



Starting School

St. Brigid's Primary School, Tirkane

Starting school

Dear Parent,

Starting school is an exciting time, for both children and parents. The most important years in a child's life are the first ones and we in St. Brigid's PS Tirkane / Bunscoil Naomh Bríd hope to build on each child's pre-school experiences. We recognise that parents are our pupils' first teachers and that with your help and support the transition from the home environment to the more formal atmosphere of school can indeed be a very happy one.

In school we will do all we can to make this period of transition a happy time for you and your child/children. Hopefully this book will also help you to prepare your child for school. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia McMaster

Mrs Patricia McMaster, *B.Ed., D.A.S.E.*
Principal

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Meet the staff

Principal

Mrs Patricia McMaster

Teachers

Mrs L Convery *P1/2*

Mrs C O'Loughlin *R1*
(*Irish Medium Unit Co-ordinator*)

Mrs Ciara Mac Giolla Fhiondáin
SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator)

Teaching Assistants

Mrs C Doherty *P1/2 Classroom*
Assistant Lunchtime Supervisor

M Mhic Cionnaith *R1 Classroom*
Assistant Lunchtime Supervisor

Non Teaching Staff

Mr Philip Brooks
Building Supervisor / Cleaner

School Meals Kitchen Staff

Mrs Colette Johnstone
Mrs Ann Gallagher

Starting school

Uniform

All pupils wear the same uniform in our school. The items are all available with the school crest in English or Irish.

BOYS WEAR -

A LIGHT BLUE POLO SHIRT
WITH SCHOOL CREST
A MAROON SWEAT SHIRT
NAVY TROUSERS

GIRLS WEAR -

A LIGHT BLUE POLO SHIRT
WITH SCHOOL CREST
A MAROON SWEAT SHIRT
A NAVY SKIRT / PINAFORE / TROUSERS

Our school uniform can be obtained from:
Select Kidz in Magherafelt or
J&M Clothing Ltd, Swatragh.

Coats, fleeces, hats and school bags with the school crest are all available.

Pupils will need to have a t-shirt, shorts and a pair of black gutties for their regular PE lessons.

It helps if children can easily identify their own belongings. Please put your child's name on his /her coat, sweatshirt, polo shirt, school-bag etc.

It also helps if children can dress themselves, please consider this when purchasing school uniform and shoes for Primary One.

Money

Dinner money is collected on a Monday morning, although dinners may also be paid for on a daily basis, if you so wish. School dinners cost £2.60 daily.

Milk is also available for children from P1-P7. This money is paid each term in advance.

Children in Year 1 have a snack time each morning when a healthy snack e.g. fruit, toast etc. is provided at a cost of £1.50 per week.

All money should be sent to school in an envelope labelled with your child's name, what the money is for and the amount.



The School Day

Pupils are expected to arrive at least a few minutes before class commences.

During the day pupils must remain within the school grounds. Pupils should normally use the time before class, morning break and lunch time to go to the toilet.

8.45 A.M. SCHOOL OPENS
9.00 A.M. SCHOOL BEGINS FOR ALL PUPILS
10.30-10.45 A.M. MORNING BREAK
12.15 – 12.55 P.M. LUNCH-TIME
2.00 P.M. HOME-TIME
OR FUN CLUB FOR YEAR 1 /2
3.00 P.M. SCHOOL ENDS

Break Time and Lunch-time

The school has adopted a Healthy Breaks Policy. At lunch-time your child may:

- Bring a packed lunch
- Eat a school dinner which is cooked on site in our meals Kitchen

School Fund

Each family is invited to make an annual contribution of £30 to our School Fund. We would appreciate if all contributions were paid by the end of September. This fund is invaluable for buying resources for the pupils.



Starting school

Preparing your child for school 'work'

Talk Talk to your child as much as possible and listen to what he/she has to say. The more you talk with your child the more thoughtful he/she will become. Talking and listening are the foundation stones of all vocabulary and sentence making.

T.V. /DVD Most children's television programmes are designed to interest them in a wide variety of topics. Try and watch some with your child so that you are able to talk about the programmes. A programme watched with you is a shared experience.

Computers Each Year 1 classroom has an iPad, PC and Interactive whiteboard. All children get the opportunity to use them to enhance their learning and to develop their ICT skills.

Reading It is never too early to start reading and enjoying books with your child. Research has proved that sharing a book with a baby can accelerate his/her learning skills, and a child who has been given books from an early age will learn to read more quickly at school.

