

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



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29/03/2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### ***EASTER HOLIDAYS***

The final day of this half-term is **Friday, 08 April 2022** and pupils will finish and leave school on the 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 Easter break on **Monday, 25 April 2022**.

### ***STAFF MEETING & EARLY CLOSURE (Tuesday, 26 April)***

In order to facilitate a staff meeting, pupils will finish and leave **on Tuesday, 26 April** in the following series:

- Junior & Senior Infants – 1.35 – 1.45pm
- ‘Walkers’ (all classes) – 1.45 – 1.50pm
- School Buses – 1.50-2.00pm

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.

### ***SCHOOL TRANSPORT APPLICATIONS FOR NEW SCHOOL ENTRANTS TO PRIMARY & POST-PRIMARY (SCHOOL YEAR 2022/2023)***

Bus Éireann is offering an online application system for School Transport for new entrants to primary school and post-primary school for the 2022/2023 School Year. Online applications can be made on [www.buseireann.ie](http://www.buseireann.ie) (School Transport Section). ***The closing date for applications for 2022/2023 school year is Friday, 29 April 2022.***

If you have another child starting in Junior Infants or transferring from primary to post primary school in August/September 2022, you will need to make an application for this new school entrant, quoting your Family ID No. which is located on your existing school-going child’s bus ticket, School Roll No. (e.g. *Scoil Mhuire na nGrást* - 19672H) and Class Year Definition (e.g. Junior Infants is Yr 1 etc). Should you have any further queries, please contact Cork School Transport Office, Bus Éireann, Capwell, Cork (Tel. 021 – 4557137/4557129 or at [st.cork@buseireann.ie](mailto:st.cork@buseireann.ie) )

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**SCIATH NA SCOL**

Pupils from 5th and 6th classes are just beginning their Sciath na Scol Chorcaí Hurling and Camogie fixtures, starting with Ballyheada today, Tuesday. They have been training since after the mid-term break and we wish the pupils and their coaches the very best of luck over the coming weeks. Please see 'Upcoming Events' on page 4 for future fixture dates/times - you may be available to come along and support!

**KINSALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL 'SUSTAINABILITY EVENT' (Sixth Classes)**

As part of Kinsale Community School's *Green Week 2022*, both sixth classes were invited to visit the school on Monday, 21 March for their *Conference of Parties* sustainability event. This involved twelve sixth class groups in total, from ten local primary schools, joining together to share ideas and practices on how they are working on the Sustainable Development Goals. Each of the ten primary schools also showcased their global citizenship projects with the overall winner of the competition going to Mr. Hayes-Curtin's sixth class. Well done to both our sixth classes and to everyone involved.

**FOURTH CLASSES (Farm Safe Schools & Well-being)**

As the weather is getting warmer and the children are spending more time outdoors, Mrs. Ryan/Mrs. Miyazaki and Mr. O'Flaherty's fourth classes are participating in the Farm Safe Schools programme, learning about the importance of safety on the farm. This programme aims to engage, educate and empower children to become farm safety ambassadors and in doing so help create a safer future on Irish farms. The children are learning about the potential dangers associated with farming and agriculture. It is part of a national strategy and is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine.

Over the past number of weeks, Fourth Class has enjoyed partaking in the *Feel Good in Body and Mind: Your Way to Well-Being* webinar series. This in-class webinar series, presented by Fiona Forman (co-author of the Weaving Well-Being programme) gave the children the opportunity to reflect on their well-being and resilience, as well as providing them with some practical ideas to enhance their own well-being and mental health for the year ahead.

**ENGINEERS' WEEK 2022**

As part of *Engineers' Week 2022*, Mrs Ryan/Mrs Miyazaki's fourth class celebrated Engineers' week with a selection of science activities this year including an educational visit from an engineer (parent) to their class. The pupils also joined the *Dream Space team/Microsoft Ireland "Think like an Engineer"* webinar, which involved the children working with their classmates, thinking creatively and solving problems in order to create the best solutions.

Third class pupils were also delighted to welcome an engineer (parent) who provided some insight into the fantastic projects that they are involved with and how they developed an interest in Engineering. The pupils worked together to solve engineering problems using everyday materials and had great fun in the process.

**SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION INITIATIVE (Maths Stations)**

Maths station work is currently taking place in our 5th classes this term with a focus on fractions, decimals & percentages. Pupils are learning and revising concepts through maths games, questioning and group work. Maths Stations will also commence in 3rd class over the coming weeks. Thank you to all the staff involved with preparing, coordinating and facilitating this learning opportunity.

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**LITERACY DEVELOPMENT & PRIMARY LANGUAGE CURRICULUM**

Ms. Lennon's and Ms. O' Leary's classes have both been participating in the Literacy Lift Off initiative over the last number of weeks. LLO is an intensive programme of reading and writing which gives the pupils lots of opportunities to read books at their own level to develop fluency and comprehension. The children receive targeted support from school staff to enable them to blossom as readers. Both Senior Infant Classes will engage with the programme after the Easter break.

Our sixth class pupils are availing of the Cork County Council Mobile Library service which now visits the school every other Tuesday. Further to a previous HSN (28/02/2022), please see 'Book in a Box' photo attached.

