



St. Patrick's N.S.,
Bruree,
Co.Limerick

Easter Newsletter *2021*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted to have all our pupils back at school over the past number of weeks. The children have settled into school very well and are continuing to make good progress with their learning. More importantly, they are really enjoying being back with their friends. We have really seen how important the social aspect of school life is over the past twelve months and it has been wonderful to hear the children playing on the yard again.

Of course, some pupils will experience difficulties and challenges back at school. We will continue to support all our pupils as best we can as we move into the third term.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make the transition back to school as smooth as possible. We must all keep our guard up and continue to do the right things so that we can reduce the risks from Covid-19 as much as possible. While we are only back in school a short while, we have had great fun during Engineers Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge and World Book day over recent weeks.

Some important information is outlined in the newsletter below as well as some of the highlights of the second term. Please take the time to read.

Happy Easter to everyone in the St.Patrick's N.S. school community.

Stay Safe,

G Keller

Important Dates:

26th March	School closes for Easter holidays. <u>The school will close at the usual times of 2pm for infants and 3pm for 1st to 6th classes.</u> (staggered collections will continue to apply)
12th April	School reopens for Term 3
3rd May	May Bank Holiday Monday
7th June	June Bank Holiday Monday
23rd June	School closes for summer holidays

Return to School:

Parents will be required to fill a return to school declaration again before their child returns to school after the Easter holidays. A link to this form will be emailed and sent by text to parents as we near the end of the holidays.

Pupil Absence Report:

A pupil absence report form can be found on the school website here- <https://www.brureens.ie/parents/pupil-absence-note/>
You must fill out this form each time your child returns to school after an absence.

Homework:

Teachers will begin to set homework in a more formal way after the Easter holidays. Please check in with your child as they complete their homework once we return.

School Books:

As is school policy this year and as a precautionary measure, teachers will send home books this Friday to be kept at home over the holidays.

Policy Review:

The school is currently reviewing it's [Code of Behaviour](#) and [Attendance Strategy](#). Draft versions of these policies can be viewed by clicking on the blue links. If you wish to make a comment or suggestion on the policies, you may do so by following this link- <https://forms.gle/txZAYi2OYNtw5cRU8>

Walking to School:



It's great to see all the pupils walking to school at the moment and we expect that more will be walking when the weather improves as we approach the summer. I do ask parents to remind their children not to push and shove as they walk along the footpath on the way to school. Pupils should also wait until the lights are green before crossing the road in front of the school. '

'Rock your Socks' Day:

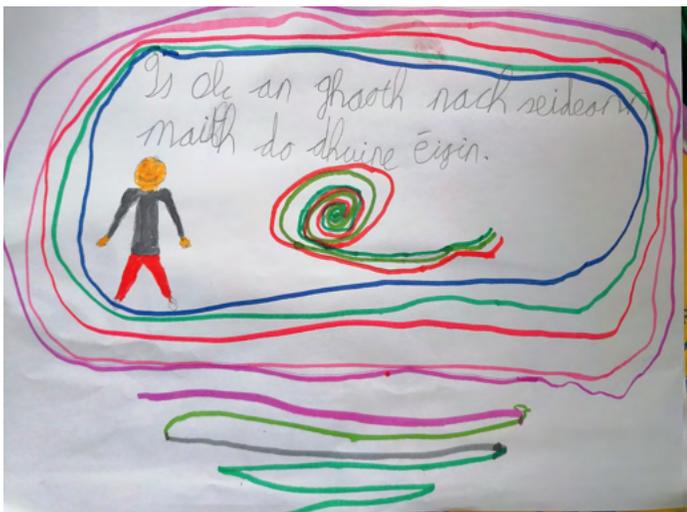


The school held a fundraiser for Down Syndrome Limerick on Friday 19th March. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the day. We raised €650 and a cheque will be sent to Down

Syndrome Limerick this week. The pupils really enjoyed wearing odd and colourful socks on the day and it was a nice way to raise awareness around Down Syndrome.

