



St. Colman's National School Ballindaggin

Midterm News

Halloween

To celebrate Halloween we invite all children to come to school on Friday Oct. 23rd in Fancy Dress Costume. No accessories such as wands, brooms to be brought as they tend to get lost, broken or can cause upset or injury.

Children love this opportunity to celebrate the ancient Celtic festival and we are sure to have some fun on the day with stories, rhymes, songs and even some games.

A Spooky Picnic with scary films and music will be hosted in Ballindaggin Hall on Tuesday October 31st from 7-8pm sharp. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Help needed on Monday to decorate the hall if you are available. Contact Aileen Lambert on 087 755259

School Uniform



Children that were recently rewarded for wearing their school uniform neatly and proudly. Uniform, including tie, should be worn everyday unless otherwise specified.

Christmas Annuals

Leaflets for Christmas annuals have been sent home with your child. If you wish to avail of same, please return promptly with fee before the 20th of November so we will have your order back before Christmas.

Swimming

Day lost due to storm Ophelia, 2nd & 6th class will have swimming on the 6th November. Swimming will commence on Monday 13th of November for 3rd & 5th class pupils. The cost per pupil is €60. We would appreciate fee return at your earliest convenience as the bus and swimming pool need to be paid in advance.

School Closure

School will close on Nov 29th as the teaching staff will be receiving training in the new Language Curriculum.

P/T Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place on the 14th, 15th & 16th of November 2017.

Supervision

Supervision of the yard begins at 8:50am. There is no supervision before this time. No responsibility can be accepted for children arriving before that time.

We are Online!



Find us: @StColmans_NS

www.ballindagginns.ie

School info can be found online and we encourage you to visit our website and Twitter account.

Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal

This year again we will partake in the Team Hope/Shoebox Appeal. This shoebox brings great joy to millions of needy children in many countries who have received Christmas Shoeboxes over the years. We have sent out leaflets with all the information you need to participate in this appeal. Boxes need to be brought back to the school **on or before 8th Nov 2017.**

Board of Management

A BoM meeting was held on the 25th of October. A report of the meeting is available on the school website.



Due to Health and Safety and Child Protection the Board of Management have decided that after November 17th children in Junior and Senior Infants that go home on the school bus will no longer be looked after by their teacher between 1.40pm and 2.40pm. Alternative arrangements must be made by parents to have their child looked after within this hour after November 17th.



Green-Schools

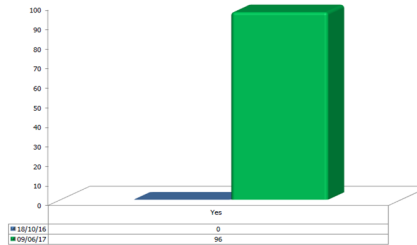
We are working towards our Travel Flag during the 2017/2018 School Year.

We are working on Walking to School Once a Week (WOW). Children are encouraged to; Walk from their house, if it is close enough; Park and Stride at a location in the village; Car-Pool with friends and/or neighbours; Cycle if it is safe from your house or get the Bus.

Noeleen, our Travel Officer, has visited us on numerous occasions to see how we are getting on. She has conducted surveys to see how many children are participating in our Walk Once a Week Activities. As you can see in the chart below we increased from 0% in October 2016 to 96% in June 2017 once we had implemented our WOW!!!



Do you participate in weekly walking events to school?



Bunclody Vocational College

BVC are holding a "Moving On" programme over the Halloween Break October 30th & 31st. This is designed to give children from 4th-6th class a taste of what Secondary School subjects are like.

Visit our school website www.ballindagginns.ie for more information.

School Monies

Many thanks to all who have already given their child's payment for insurance, art supplies, book rental etc. We would appreciate that any payments due are received before November 10th 2017.

Parents Council

The Parents Council have very generously donated €2,400 to the school which will be put towards the purchase of 8 new laptops and 2 state of the art touch screen interactive whiteboards for the Senior Infant and 5th/6th classrooms.



Road Safety

The Board of Management thank you for your cooperation when dropping off and picking up your children.

- * Please do not expect your children to cross the road unaccompanied.
- * Please be careful where you park that sight lines are not obstructed.
- * As far as possible, drop your child and leave to reduce traffic build up.
- * Children who use the Mass Path are to be delivered to and collected at the School Yard gate.



As you are aware to coincide with Space Week & to promote & raise funds for the Irish Heart Foundation, we took part in the fundraising campaign "**To the Moon and Back**". So far we have raised €1,313.07 & we thank you for your generosity & support of this very worthy cause.



Hurling 365 will take place this year on Wednesday mornings in the hall. It will run from 8.20am until 8.50 am. This is a fun initiative that aims to foster an enjoyment of our national game while also help improve general fitness and Fundamental Movement Skills. It is open to children from all classes. No hurling experience required. Come and have some fun!