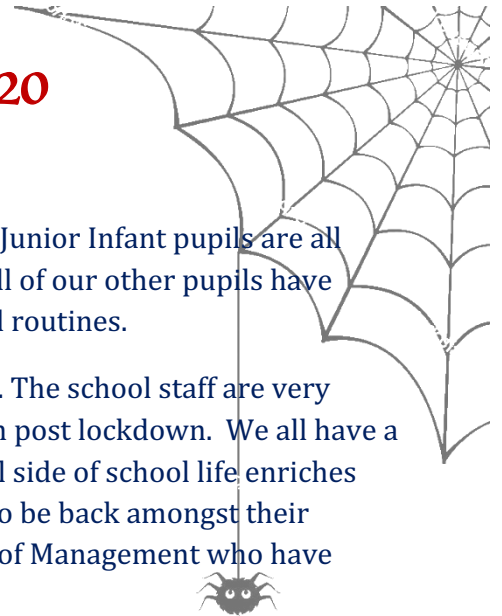


October Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

What a busy last eight weeks we have had here in Scoil Bhríde! Our Junior Infant pupils are all well settled now and are happily partaking in all school activities. All of our other pupils have resettled very well and have adjusted admirably to their new school routines.

Thankfully, everything seems to be ticking away in a steady rhythm. The school staff are very happy to be able to once again engage and interact with the children post lockdown. We all have a very new and real understanding and appreciation of how the social side of school life enriches teaching and learning. It is obvious that our children are delighted to be back amongst their friends too. A big thank you to our parents and hardworking Board of Management who have helped us get this far.



HALLOWEEN DRESS UP DAY. Pupils may dress up for Halloween this Friday, if they wish to. We ask that children come to school in their Halloween costumes. Please ensure that your child does not bring any props (broom sticks, daggers !!!! etc.) as these are not suitable for sharing because of COVID-19. Children may also bring a treat for themselves only. No sharing of sweets is permitted.

HEALTHY LUNCHES We are continuing to promote healthy lunches. Please ensure that only one small treat is included on a Friday. As we have a number of children with severe nut allergies, I ask you to be conscious of this when preparing your child's lunch. Please remember food with traces of nuts such as peanut butter and chocolate spread are dangerous for children with a nut allergy.



ENROLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 is currently taking place with closing date on Friday November 6th. Application for enrolment forms are available at www.cannistownns.org

FIRST COMMUNION DAY Congratulations to the third class pupils and Fr Robert who ensured a prayerful celebration - and valuable broadcast - of First Holy Communion earlier this month.

SOCIAL, PERSONAL & HEALTH EDUCATION (SPHE) All classes will be shortly beginning the *Stay Safe Programme*. The programme teaches children safety skills necessary to protect themselves. Please see letter attached with further information.

HEALTH AND SAFETY The Board of Management and school staff continue to work extremely hard to minimise the risk of COVID-19 in our school. Cleaning has been increased to 12 hours daily this year. We remain vigilant in ensuring children and staff adhere to the health guidelines. We thank parents for keeping your children at home if they are unwell or have symptoms of COVID-19. Thank you for emailing, when your child is absent. This is working very well. Thank you for your co-operation in phoning from the gate when collecting your child. This is also working well. Children are settled and confident with this.

*Please be assured that should Scoil Bhríde be contacted by Public Health we will engage with the HSE. The HSE's role includes carrying out a Public Health Risk Assessment. As part of this risk assessment, all close contacts will be identified, contacted and advised. **If Public Health does not make contact with you, you are not impacted and can continue to attend school.***

Uimhir Rolla **15104T**

Tel **046-902 9779**

secretary@cannistownns.org

www.cannistownns.org



**Scoil Bhríde
Cannistown
Navan
County Meath
C15 CX61**

19 October 2020

Dear Parents

We are planning to teach a personal safety education programme called *Stay Safe* over the next few weeks. The aim of the *Stay Safe programme* is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which most children will experience at some stage or other, e.g. getting lost or being bullied.

The programme also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they have.

The *Stay Safe programme* is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. Co-operation between parents and teachers is essential to the success of this programme. It is important that parents are aware of the content of the *Stay Safe* lessons and are able to discuss the lessons with their children.

Your child may bring home worksheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the messages of these topics at home.

You can familiarise yourself with the content of the *Stay Safe* lessons at the following link:

www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm.

Please contact the school if you wish to discuss the programme further.

As we approach the mid-term break, can I thank you all for your support since the start of this new school term. I hope that you will have an enjoyable and relaxed time with your families during the Hallowe'en break.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Maura Durkin
Principal