



# Scoil Bhríde Cailíní

Blanchardstown

Tel: 01-8201717

Email: [office@scoilbhridecailini.ie](mailto:office@scoilbhridecailini.ie)



## April 2021

### Dear Parents/Guardians.

I hope that you are all keeping well.

I would like to update you on school life since our return after Easter. Despite the Covid restrictions, school life is as busy as ever and the girls are actively involved in everything that is going on, which is great.

Sincere thanks again for all your support and vigilance in helping to ensure that we keep the school Covid free. It is important that if your daughter is feeling anyway unwell, that she does not attend school. Please remember also to complete the 'Return to Educational Facility Parental Declaration Form' before she returns. This can be done very easily through Aladdin Connect or by ringing the school office.

### Internet Safety Week

Our annual Internet Safety Week took place last week. We would encourage you to discuss this important topic further with your daughter to ensure that she is kept safe online at all times.

### Communion and Confirmation

Unfortunately, there is no update in relation to Communion or Confirmation at this point. The parish team will liaise with the school once permission to proceed has been granted.

First Confession will take place in the school on May 27<sup>th</sup> but unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents/guardians will not be able to attend.

### Book Fair

Thanks to all for your support of the book fair. Nurturing a love of reading is so important for our young people. It develops their vocabulary, their language and expression and their imagination. If your daughter is a reluctant reader, try setting aside some time to read to her or try using some audio books. They're great to use on car journeys!

### Run Around Ireland

All classes have been taking part in the Run Around Ireland challenge. To date the girls have collectively run 13,300 laps of the astro turf which equals approximately 1,900 km. They have visited many leading Irish landmarks virtually along the way, such as the Blarney Stone, the Rock of Cashel and the Cliffs of Moher. Covid restrictions have not prevented the girls learning about these places and keeping fit and healthy at the same time!

### Wellbeing Wednesdays

Our Wellbeing Wednesday visualizations are up and running well now. Be sure to ask your daughter about them.

### Standardized Tests

As per the DES requirements, standardized testing will take place for classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> later in May. English testing will take place on the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> and maths testing on the week of the 17<sup>th</sup>.

### School Lotto

Many thanks to those who have already signed up to our new school lotto. If you have not yet had a chance to join, you can still do so on: <https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/sbc/>

There is a weekly prize of €25 and the jackpot now stands at €600!

### Spring Cleaning

If you have any toys such as Lego/Duplo/play kitchens/dolls' houses or trainsets that are no longer of use to you and that are in good condition, you might consider donating these to the school.

The teachers in the junior classes would be delighted to make use of them to support the Aistear programme in their classes.

### Book Creator

All classes have been busy creating books using the Book Creator app which is part of our school Digital Learning Plan focus. This app allows the girls not only to develop their literacy skills but to do so by incorporating and developing their IT skills. This knowledge will be expanded on from year to year and will play a key part in their educational journey in the years ahead.

### Child Safeguarding Statement Review

The school is currently undertaking its annual review of the Child Safeguarding Statement. Further details will follow.

### Literacy Support for Parents -NALA

The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) offers help and advice for parents who have difficulty reading, writing, spelling or doing mathematics. They have a Freephone number parents can call 1800 20 20 65 or a website [www.takethefirststep.ie](http://www.takethefirststep.ie). All services are free. NALA also has a website [www.helpmykidlearn.ie](http://www.helpmykidlearn.ie) that provides some suggestions for activities that parents can do with their children to develop their literacy and numeracy.

### School Holiday Closure

The school will be closed on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Le meas,

Paula Dargan (Principal)