



# Corridor Echoes

Volume 17

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## Welcome Back!

The staff of St. Mary's BNS were delighted to welcome back our pupils following the summer break. We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful summer and we look forward to a busy term ahead.

A very special welcome to all our Junior Infant pupils, new pupils in various classes up through the school and their families. We hope that you will have many happy years with us.



## Cross Country Competition

Well done to all the boys who represented St. Mary's BNS so well at the Schools' Cross Country Event recently in the RSC. Thanks to Ferrybank A. C. for organising the event. Congratulations to the boys who brought gold, silver and bronze medals across back to Ferrybank.

Thanks to members of staff who organised trials and accompanied the boys on the day!



## Work carried out over the summer

There was a great deal of work carried out over the summer months. The toilets were painted. Work was carried out to allow for direct access to the toilets in the Junior Infant room and 1st class room. This meant that a new space could be created which we are planning on developing into a sensory room in the very near future. We are at the design stage and looking into what options there are but we hope to update you very soon.

Additional storage was created outside some of the junior classrooms to allow some of the resources to be stored away and maximise space in the classrooms.

The Department approved an application for additional grant funding of €9,500, which will allow us to upgrade our emergency lighting in the school and replace the current fire panel.

## School Closure

Our school will be receiving sustained support from the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) in the coming year. Teachers will receive training on implementing the New Primary Language Curriculum in our school. Therefore **the school will be closed on Monday 21st November to allow for this training to take place.**



Congratulations Finn who had the wonderful honour of cutting the ribbon on Ireland's new Lego store in August!

## Parents Association

Our Parents' Association had their first meeting of the year on 22/09/22. Thanks to all those who were there on the night. It was great to have some new members attend on the night. As always we would encourage all parents to support the work of our Parents' Association as it benefits all pupils in our school.



## Art Competition

A number of our classes took part in the Primary School Foreign Language Art Competition in June last year. We were delighted to hear that we had 16 winners from the competition. The competition was organised by South East Technological University (SETU) and the winning entries were displayed at the European Day of Languages Event on 26/09/22 at SETU Campus. Well done to all involved!

## Child Protection

It is important for parents to be aware that Mr Robinson is the Designated Liaison Person (DLP), and Ms Quillinan is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL). If there is ever a child protection concern it should be brought in the first instance to the attention of the DLP. If the DLP is not available the concern should be brought to the DDL.

The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment and Notification of the Board's Annual Review is available on our school website [www.ferrybankbns.ie](http://www.ferrybankbns.ie).

## Junior Infant Photograph

We will have a professional photographer in the school on Friday 7th October to take a photograph of our Junior Infant pupils. Further information will be issued in the coming days to parents of Junior Infant pupils.

## School Calendar for 2022 / 2023

Monday 31st Oct. - Friday 4th Nov.: School closed for Mid-term Break

Monday 21st November - School closed for staff training

Wednesday 22nd December: School closed for holidays

Thursday 5th January: School re-opens

Monday 6th February: School closed

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th February: School closed for Mid-term Break

Friday 17th March: St. Patrick's Break

Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April: School closed for Easter holidays

Monday 17th April: School re-opens

Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd May: School closed

Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th June: School closed

Wednesday 28th June: End of school year; school closes for summer holidays

The school calendar is available to download from our website [www.ferrybankbns.ie](http://www.ferrybankbns.ie) or by [clicking here](#).



### Book Rental Scheme

Our book rental scheme goes from 2nd to 6th class. We would like to thank all parents who have paid this fee. For those that have not paid the fee, you may do so through Aladdin ePayments; contacting the school secretary and paying over the phone; making an appointment to call into the office or by sending the payment in with your son. The book rental scheme can only remain in operation when all those involved contribute.

### School Fees

#### Junior Infants/Senior Infants/1st class:

⇒ **€36** (Photocopying, Art and Craft and Digital License Fee) due before 30/09/22

#### 2nd to 6th class:

⇒ **€30** (Photocopying, Art & Craft) due before 30/09/22

⇒ **€40** (Book Rental Fee) due before 30/09/22

An email containing an ePayment link was forwarded to families where there are unpaid fees. As always, we would ask families to contact the school if they are experiencing any difficulty in relation to payment of the above fees. Thank you for your cooperation in relation to the above!

### School Rules:

Our rules are few in number and are very easy to keep. We ask all parents and guardians to ensure that the boys know and follow our simple rules. A copy of the school's *Code of Behaviour* is available on our website and we would like to thank all the families in the school for your continued support and cooperation in relation to the above. The Code of Behaviour is there to ensure we can provide a safe and secure learning environment for all our pupils.

### REMINDER

In line with the school's healthy lunch policy, Friday is "Treat Day". One treat, per child and no fizzy drinks please. Our *Healthy Eating Policy* is available on our website [www.ferrybankbns.ie](http://www.ferrybankbns.ie) or can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Meeting the Class Teacher

Please note that the class teacher is the first point of contact if a parent has a concern. If you would like to communicate with the class teacher you can do so through the noticeboard feature on *Aladdin Connect*. If you do not have access to *Aladdin Connect* please contact the office.

## School Uniform and Tracksuit

All pupils, from 2nd class to 6th class, must have a full school uniform and a school tracksuit. Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st class are only required to have a school tracksuit.

### Tracksuit

The school tracksuit consists of a plain navy tracksuit ends, white polo shirt and the school tracksuit top.

### Uniform

The full school uniform includes a green jumper, grey shirt, grey pants and green tie. There is a choice of crested or non-crested jumper.

No variations in colour or style are allowed. The school went through the process of dealing with school uniforms and tracksuits in the past as laid down by the Department of Education and Skills. It is very important that all parents follow the simple rules about our uniform and tracksuit. **In the event that your son does not have the correct tracksuit/uniform on a particular day, please notify the teacher via Aladdin Connect.**



## Gaelic Football

Our U-13 Gaelic Football team got off to a winning start against St. Paul's. The boys played really well and got some fantastic scores on the day. The next game is tomorrow (30/09/22) against Faithlegg NS. Well done to the boys involved and to Mr. Rynne and Mr. Fitzgerald for managing the team.

## Aladdin Connect

The school uses the Aladdin Schools software service for administrative purposes and Connect will give parents secure access to messages from the school and to details of your child's attendance, test results, report cards and much more via secure login from your internet browser or Aladdin Connect App.

If you have any queries about using Connect or how to set it up, please contact the school by emailing [admin@ferrybankbns.ie](mailto:admin@ferrybankbns.ie) or phoning the office on 051851399.



## Chrome books and Google Workspace for Education

The school purchased a set of Chromebooks in June 2022. These will be rolled out to pupils from 3rd—6th class in the coming days. Each pupil from 3rd—6th will need a username and login. Parental permission is required and this can be given via Aladdin Connect.

## Board of Management

Thanks to all the parents who engaged with the election process for appointing a new parent nominee to our Board of Management. A special thank you to those parents who made themselves available for the position. It is wonderful to have a parent body where so many are happy and willing to fulfil such roles and we very much appreciate your support. Following the secret ballot which closed at 3pm on 23/09/2022, we can confirm that Claire Smith Baldwin received the most votes and is therefore elected to the position of parent nominee on the Board of Management.