

St Brigid's N.S.



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are all well. We have reached October and your child has the first month of the school year complete. Thank you to everyone for their co-operation and support for the school during what is a challenging time for all. Now that October has arrived we have started to give written homework. Your child's teacher will be in touch with you or will explain the approach to homework to the children directly. We will be using Seesaw for aspects of homework. This is to minimise the number of books and copies coming in and out of homes and classrooms. We have made this decision in the interest of health and safety of our school community. Seesaw is a safe and secure platform. Apart from using it for your child's homework after school, Seesaw may also give you an insight into their work with their class during the day. Thank you to all who have sent back the Seesaw consent form. For those of you who haven't, please could you return these consent forms by email or in a sealed envelope to the office. It would be very helpful if we could have all consent forms back by the 12/10/20.

Over the coming weeks some classes will be set work on Reading Eggs and Mathletics, two online platforms for assisting with raising standards in Maths and English. If your child's class teacher sets work on this please engage. Please visit <https://www.mathletics.com/uk/for-home/> and readingeggs.co.uk for more information on how these platforms work.

This year the Shoe Box Appeal is going to be run differently. Due to the effects of Covid-19 restrictions, it is not possible to send gift-filled shoeboxes from Ireland this year. Schools, families, friends, communities and businesses are being asked to [TeamUpForTeamHope](#) by

donating gift-filled shoeboxes online. These donations will allow the local network of local partners in Africa and Eastern Europe to purchase items for shoeboxes, which will be delivered straight into the hands of children affected by poverty. Often these shoe boxes are the only gift that a child will receive at Christmas and the joy that they deliver is incredible. Please visit the website <http://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/> for all the information.

In September the children welcomed Fr Pat Hughes to the parish. We wish him all the best in his new appointment. Due to the current restrictions the Diocese has postponed First Holy Communion on 17/10/20. The children in third class have been very patient with this. We have decided to have a small celebration in class on 12/10/20 to acknowledge the wonderful preparatory work completed by the children up to now.

With reference to Halloween it will be a bit different this year. There will be no Halloween assembly as we will be continuing to keep children in their bubbles and pods. However, on Friday 23rd of October children can wear their Halloween costume into school. As they will be wearing it for the whole day please ensure that it is a comfortable outfit or that some of it can be worn all day. Faces can be painted before coming to school. Please don't feel under pressure to buy costumes. We would love to see some homemade ones. If they have a costume from previous years they can wear it or add things on to it. Alternatively, they can wear clothing in Halloween colours such as black or orange. Each class will celebrate Halloween in their own way.

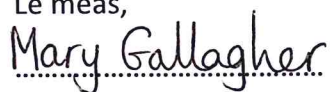
For those of you who have paid book rental and other school expenses thank you for doing so. We still have a lot of outstanding book rental and other school expenses to be paid. For those families that may be finding it difficult to send in the total amount in one payment, payments can also be made in smaller amounts more regularly. Either method would be greatly appreciated as we have a large book bill to pay this month. Below is a reminder of the book rental costs.

Book Rental: €40 per child

Art/Photocopying €30 per family

24 Hour Insurance: €6.40 per child

Le meas,



Mary Gallagher