Books should be fun for children and for parents. Make reading a happy and enjoyable experience for you both, soon your child will come to associate books with rewarding and pleasurable times.

Tips for reading to your child

1. Choose a wide variety of material: stories, poems, nursery rhymes, traditional tales, instructions, invitations, information; choose topics/stories that are interesting to your child.
2. Make storytime comfortable and happy; ensure your child can see the book properly.
3. Before reading each page, allow your child time to look at the detail in the pictures; then encourage him/her to look at the print when you read.
4. Allow your child to handle the book, turning the pages as you share the book together.
5. Follow the words with your finger, showing the direction of print.
6. Allow lots of time for discussing what you read; ask questions about the text, such as "What do you think will happen next?" or "Why do you think he did that?"
7. Ask whether your child liked the story and why.

Please don't expect your child to be given a reading book straight away. Children need to have developed a number of pre-reading skills before they are ready to read. Children develop at different rates therefore some will be ready to read before others.

Preparing for the 'Big Day'

The child's first day at school is a day to remember for the rest of his/her life. You can help to make it a really happy one for him/her. Tell him/her about school beforehand, casually, and talk about it as a happy place where there will be a big welcome for him/her and he/she will meet new friends.

You should ensure that he/she is as independent as possible - physically, emotionally and socially. It would help greatly if he/she is able to:

- Button and unbutton his/her coat and hang it up.
- Use the toilet without help
- Also encourage personal hygiene and cleanliness. Your child should know to flush the toilet and wash hands, without having to be told.

- Use a handkerchief when necessary.
- Share toys and playthings with others and "take turns".
- Tidy up and put away playthings.

The Big Day

Coming in...

When you arrive at the classroom, be as casual as you can. He / she will meet the teacher, teaching assistant and the other children.

Hopefully he/she will be absorbed in the new surroundings. So having assured him/her that you will be back to collect him/her, wish him/her goodbye and make your getaway without delay.

Try not to be late when collecting your child, as this can cause distress. During the first three weeks of September children finish at 12.00 noon.

Starting school

Valuable pre-reading skills

1. Retelling – Remembering and saying what happens in a story.
2. Sequencing – Putting pictures and events in the right order.
3. Predicting – Saying what will or might happen next.
4. Picture Reading – Telling a story from pictures.
5. Matching – Spotting what's the same and also what's different.
6. Rhyme Awareness – Hearing that certain words rhyme.
7. Rhyme Memory – Remembering Nursery Rhymes, songs and simple rhyming stories.
8. Being able to read his/her own name and a few other words.
9. Knowing how books work – Front/Back, Top/Bottom, Left to Right directionality.

Writing

Writing skills develop slowly. Give your child lots of opportunities to practise the kind of arm movements needed for writing. All drawing, tracing and colouring activities help pencil control. Some children will want to experiment with the letters in their own name, surname etc., if so, please ensure that they only use a capital letter for the first letter in their name and that they form the letters correctly.

Maths

Help your child to recite the numbers from 1 to 10. Use counting songs and rhymes i.e. One potato, two potato. Practise counting real objects: help your child point to the objects at the same speed as saying the numbers. Only work with a number your child can manage. Make it part of everyday conversation, e.g. Count spoons on the table, stairs up to bed, apples in the fruit bowl etc.

Play

Children in P1/P2 start each school day with a session of play. This play will take place both inside and outside, in our outdoor play area or the garden so please ensure your child has a warm coat to school each day.

For adults “learning by doing” is often the best way to cultivate a skill; for young children, learning “hands on” through play is an essential ingredient in a feast of learning experiences.

Through play children have opportunities to develop their language, creativity, mathematical and scientific skills and concepts, physical and social skills. Play also fosters a positive attitude towards school!



Starting school

And finally...

- If there is any problem with your child at school, don't sit at home worrying about it, please make an appointment to see your child's teacher. We care about the welfare of your children and we are always available to talk about your child's problems.
- You will have an opportunity to discuss your child's progress during the school year. You will be notified of the day and time well in advance.
- Throughout the year information notes about various aspects of school are distributed; please check your child's bag for these notes, as children don't always deliver messages as intended.

A confident child is a happy child, and a happy child learns better than a worried one. Give your child as much praise as you can and help them to foster positive attitudes towards learning.

“Mol an óige,
agus tiocfaidh sí”



An páiste atá muinínach, bíonn sé sona, agus foghlaimíonn páiste sona níos fearr ná páiste buartha. Tabhair a oiread molta agus is féidir do do pháiste agus cuidigh leis/leí dearcadh dearfach i leith na foghlama a fhorbairt.

