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St. Patrick's N.S. Christmas Newsletter 2025

One School, One Book - Red & Lulu by Matt Tavares

In the final few weeks of this term, all classes did a study of the beautiful Matt Tavares book, Red & Lulu. This is a story of love, perseverance and determination. Each class enjoyed listening to the story and did a variety of activities based on it. Ranging from writing a response, answering questions, recording facts about the Rockefeller Centre Christmas Tree and creating beautiful pictures based on the story, it was the springboard for much learning and creativity. Each class presented some of their work at the December assembly.
This initiative brought the whole school community together in the promotion of a love of stories. Every class was very proud to show the great work they completed based on the story.

Admissions 2026

If you wish to apply for enrolment for a child in September 2026 you can do so on our website https://www.brureens.ie/
Click on the 'Parents' tab and the first tab has all the information you need.

Science Week

All classes had a great week for Science Week 2025. There was a huge variety of activities throughout the week. Our 6th class went to Scoil Pól for a Magic Science Show and a wide variety of very interesting experiments took place in all out classrooms.

The Pupil Council.

Congratulations to the following pupils who were elected to the Pupil Council:
Siohán Carey, Emmy O'Shea, Anna Weekes, Neil O'Connor, Analiya Aji and James O'Brien.
After their election, the members invited suggestions from each class and meetings were held to discuss these ideas. One popular idea suggested by many pupils was to get a table tennis table. A decision was reached by the Council to hold a bake sale to raise funds to purchase an outdoor table tennis table. Details of other decisions and details of the bake sale will follow in due course.

Trip to our local library

Junior Infants went on the bus to the Kilmallock library on Friday 5th. We all had great fun there. We looked at lots of books, we tried out their sensory tent and the librarian read us a lovely Christmas story. All the children received their book bags & a library card.
We had great fun on the bus & we were back in school in time for lunch!

Swimming Lessons

Our 3rd class will start swimming on February 25th in the Woodlands House Hotel Leisure Centre. They will take part in six lessons ending on April 2nd. We will provide more information about the costs and times after Christmas. Our BOM and Parents Association will also make a contribution towards the cost of swimming lessons.

GAA Coach

We will have a new GAA coach starting in the school again after Christmas.Lorraine Grady, a Sports Science student in UL, will begin taking sessions with all our pupils in early January. The sessions will be a mix of fundamental movement skills, fun games and of course Gaelic football, hurling and camogie.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas Shoebox Appeal. We donated over 90 boxes and these are well on their way to children in need this Christmas.

Important Dates and Times

- School closes at 12.15pm on Friday 19th December
- School reopens on Monday 5th January at 9.20am
- GAA Coach starting Friday 16th January
- Public Holiday Feb 2nd
- Mid Term Feb 19th/20thFeb
- School Closed-February 24th-Curriculum Training Day
- 3rd Class Swimming 25th February

School Policies

School staff and our BOM have recently reviewed a number of policies including;

- **Child Safeguarding Review**
- **Admissions Notice**
- **Admissions Policy**
- **Emergency Closures Policy**
- **Equality of Access and Participation Policy**
- **Acceptable Use of Internet Policy**

These policies can be reviewed on our school website in the policy section. We welcome parental feedback on our policies and this can be done here- https://www.brureens.ie/parents/school-policy-review/

Wellbeing Week

Our Pupil Council were busy during our well-being week in October as they visited each class to share inspirational quotes linked to the daily themes: Mindful Monday, Thankful Tuesday, Well-Being Wednesday and Thoughtful Thursday. Every class enjoyed the activities, stories and exploration of the themes. The whole school assembly was an enjoyable celebration of well-being and ended on a high note as an uplifting rendition of "Count on Me" by Bruno Mars was sung with gusto by all.