Seachtain na Gaeilge:

All our classes took part in Seachtain na Gaeilge activities on their return to school. The 5th and 6th classes took part in a virtual 'Tráth na gCeist' while we had a Céilí Mór in our infant classes. Our pupils also studied some well known 'seanfhocail' as well as learning all about St. Patrick's Day.

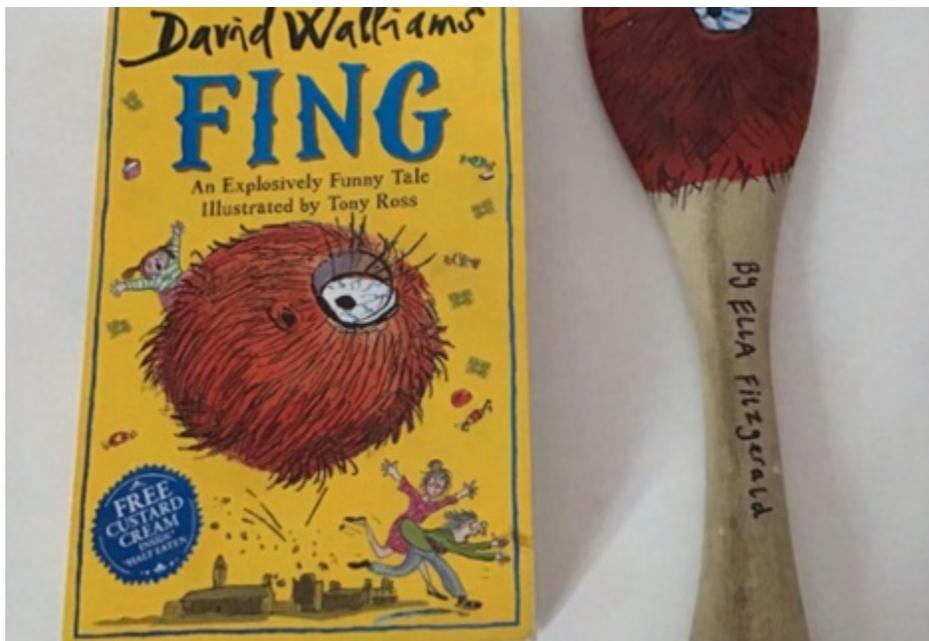


Engineers Week

Our pupils really enjoyed Engineers Week this year. Some pupils had to design and test out a maze while others had to design a high rise building that was structurally sound. The children in 1st class completed an aeronautical engineering project making paper planes. They tested these out on the yard and were delighted with their results. Our Junior and Senior infants took part in an 'Egg Drop Challenge' competition and really enjoyed designing and testing out their egg protectors made from materials found at home. Well done all!!

World Book Day

We also took part in World Book Day this year which took place on Thursday 4th March. Our pupils brought in their favourite books to talk about, the designed new covers for their books, they wrote lovely pieces describing their favourite characters and storylines as well as completing many arts and crafts activities. Well done to all our pupils.



Google Meet with Seán and Gearóid

We were lucky enough to have Hurler of the Year, Gearóid Hegarty, and three time All Star, Seán Finn, join our pupils for a Google Meet on Friday 12th March. The lads took part in a Q&A session with the children and answered a range of questions on nutrition, their favourite type of hurley, pre match rituals and how it feels to win an All Ireland in an empty stadium. We had a great time chatting to the two lads and we would like to thank them for their time. We would also like to thank Mr. Reidy for helping organise the event.

School Garden

Our 1st class has been very busy recently looking after our school garden. On March 5th, first class took on the school garden as their spring planting project. They prepared the soil by turning it and raking it using our small spades and the class rake. On March 19th, we planted our onion sets and created long drills using our spades. Our class will use the rainwater harvester to water the vegetables.



Easter

We hope that everyone really enjoys the Easter holidays and we are looking forward to seeing everyone back on 12th April.