“Mol an óige,
agus tiocfaidh sí”

- Má tá aon fhadhb le do pháiste ar scoil, ná suigh sa bhaile agus tú buartha faoi; déan coime le múinteoir do pháiste a fheiceáil. Tá áird againn ar leas do pháiste agus bímid ar fáil i gcónaí le fadhbanna do pháiste a phlé. Beidh deis agat dul chun cinn do pháiste a phlé i rith na scoilbhliana. Tabharfar fogra maithe duit faoin lá agus am.
- I rith na bliana dálítear nótaí eolais faoi ghnéithe éagsúla de shaoil na scoile; seiceáil mála do pháiste faoina gcoime, nó in amanna ní thugann páistí teachtaireachtaí mar a bhítear ag súil leis.

Agus Ar Deireadh...

Ag Tosú ar Scoil

Scileanna luachmhara
réamhléitheoireachta

1. Athinsint - ag cuimhneamh ar an méid a tharláinn i scéal agus á athinsint
2. Seacheamhú - Pictiúir agus imeachtaí a

3. Tuar - A rá cad é an chéad rud eile a tharlóidh nó a d'fhéadfadh tarlú.
4. Léamh Pictiúr - Scéal a insint ó phictiúr.

5. Meaitseáil - A thabhairt faoi deara cad é atá mar an gcéanna nó difriúil.
6. Feasacht Ríme - A chluinstin go bhfuil rim idir fhocail áirithe.

7. Cuimhne ar Rannta - Cuimhneamh ar rannta do pháistí, ar amhráin agus ar scéalta ríme simplí.
8. Bheith ábalta a (h)ainm fein a léamh

9. Eolas ar an dóigh a n-oibríonn leabhair - agus cúpla focal eile.
- Tosach/Cúl, Barr/Bun, treo Clé go Deas.

Scríobh

Is go mall a fhorbairt scileanna scríofa. Tabhair neart deiseanna do do pháiste leis na gluaisreachtaí láimhe atá de dhíth don scríobh a chleachtadh. Cuidíonn

gach gníomhacht líníochta, rianaithe agus dataithe le smacht ar an pheann luaidhe. Beidh roinnt páistí ag iarraidh

triala a bhaint as na litreacha ina n-ainm nó sloinne fein, srl. Má bhíonn, déan cinnte nach n-úsáideann siad ceannlitir ach don chéad litir ina n-ainm agus go mbíonn an

cruth ceart ar na litreacha acu.

Matamaitic

Cuidigh le do pháiste na huimhreacha ó 1 go 10 a aithris. Úsáid amhráin agus rimeanna cuntais. Déan cleachtadh ag úsáid rudai fóra: cuidigh le do pháiste diríú ar na rudai ag an luas céanna ag a bhfuil siad ag rá na n-uimhreacha. Cloígh le huimhreacha a bhfuil do pháiste ábalta iad a láimhseáil. Déan cuid den ghnáthchomhrá as, m.sh. Cuntais na spúnóga atá ar an tábla, na céimeanna suas stairghre, na hulla sa bhabhla torthaí, srl.

Súgradh

Tosaíonn na páistí i R1/2 gach lá scoile le seisiún súgartha. Tarlóidh an súgradh seo taobh istigh agus taobh amuigh inár láthair shúgartha faoin aer nó sa ghairdín, mar sin cinnigh go mbeidh cóta te le do pháiste ar scoil gach lá.

Do dhaoine fása is minic gur 'foghlaim trí bheith ag déanamh' an bealach is fearr le scil a fhorbairt; i gcás páistí óga, is gné riachtanach i measc an iliomad eispéirís foghlama i an foghlaim 'tríd an teagmháil' tríd an súgradh.

Tríd an súgradh bíonn deiseanna ag na páistí lena dteanga, a gscruthaitheacht, a scileanna agus coinchéapa matamaitice agus eolíochna, agus a scileanna fisiciúla agus sóisialta a fhorbairt. Chomh math

leis sin cothlaíonn an súgradh dearcadh dearfach i leith na scoile!



Is là ar leith, nach ndéanfar dearmad go deo air, é an chéad lá ag do pháiste ar scoil. Thig leatas cuidiú leis an lá sin a dhéanamh iontach sona dó/di. Inis dó/di faoin scoil roimh ré, ar bhealach réchúiseach, agus labhair fúthi mar áit shona mar a mbeid fálte mhór roimhe/roimpe agus mar a mbuailfidh sé/sí le cairde nua.

