her learning. Please sign your daughter's homework journal and contact your class teacher if you have any queries. Also, can you please ensure we have your correct contact details. If your mobile phone number has changed please send us in your number.

Homework Club is up and running again. There is no cost to you for this service. Thanks to our teachers for volunteering to supervise homework club.

PARENTS COUNCIL

Our Parents' Council will be holding their first meeting shortly. If you would like to help out this year e.g. fundraising and or give some of your time to further the work of the Parents' Council it would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, should you wish to meeting with your Class Teacher or myself at any time please make a prior appointment as you may then be assured of our full attention.

We look forward to meeting you during the year.

Mile Buíochas,

_(Principal)

M. Rohan.