

Scoil Mhuire na nGrást,  
Béal Guala,  
Co. Chorcaí.



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Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **SUMMER BREAK**

The final day of this school year is **Wednesday, 22 June** and pupils will finish and leave school on that day in the following order:

- Junior & Senior Infants – 11.35 – 11.45am
- ‘Walkers’ (all classes) – 11.45 – 11.50am
- School Buses – 11.50am -12.00 noon

Should you have a child in Junior or Senior Infants who is to depart school in the company of an older sibling as a ‘Walker’ or ‘Bus’, arrangements will be made by the relevant staff for these pupils to join their older siblings at the relevant times in respect of school departure, as outlined above.

The school will re-open after the Summer break on **Monday, 29 August 2022**.

### **SCIATH NA SCOL SUCCESS**

Congratulations to our Sciath na Scol 2022 Hurling & Camogie Final Champions on a super double win in Páirc Uí Chaoimh last Thursday afternoon. Well done to the players and thank you to all our wonderful supporters, as always, who came to cheer along both teams in this historic victory for Scoil Mhuire na nGrást! Of course, behind such success lies the interest, commitment, dedication and efforts of the coaches and mentors involved. In this regard, congratulations and thank you to Ms C Murphy, Mr Lane, Mr Hayes-Curtin, Ms O’Leary, Mr McKeown & Ms Cronin for leading and coordinating our teams to victory.

The school also wishes to acknowledge the ongoing support provided by our local GAA clubs (Belgooly, Ballymartle, Slaibh Rua & Sliabh Rua Camogie). Our GAA trainer’s, Gavin Webb, coaching was very much appreciated.

### **SPORTS FOR ALL DAY 2022**

Next week is our final week of school year 2021/2022 and, as usual, this time of year involves lots of exercise and fun activities as part of the school’s ‘Sports For All Week’. ‘Sports for All Day’ will be held on Monday, 20 June, weather permitting. Each class will be participating. Children need only bring their pencil case, a snack, lunch and plenty to drink on the day. Sun-cream application is advisable.

The Parents’ Association have kindly organised a complimentary ice-cream for each child on the day.

### **PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION 2021/2022**

The Parents’ Association & Friends of the Parents’ Association are to be commended for their committed and resourceful efforts which have enhanced school life for all throughout this challenging past year in terms of their educational and social contributions: Halloween decorations, Santa’s Grotto & visit 2021, School Calendar 2022, subsidies towards 3<sup>rd</sup> class Robert’s Cove beach trip, supporting the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Class Bingo, the very successful ‘Easter Raffle’, preparation for Book Rental Scheme 2022/2023, lots of practical support for the school - as part of An Taisce Green Flag - in its efforts to secure the Travel Flag (e.g. Walking on Wednesday ‘WOW’,...) and subsidising hoodies for our departing sixth class pupils, as well as a take-away treat for their farewell celebration.

/Over.....

Of course this would not have been feasible without the support the PA has received throughout the year from school families, the wider community and the local business community. The Parents' Association are most appreciative of such help and assistance. We have 230 school families and your support in helping the Parents' Association going forward in 2022/2023 in any way would be most welcome.

Many parents continue to advocate most generously on the school's behalf in terms of potentially beneficial educational related activities, resources, projects or initiatives (e.g. air purifiers, website, excursion venues, various expertise). Such opportunities complement and continue to add to the pupils' learning and general school experience. Should you wish to bring such a possibility to our attention for consideration, please feel free to contact the school.

### ***CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES FOR PRIMARY & POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS***

The Board of Management recently reviewed the school's Child Safeguarding measures. The related notification and Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment are available to view on the school's website.

### ***SCHOOL WEBSITE***

Our visitor numbers to our school website, which features a vast range of activities and events, continue to rise. In addition, it includes school information and educational related links you may find useful e.g. parents' section, previous Home/School notes 2021/2022, Booklists 2022/2023, School Calendar 2022/2023.... We would like to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Finn, Assistant Principal, who plays a pivotal role in organising the school website during the year.

### ***SCHOOL UNIFORM***

As families may be making preparations for the next school year, we wish to remind you of the following school requirements regarding the school uniform. The uniform consists of wine jumper/cardigan with school crest, grey trousers/pinafore/skirt, wine tie, blue shirt and regular school shoes. Pupils wear tracksuits for sporting and PE related activities, class teachers will inform you of these days in September. A white polo shirt is to be worn under tracksuit and pupils may wear runners with tracksuit.

During the months of May, June & September, in addition to the main school uniform or the school tracksuit on designated days (as above), pupils may also wear a white polo t-shirt, an up-cycled short version of the existing school tracksuit or wine-coloured shorts (the latter being available once again from mid-July from the school's uniform supplier – *Cahill's Clothing Carrigaline*). ***To assist with returning lost uniform items, please label clothing.***

### ***SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS***

Parents are requested to inform the Board, through the Principal, of any allergies or any *Specific Requirements* of their child. The Board will then inform all parents of a food allergy within the school. Without identifying any individual pupils, the teachers will make their pupils aware of food allergies. This, the Board hopes will provide a safe environment and invites parents, staff, pupils and school visitors for their co-operation.

Because the consequences of a child having an allergic reaction can be serious, the Board assumes that the whole school community will assist in making the school as safe as is reasonably possible for each child.

**Regarding School Year 2022/2023, please note we have pupils in the following sections who have particular allergies (Infants, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth & Sixth Classes – hazel nut, peanut and cashew nut allergies) and who have been advised to avoid all foods containing same.** We ask for your co-operation in this respect.

### **ROAD SAFETY**

The school wishes to remind parents of the need for continuing vigilance by everyone at the school entrance area. In the interests of safety it makes the following recommendations:

- ***Please park on the Belgooly side of the school entrance in the morning and afternoon, leaving the Riverstick side available for school buses.***
- ***To avoid parking in the yellow-boxed areas***
- ***Parking facilities around the school are limited so it is preferable to avoid double parking and a build-up of a large volume of traffic. Parents/guardians might, therefore, endeavour to make space for other cars and buses once children are dropped off and collected***
- ***To park perpendicular to hedge***
- The ***pedestrian pathway marking*** on the approach road to the school is an essential safety measure for all walking to and from school on a daily basis. ***Please keep the pathway clear for all walkers.*** All families have previously received a *Garda Síochána & Cork County Council* 'Park Safely at School' leaflet (attached), *Be Visible Look & Listen*, which outlines safety measures for all road users in respect of road safety within the school environs

The need will be greater when the children return to school after the summer break. The initial few weeks of a new school year can be particularly busy and so commands a greater sense of road safety vigilance by everyone. We look forward to your continued support and co-operation.

### **END OF SCHOOL YEAR**

As we approach the end of the summer term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their combined endeavours in ensuring a successful school year. The staff, for their dedicated, caring and professional approach, the committed and resourceful efforts of the Parents' Association, the wider school community for their practical support and co-operation, the Board of Management for overseeing improvements to the school's physical environment and the pupils for their enthusiastic application to school and their excellent behaviour. We also wish our 6<sup>th</sup> class the very best of luck in their new secondary schools and we look forward to welcoming our new enrolments at the start of the next school term.

***The school will close for the summer break on Wednesday, 22 June and will re-open on Monday, 29 August.*** Meanwhile, wishing you and your families a pleasant, enjoyable and safe summer.

Yours faithfully,  
*Diarmuid Hennessy*  
*School Principal*