**WELL-BEING PROGRAMME & OTHER SPHE INITIATIVES**

Ms. O Leary's First Class has begun the "Zippy's Friends" programme. This is a school-based programme focusing on social and emotional wellbeing skills for 5 - 7 year olds taught by trained school staff. The programme was developed jointly by Partnership for Children, academics and educational resources specialists. More information can be found on <https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html> Our second to sixth classes continue to avail of *Weaving Well-being*.

Ms. Hurley's Junior Infant Class are very happy to welcome the season of Spring and to see the return of the sunshine. They have been busy planting cress seeds and are eagerly awaiting to see some shoots of green peeping through. Cress seeds are a fast-growing source of vitamins so they are looking forward to nibbling on these healthy foods.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE ( [www.belgoolyns.ie](http://www.belgoolyns.ie) )**

Our school website features many of our exciting activities (check the various classes under the 'Gallery' section at [www.belgoolyns.ie](http://www.belgoolyns.ie) ) – Halloween celebrations 2021, Word Poems, interview with David Walliams, Leaf Art, 'Let's talk bats', jig-saws and games, 'The Garden Centre'(Aistear), Motor-skills activities, 3-D robots, St. Brigid's Crosses, making musical instruments and more. In addition, it includes school information and educational related links you may find useful e.g. School Calendar 2021/2022, parents' section, previous home/school & PA notes 2021/2022, parental complaints procedure... We would like to acknowledge and thank everyone who attends to our school website during the year. Mrs. Finn plays a pivotal role in facilitating this valuable communication medium.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Further to a previous Home/School note (22/03/2022), in addition to the main school uniform or the school tracksuit, pupils may also wear the following during the months of May, June & September:

- White polo t-shirt (as currently exists)
- An up-cycled short version of the existing school tracksuit (as some pupils currently wear in warm weather) or wine-coloured shorts (which are available to purchase from the school's uniform supplier, Cahill's Carrigaline)

**ROAD SAFETY**

The Board of Management would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their co-operation and support in facilitating a flow of traffic outside the school in the mornings and afternoons. Your observation of the pedestrian pathway markings on the approach road to the school is also appreciated by the pupils and their families who walk to and from school on a daily basis.

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**PARENTS' ASSOCIATION – BINGO & EASTER RAFFLE**

Pupils in 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes enjoyed their bingo sessions over the past couple of weeks and they now look forward to winning some fantastic prizes in our 'PA Easter Raffle' draw on Wednesday morning, 06 April. Families are reminded to return the card and funds raised, in an envelope, to your child's class teacher by no later than Monday, 04 April.

To support the P.A. in their planned activities and work for the final term of 2021/2022, new members are always welcome. If you would like to get involved, please email: [pabelgoolyschoolagm@gmail.com](mailto:pabelgoolyschoolagm@gmail.com). Details of committee members are also on the school website: [www.belgoolyns.ie/parents-association](http://www.belgoolyns.ie/parents-association)

**'APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION (ENROLMENT) 2022/2023'**

Applications for next year's enrolment is now being finalised. In this regard, we would be grateful if you could advise any neighbours and relatives who live in the parish, and who may intend sending their pre-school children to *Scoil Mhuire na nGráist* in August 2022, to visit the school's website. All related details and application requirements available at [www.belgoolyns.ie](http://www.belgoolyns.ie) ('Admissions' tab).

***As we are presently reviewing our pupil enrolment numbers for the 2022/2023 school year, please advise the school if there are any pupils currently enrolled who will not be returning in September.***

**SOME UPCOMING EVENTS**

- *5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class Sciath na Scol* – The school will play Ballyheada NS in Ballinhassig on Tuesday, 29 March (girls at 12 noon & boys at 12.45/1.00pm, please come along and support)
- *5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class Sciath na Scol* – The school will play GS Uí Riada in Riverstick on Wednesday, 30 March (boys at 10.15am & girls at 11.00am), please come along and support
- *Ms. Siobhán Moynihan's retirement gathering* – Friday, 01 April at 1.00pm
- *The National Spring Clean 2022 (An Taisce)* – 01 to 30 April
- *5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class Sciath na Scol* – The school will play Goggins Hill in Riverstick on Tuesday, 05 April (girls at 11.00am & boys at 12 noon), please come along and support
- *Clontead Parish Confirmation 2022* – Friday, 08 April at The Sacred Heart Church, Belgooly at 11.00am & St Joseph's Church, Riverstick at 2.30pm
- *Easter break* (see page 1 for details)
- Just a reminder, 'Home School Note (22/03/2022)' (<https://www.belgoolyns.ie/home-school-notes>) outlines changes to the school's daily schedule and related assembly/dismissal arrangements with effect from after the Easter break (*i.e. from 25/04/2022*)
- *Drumming Workshops (Junior Infants to Second Classes)* – there will be two further workshops after the Easter break
- *School Tours 2022* – details will be issued to families after the Easter break
- *Staff Meeting* – Early closure on Tuesday, 26 April (see page 1 for details)
- *5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class Sciath na Scol* – The school will play Knockavilla NS in Knockavilla on Thursday, 28 April (match details TBC)
- *School Transport Applications for New School Entrants To Primary & Post-Primary (School Year 2022/2023)* – Closing date – Friday, 29 April
- *Cork City Sports* – Friday, 03 June 2022 in MTU.

Yours faithfully,  
Diarmuid Hennessy