



# Corridor Echoes

Volume 19

Issue 2

October 2024

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## Beginning of School Year Mass

Our beginning of school year Mass was held on Friday the 17th of October 2024. Thanks very much to Fr Whearty, members of staff and all the pupils for their work in preparing the mass. Thanks also to Ms. Quillinan for organising the Mass and to Ms. Cummins and Ms. Power for preparing the choir who sang so beautifully on the day.

## Halloween Art

There's plenty of Halloween Art on display at the moment from all classes. See samples to the left from our 2nd and 6th class pupils.



## U-13 Football Final

Our U-13 Gaelic Footballers competed in the Roinn B Final in Walsh Park on Tuesday 22nd October. The boys performed well and lost out by 4 points to St. Stephens. A huge well done to all the pupils involved. They represented themselves and the school so well, not just in the final, but in all their matches right throughout the competition. We have some very talented athletes in this group and we look forward to the hurling and football competitions as the year progresses. Thank you to Mr. Rynne, Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Kelly for all their work with the U-11 and U-13 footballers during Term 1.



## Parents Association Meeting - Important Notice for all Parents

The Parents Association AGM will be held on Wednesday 6th November at 7pm in the school. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Chairperson of the Board of Management and the school principal will attend the meeting. One of the items on the agenda is to discuss the **proposal of introducing an earlier start time for our school**. The Chairperson and principal will explain the rationale for this proposed change and answer any questions that parents may have on the night about this proposal. If you have a preference for keeping our start time the same or moving it to an earlier start time e.g. 9am, it would be great if you could be there on the night to contribute as the Board wants to get the perspective of parents on this matter.

All parents are welcome and encouraged to join the Parents' Association Committee. Ideally each class should have representation. We would encourage parents from all classes to join the committee. The Parents' Association will work together with the Principal, Staff, Board of Management and all parents to build effective partnership between home, school and the local community to ensure the best possible education for their children. We aim to offer all parents the opportunity to contribute towards enhancing their children's education through various activities within the community throughout the school year. If you cannot attend the meeting on 06/11/2024 and would like to become a member of the PA, please contact the office.

Thanks again to our current members for all of their support and continued commitment to the school.



### School Admissions for 2025/26

The school will begin accepting applications for admission for 2025/26 from Monday 4th November. Copies of the admissions notice and application form have been shared with local pre schools. These documents are available from our school website ([www.ferrybankbns.ie](http://www.ferrybankbns.ie)) or can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

The closing date for receipt of applications for next year is 24/01/2025.



### Bake Sale 2024



A huge thank you to all our pupils, parents and staff for making this years bake sale such a huge success! Our Student Council, led by Ms Tuohy, did so much work in organising, promoting and running the bake sale - we are very grateful to everyone involved. €1,157 was raised and our pupils are already compiling a wish list with suggestions on how the money will be spent. A number of items which will be purchased include:

- ⇒ Chess sets. We have seen a significant increase in the number of pupils looking to play chess, particularly among 4th, 5th and 6th class pupils so we will be investing some of the funds in chess equipment and running a chess league in school.
- ⇒ Board games will be purchased for junior classes which can be used to support learning; play during breaks; on wet days etc.
- ⇒ A sound system will also be purchased with the funds and will be accessible to all classes and for school events such as Christmas Plays, assemblies etc.

## School Calendar for 2024/2025

The school calendar is available to download from our website or it can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Please note there is an additional school closure not marked on the calendar. The **school will close on Monday 2nd December** to facilitate training for teachers in the New Primary Maths Curriculum.

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) have a leaflet for parents which explains the changes in the curriculum and can be accessed by [clicking here](#). The leaflet is also available in other languages and these can be accessed [here](#).

## Bookville

Pupils attended events and workshops for Bookville in October organised through Ferrybank Library. This included a diverse lineup of events including reading, writing, storytelling, comedy, illustration, drama, music, visual arts and more.



## School Policies

We are in the process of reviewing our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment before our next Board meeting at the end of November. The current Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is available on our school website under the 'Downloads' tab where parents can view it. If parents have any suggestions or feedback please forward it to [admin@ferrybankbns.ie](mailto:admin@ferrybankbns.ie)

## School Day

The school day begins at 9.20am for all pupils. It is important that pupils are in school on time. The school day finishes at 3.00pm for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes and at 2.00pm for Junior and Senior Infants.

## Go Orange for Solas

Our school supported the Solas Centre's orange day and raised in excess of €600. Thanks to all our pupils, parents and staff for supporting this very worthy cause and to Ms. Quillinan for organising the event.

## Meeting the Class Teacher

If you wish to discuss anything with the class teacher you can do so by organising an appointment with the teacher via the noticeboard feature on Aladdin Connect. Please note that the class teacher is the first point of contact if a parent has a concern.



## School Uniform and Tracksuit

All pupils from 2nd—6th must have a school uniform and a school tracksuit. Pupils from juniors—1st only require the school tracksuit.

### Tracksuit

The school tracksuit is *only* available from Excel Promotions. Versions from KSport do not match our school tracksuit.



## Maths Week

All classes celebrated Maths Week in October. Some classes attended SETU for workshops; we had additional resources from the teachers' centre such as IZAK 9 Cubes and Lego Spike Kits, 3rd class had a Lego Technic STEM Workshop - using LEGO Technic kits, pupils explored STEM concepts by building machines with motors.



## Mayor's Visit

We were delighted to welcome the Mayor to our school on Tuesday 22nd October. The boys gathered together to welcome the Mayor to our school. He spoke to the boys about the importance of friendship and kindness, reflecting on his own time in primary school. The Mayor acknowledged all of the hard work and commitment on improving attendance in our school. He presented the boys with certificates for attendance and friendship. Before finishing he discussed road safety and how to be safe when crossing the very busy road outside our school.

