



Scoil Bhríde Cailíní

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December 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This is my final newsletter to you all before my retirement on January 4th. I first started out on my teaching career many years ago. During that time, I have seen numerous changes from blackboards to whiteboards, from letters to emails and from encyclopaediae to the instantcy of information on the world wide web. A lot of changes indeed, which in turn brought new challenges, as education sought to respond to the ever changing needs of society. However, I believe that challenges push us out of our comfort zone and provide opportunities for us to grow and learn. I have certainly learned a lot during my career, though not always the easy way! However, I have thoroughly enjoyed my entire time, both as teacher and Principal. As I reflect back, I know that what sustained me always, were the daily interactions with pupils and staff, the smiling faces of children and their unfailing wonder and awe in the simple joys of life. Children enable us to view each day, in a new and refreshing way and to see the extraordinary in the ordinary. My many trips down to classrooms, when paperwork and emails were mounting, always served to recharge and revigorate me. I will be forever grateful for that.

I want to sincerely thank the staff of SBC and the Board of Management for their unwavering support and kindness to me during my time as Principal here. I feel very privileged to have spent the last years of my career in such a wonderfully, nurturing environment. The school motto, *'Let us treat others, as we would like them to treat us'*, is lived out every day here, by every single member of staff. That model is a wonderful example for all pupils and I feel very honoured to have finished my teaching journey here. The best wine was definitely saved until last!

To all the little ladies of SBC, I'd like to say a huge thank you for making my role as Principal so enjoyable. I know that you will bring the same enthusiasm, dedication and respect to all you do in the years ahead. Believe in yourselves always. You're simply the best!

To you, our parents, guardians and grandparents, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks for all the support you have given me from day one. I will hugely miss our morning interactions and chats at the school gate. It was always a lovely start to my day and one which I will fondly cherish. If you do see me around, whether in the park, supermarket or shopping centre, be sure and say hello. I wish you and your extended families every health and happiness going forward.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the incoming Principal, Maeve Kilroy, on her appointment and to wish her every success, as she leads this wonderful community of SBC into

the next chapter of its educational journey. I have no doubt that there are very exciting times ahead.

And now on another note.....Christmas Trees

As you know we had a Christmas Tree construction competition recently and were absolutely blown away by the breath of imagination shown in the entries. It was wonderful to see pupils, from infants to sixth, proudly carrying in their unique trees to display in the school foyer! It made a very difficult job for the judging committee. All entrants can be very proud of their work. Comhghairdeas do gach duine! Táim an-bhródúil asaibh. (Congratulations everybody. I am very proud of you.)

I would encourage everyone to check out all the entries which are now on our school website. You will be amazed!! If you are visiting the school shortly for Christmas performances, you will also have an opportunity to view them then.

Farewell

And so, as I bid a fond farewell, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and health and happiness for the 2023.

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir agus Athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise daoibh.

2022/23 SCHOOL CLOSURES	
Christmas Holidays	School CLOSING on Wednesday, Dec 21st at 12 noon. <i>CLOSED</i> December 22 nd to January 4 th inclusive.
February Bank Holiday	School CLOSED on Monday, Feb 6 th
February Midterm	School CLOSED Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th inclusive.
St. Patrick's Day	School CLOSED Friday 17 th March.
Easter Holidays	School CLOSING on Friday, March 31st at 12 noon. <i>CLOSED</i> Monday, April 3 rd to Friday, April 14 th inclusive (2 weeks)
May Bank Holiday	School CLOSED on Monday, May 1 st .
June Break	School CLOSED on Friday, June 2 nd & Monday, June 5 th .
Summer Holidays	<i>Closing</i> Friday, June 30 th at 12 noon.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

P. Dargan

(Principal)