Visit to Beech Lodge Care Facility

Pupils from class attended Beech Lodge Care facility on the 12th December to sing carols, dance and play traditional Irish music for the residents. We really enjoy our annual visit to Beech Lodge and get a great reception from all the residents who love to see the children performing. Thanks to Beech Lodge for inviting us down and for looking after us so well and to Áine Hayden who provided the music for us on the day.

Well Done

Well done to Rachel Deane, Grace Frawley and Emmy O'Shea who were all part of the victorious South Schools Larkin Shield team this year. A mighty achievement. The South team beat the East in a great final.

Well done also to Tiernan McCarthy who was part of the South boys team. They were unlucky to lose to the Clty in the semi final

Our Parents Association have been very busy again during this first term of the school year. We would like to thank them all for their continued support here in the school.

The PA held their AGM in October and the following parents were elected.

Chairperson- Juliette Browne
Secretary- Rachel Healy
Treasurer- Fiona Lynch

The PA organised the very successful Christmas Cards again this year. €500 was raised for the school and this money will be used to alleviate some of our transport costs for school tours, swimming, outings and games.

The PA also distributed template Christmas decorations to all our pupils. These have been decorated and our pupils will share them with family, friends and neighbours. Some of our classes shared them with residents in our local nursing home.

Our Weekly Wednesday Walks continue for anyone who would like to get active on the local walkway.

Thanks again to our Parents Association for all their hard work and support.

School Teams

We have had a very successful Term 1 here in the school with our boys and girls football teams. Our boys team won the South Premier Division for the first time since 2018 with a great win in a very exciting final v Ballylanders NS. They went onto to represent the south division in the county finals. We lost out to a very strong Monaleen NS team in the semi finals but won the 3rd/4th place play off v Lisnagry NS. Well done boys!!!
Our girls team also qualified for the South Final of the Premier Division but lost out to a very good Herbertstown NS team. The girls played great football all year and it was a great day to have both our teams in the finals.
Thanks to Mr. Reidy, Ms English. Frances, Ian and Laura for their help with preparing our teams this term. We are already looking forward to practising our hurling and camogie skills on the new Astro Turf.

Silver Circle Draw

We had a very successful Silver Circle Draw again this year. I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their continued support. Over €6,000 was raised and this money will be used to subsidise transport costs.
Considering the huge amount of fundraising that has taken place in the parish over the past while, we are really very grateful here in the school for your generosity again this year.

Christmas Jumpers

Pupils can wear their Christmas jumpers to school on Friday 19th of December if they wish. The school will close on Friday for the Christmas holidays and will reopen on January 5th at 9.20am

Active School Flag

Skip around the World challenge

We took part in a whole school challenge in October. Each class was asked to complete a skipping break every day and count their slips collectively as a class. 1 skip = 1 km. We were then able to see how far we travelled around the world.

FMS practice

The fundamental movement skills we practised were landing and running. We learned that if you can run properly you will be able to take part in activities such as Cross country running, Rounders and Scavenger hunts. If you can land properly you can take part in Gymnastics, Hurdling and Surfing. The PE strands we focused on for the last 2 months were Gymnastics and Dance.

Tag rugby with Saoirse

3rd - 6th class were very lucky to have 4 tag rugby lessons with Saoirse from Munster Rugby. Each class played loads of different games while learning all about the rules of rugby. We look forward to our tag rugby blitz later in the year.

Happy Christmas

On behalf of the BOM and all our school staff I would like to wish everyone in our school community a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. In particular I would like to say well done to our pupils and our school staff who have worked very hard throughout the year. I would also like to thank our parents who have supported the school throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge the support and dedication of our Board of Management and our Parents Association. Enjoy the Christmas Holidays.

Photo Gallery

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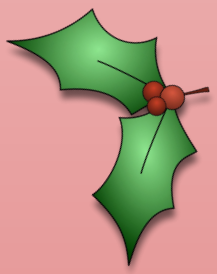
Tell the time

Concentric Circles
Can you solve these Emoji Puzzles?
THE UNIVERSE



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