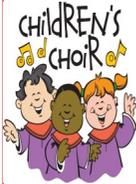


We would like to wish Ms. Diffley the very best of luck as she commences maternity leave this month and thank her for all her hard work and dedication to St. Brigid's.



5th Class girls will engage in a programme of cycling safety on Thursdays during January and February. The girls will be equipped with practical skills for checking the safety of bicycles, cycling skills and a greater understanding of the rules of the road.



The school choir will resume morning practice at 8am on Tues 15th of Jan. In December the choir gathered with 50 other schools to practise songs and dance moves as part of a rehearsal for their performance at the Peace Proms. This takes place in the RDS on the 3rd of Feb. The choir also provided a wonderful, festive evening of Christmas carols in St. Brigid's Church. Well done to all involved!

All of our classes came together in the hall on the last day of term 1 to watch each other perform some festive favourites! There was singing, dancing and lots more fun throughout our morning show. Well done to all our girls for displaying such talent. Everyone had so much fun!

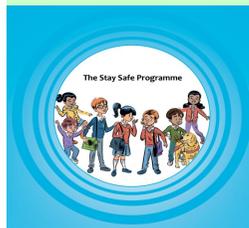


**Child Protection:**  
The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for reporting to is Ms. Wickham and the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Mrs. Howard.



**ACTIVE SCHOOL NEWS:**

St. Brigid's will be hoping to renew our Active Flag in the coming months. In December, all of our classes joined in some festive fitness fun as part of our Active School programme. Some activities included a Santa sack race, icicle hockey, jingle bell jumping, tinsel tubes and a bauble and spoon race. The girls really enjoyed the day! Well done to the teachers and students who played a part in running the day. Our Active Week will run from the 7th -12th of April and we hope to run another full week of activities. If parents have active skills they are willing to offer to the students during this week, please contact the active committee through the office.



**Stay Safe Programme:**  
Stay Safe lessons will be taught to all pupils beginning this term. Stay Safe Lessons are a very important part of the school's Social Personal & Health Education (SPHE) curriculum. Through classroom discussion, role-play and repetition, children learn simple safety strategies for dealing with problems. Children learn that they should always tell an adult who can help. The overall message is that children will learn to: "Say 'No', Get Away and Tell Someone You Know." The lesson themes include Feeling Safe/Unsafe, Bullying, Touches, Secrets & Telling and Strangers. For information on the lessons log onto [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie).

St. Brigid's GNS, Killester, Dublin 5

**NUAGHT-LITIR: EANAIR 2019**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Welcome back to all the pupils and teachers after a well deserved rest during the Christmas break! A big thank you to the school community for supporting our school fundraising events and collections in December.  
Please note the school closure on Friday 18th of January 2019 for Staff planning in the new Primary Languages Curriculum.

**ENROLMENT**

Enrolment for Junior Infants Class for September 2019 is **NOW OPEN** and will remain open up until and including **Jan 31st 2019**. Application forms and our enrolment policy are available to download from our school website ([www.stbrigidsgns.ie](http://www.stbrigidsgns.ie)) or from the school office.

**Parent Association News**

A huge **THANK YOU** to our PA who put so much time and effort into running fundraising events before the Christmas break. Included was the Christmas raffle, Class Calendars and Christmas Cards. Our Christmas raffle winners were:

- 1st: Alannah Knowl
- 2nd: Réidín Geaney
- 3rd: Marie Byrne
- 4th: Abigail O'Reilly



Catholic Schools Week 2019 will take place from 27th January-3rd February 2019. The theme for the week is 'Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Own Schools.' Catholic schools share an ethos that is inclusive, welcoming and vibrant and work towards a vision of each student as made in the likeness and image of God. This means that schools work towards helping each child, irrespective of background, ethnicity or creed, reach their full potential academically, spiritually and socially. As part of this week in our school, Grandparents of Junior Infants will be invited to visit their grandchildren in their classrooms on Wednesday 30th of January where they will participate in some fun activities (colouring, reading a story etc.). This visit will highlight the important role grandparents play in the lives of our pupils. **A message will be sent on Aladdin Connect this month** detailing the visit and explaining the arrangements and specific time for the grandparents to visit.



Following on from our very successful run of after-school clubs in term 1, we hope to run another block of activities after school this term starting the week of Mon 21st of January. Look out for some exciting new activities on offer this term! **Information will be sent via Aladdin Connect about this.**

### Texaco Art Competition

**Pupils are invited to enter the 2019 Texaco Art Competition. Entry to the competition can be anything that interests you!**

You may use any type of paper, white, coloured, rough or smooth. The work that you submit may be drawn in pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, crayon, pastel, watercolour, gouache, acrylics, oils, poster colour and collage. Alternatively, it may be submitted on canvas or in digital format in any art-work software (submit digital entries to [texacochildrensart@valero.com](mailto:texacochildrensart@valero.com)). Prints created from a lino block, wood blocks or any other methods may also be submitted. The closing date is Feb 28th.