Ba cheart duit a chinntiú go bhfuil sé/sí chomh neamhspleach agus is féidir - go físiúil, ó thaobh na mothúcháin agus go sóisialta. Ba mhór an cuidiú é dá mbeadh sé/sí ábalta:

- Cnaipí a (c)hóta a cheangal agus a scaoileadh agus an cóta a chrochadh suas.
- An leithreas a úsáid gan cuidiú
- Fosta spreag sláinteachas agus glanimeacht phearsanta. Ba cheart go mbeadh a fhios ag an pháiste gur cheart an leithreas a shruithiú agus na lámha a ní, gan é a bheith le fá leis.

Ag teach isteach...
Nuair a bhaineann tú an seomra ranga
armach, bí chomh réchúiseach agus a thig
leat. Buailfidh sé/sí leis an mhúinteoir, leis an
chúntóir teagaisc agus leis an páistí eile.
Ba cheart go mbeadh sé/sí gafa leis an
timpallacht úr. Mar sin, i ndiaidh a dheimhniú
dó/di go mbeidh tú ar ais lena b(h)ailín, fág
slán aige/aici agus imigh gan a thuilleadh.
molle.

ag amharc ar na leabhair mar rud fiúntach agus pleisiúrtha.

1. Roghnaigh réimse leathan ábhair: scéalta, dánta, rannata do pháistí, scéalta traidisiúnta, teoracha, cuirfí, eolas; roghnaigh topaic/scéalta a bhfuil spéis ag do pháistí iontu.
 2. Déan cinnte go mbíonn am scéalaíochta comordach agus sona, agus go bhfeiceann do pháiste an leabhar i gceart.
 3. Sula léan tú gach leathanach, tabhair am do do pháiste le hamharc ar mhionsonraí na bpicitúr; ansin spreag é/í le hamharc ar an chló agus tú ag léamh.
 4. Lig do do pháiste an leabhar a láimhséail, ag tiontú na leathanach agus sibh ag roinnt an leabhair le chéile.
 5. Lean na focail le do mhéar, ag taispeáint threo an chló.
 6. Tabhair neart ama le plé a dhéanamh ar an méid a léigh tú; cuir ceisteanna faoin téacs, mar shampla “Cad é a shléann tú a tharlóidh anois?” nó “Cad chuirge, dar leat, a ndearna sé é sin?”
 7. Cuir ceist ar tháitin an scéal le do pháiste agus cad chuirge.
- Ná srl go dtabharfar leabhar léitheoireachta do do pháiste laithreach bionn. Catfídh roinnt scileanna réamhleitheoireachta a bheith forbartha ag na páistí sula mbíonn siad réidh le léamh. Forbairt páistí ar luasmanna difriúla, mar sin beidh acu leighidh le léamh roimh pháistí eile.

Labhairt Labhair le do pháiste a oiread agus is féidir agus eist lena bhfuil le rá aige/aici. Dá mhéad a labhairrann tú le do pháiste is ea is mó a bheas sé/sí ag smaoinneamh ar chúrsaí. Is iad an labhairt agus an eisteacht bonnchloch na n-ábhairt agus dhéanamh na n-ábhairt.

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pháiste sa dóigh go dtig leat labhairt faoi na clár. Is eispéreas i gcomhar é clár a chomhghéad i gcuideachta a chéile.

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clár ban idirghníomhach i ngach seomra
ranga i Rang 1. Faighneann gach páiste deis
iad a úsáid le cur lena gcuid foghlama
agus lena scileanna Teicneolaíocht
Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide a fhorbairt.

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le tosu ag léamh agus ag baint suilt as leabhair le do pháistín. Tá se cruthaithe ag tairgde go gcuidir leabhair a roinnt le babal lena scileanna foghlama, agus an páiste ar tugadh leabhair dó ag aois óg foghlaimoidh sé le léamh níos gáiste ar scoil.

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do na páistí - agus do na tuismitheoirí.
Déan cinnte gur eispéireas sona agus
táitneamhach í an léitheoireacht agaih
araon, agus is gearr go mbéidh do pháiste

agus pleisūrtha.

Ag Tosú ar Scoil

Éide Scoile

Caitheann na daltaí uilig an éide scoile chéanna i scoil s'gairinne. Tá na baill éadaigh uilig ar fáil le suaitheantas na scoile i nGaeilge nó i mBéarla.



Is féidir ár n-éide scoile a fháil ó: Select Kidz i Machaire Fiolta nó J&M Clothing Ltd, an Suaitreach. scoile le suaitheantas na scoile le fáil.