**Our Student Council met with Ms. Wickham in December to discuss lots of aspects of school life. The committee is made up of representatives from the senior classes and meet once a term. New ideas for school improvement are explored and plans are put in place. The girls will be involved in the design of the upcycling of our school library. They will also be involved in facilitating restorative practice between students in the school playground.**

**Board of Management Meeting  
The next Board of Management is due to take place on 6th of February 2019.**

### Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP)

Ms Concannon's 4th Class are participating in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. JEP gives primary school children the opportunity to experience practical, real-life business learning as part of their formal education. Running over a 12-16 week period during the school year, JEP nurtures creativity, independence and problem-solving among pupils of all abilities, with every aspect of the programme seamlessly blending into the primary school curriculum. Under the guidance of their teacher, and with the inspiration of participating local entrepreneurs, the children will discover their strengths as individuals, and as part of a team. Together they will chose, develop and produce their own product or service from scratch, all the way to making it available for sale at a school-hosted JEP Showcase Day, with the hope of making a profit. The girls have come up with some fantastic ideas and are flourishing into young entrepreneurs. They are enjoying the process so far and are looking forward to the big day.



**Sacraments**  
Our Confirmation and Communion classes continue their preparation for the Sacraments. The following are the dates of each of the services:  
26th Feb: First Confession  
9th April: Service of Light  
18th May: Communion  
30th May: Confirmation

### Health Promoting Schools

As part of the Health Promoting Schools Programme, classes will continue to engage in meditation with Sally and mindfulness activities in their classrooms. Ms. Nagle's 6th Class will be learning about nutrition and trying out delicious, healthy recipes as part of "Super Valu's Cooking All Stars Programme." To support the implementation of our healthy eating policy, we urge parents to familiarise themselves with the policy on our website as children will be asked to bring items that are not allowed in school, home with them. For ideas on healthy lunch box ideas and portion sizes, please refer to the health promoting section of our school website.



Well done to all pupils who entered our Christmas Art Competition in December. The standard of art work was very high and teachers had a very hard job in choosing the winners. Congratulations to the following winners who were presented with a small prize in the school hall:  
Junior Infants: Amelia D., Elizabeth R., Lena S. and Lucy X.  
Senior Infants: Isla Mc, Lilla G., Han C. and Aisling F.  
1st Class: Madison B., Grace J., Aijah Z. And Heidi M.  
2nd Class: Megan G., Mia Lily K., Martha T. and Ava K.  
3rd Class: Reo P., Holly B., Fiadh Mc. and Sinéad T.  
4th Class: Erin C., Maeve D., Meadbh C. and Robyn Lee B.  
5th Class: Fiona Rose R., Sophie F., Sophie L. and Caoimhe R.  
6th Class: Saoirse S.W., Cecelia C., Farrah C. and Anna H.



We are delighted to welcome Paul, from Craobh Chiaráin GAA club, to the school this term. Paul will teach football skills on Mondays to our classes as part of the P.E curriculum. Our school football teams will resume training this month and will participate in matches later in the term.

*December was a busy month here in the school. The teachers worked very hard with the pupils to decorate their classrooms, make lovely art & crafts, prepare them for performances in the school hall and the church for members of the school community. A lovely festive atmosphere filled the school in the lead up to the holidays. A special mention to Noel, our caretaker, and Mary, SNA, who looked after our Christmas decorations.*



**Green Schools:**  
This year we will be continuing our work on reducing litter and the amount of waste produced in St. Brigid's. The girls are encouraged to reduce waste by using lunchboxes, re-usable bottles and bringing home their waste in their lunchboxes.



**Our 1st (Ms. Stack) & 4th (Mrs. Delany) classes are looking forward to attending swimming lessons this term (beginning January 30th) in Westwood, Clontarf. Information will be emailed to parents of these pupils in the coming weeks. Many thanks to those parents who volunteer to assist teachers with supervising the children on the bus and at the pool.**

**Appointments:**  
We welcome the following teachers: Ms. Ward (Junior Infants), Ms. Stack (1st Class) and Ms. Scott (S.E.N.) to St. Brigid's this term.

**Congratulations** to teachers Ms. Shiels on the arrival of baby girl, Megan and to Ms. Malone on the arrival of baby boy, Alex.



**School Website**  
[www.stbrigidsgns.ie](http://www.stbrigidsgns.ie)

**Follow us on Twitter**  
BrigidsGNSKillester