CAITHEANN NA BUACHAILLÍ -
LEINE PHOLÓ BHÁNGHORM LE
SUAITHEANTAS NA SCOILE
LEINE ALLAIS MHARÚN
BRÍSTÍ DÚGHORMA
CAITHEANN NA CAILÍNÍ -
LEINE PHOLÓ BHÁNGHORM LE
SUAITHEANTAS NA SCOILE
LEINE ALLAIS MHARÚN
SCIORTA/PILIRÍN/BRÍSTÍ MARÚN

Beidh t-leine, brístí gairide agus péire bróga reatha dubha de dhíth ar na páistí dá ranganna rialta corpoideachais. Cuidíonn sé má tá na páistí ábalta a sealus féin a aithint. Cuir ainm do pháiste ar an chóta, leine allais, leine phóló, mála scoile, srl.

Bailítear an t-airgead dinnéir maidin Dé Luain, ach is féidir foc as dinnéir ar bhonn laethúil fosta más fearr leat. Cosnaim dinnéar scoile £2.60 sa lá.

Tá bainne ar fáil fosta do pháistí ó Rang 1 go Rang 7. Íoctar an t-airgead seo roimh ré gach téarma. Bionn am sneaice ag páistí i Rang 1 gach maidin agus cuirtear sneaic fholláin e.g. torthaí, tósta srl. ar fáil ar chostas £1.50 sa tseachtain.

Ba cheart aon airgead a sheoladh ar scoil i gclúdach ar a bhfuil ainm do pháiste, cad dó a bhfuil an t-airgead agus an tsuim airgid.

Airgead

An Lá Scoile

Glactar leis go mbainfidh na daltaí an scoil amach cúpla bomaite ar a laghad sula dtsaíonn na ranganna.

I rith an lae caithfidh na daltaí fanacht taobh istigh de thailte na scoile. De ghnáth t-am roimh ranganna, sos na maidine agus t-am lóin le dul chuig an leithreas.

8.45 A.M. OSCLAÍONN AN SCOIL
9.00 A.M. TOSAÍONN AN SCOIL
DO GACH DALTA
10.30-10.45 A.M. SOS NA MAIDINE
12.15 – 12.55 P.M. AM LÓIN
2.00 P.M. AM BAILE NÓ CLUB SPRAOI
DO RANG 1/2
3.00 P.M. CRÍOCHNAÍONN AN SCOIL

Am Sosa agus Am Lóin

Tá Polasaí Sosa Folláin ag an scoil. Ag am lóin, thig le do pháiste:

- Lón pacáilte a thabhairt isteach
- Dinnéar scoile, a dhéantar ar an láthair inár gcistin béilí scoile, a ithe

Iarrtar ar gach teaghlach síntiús bliantúil £30 a thabhairt do Chiste na Scoile. Bheimis buíoch dá mbeadh na síntiúis ar fad foctha faoi dheireadh Mheán Fómhair. Is cuidiú as cuimse é an ciste seo le háiseanna a cheannach do na daltaí.

Ciste na Scoile



Ag Tosú ar Scoil

A Thuismitheoir, a chara,

Is am corraitheach ag an pháiste agus ag na tuismitheoirí araon é tosú ar scoil. Is iad na chéad bhlianta na blianta is tábhachtaí i saol an pháiste agus tá súil againne i mBunscoil Naomh Bríd tógáil ar eispéiris réamhscoile gach páiste. Aithnímid gurb iad na tuismitheoirí na chéad mhúinteoirí a bhíonn ag ár ndalltaí agus gur féidir, le cuidiú agus tacaíocht s'agaibhse, a chinntiú go mbeidh an páiste sona sásta ag aistriú ó thimpeallacht an bhaile chuig atmaisféar níos foirmeálta na scoile.

Sa scoil déanfaimid ár ndícheall lena chinntiú go mbeidh bhur bpáiste/bpáistí agus sibh féin ar bhur suaimeanas ag dul trí thréimhse seo an aistrithe. Nà bíodh aon mhoill oraibh teagmháil a dhéanamh liom má bhíonn aon imní oraibh nó má bhíonn tuilleadh eolais de dhíth oraibh.

Is mise le meas,

Patricia McMaster

Mrs Patricia McMaster, B.Ed., D.A.S.E.
Príomhoide

Ríomhphost: pmcmaster839@c2kni.net

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Foireann na scoile



Príomhoide
Mrs Patricia McMaster

Múinteoirí

Mrs L Convery *P1/2*

Mrs C O'Loughlin *R1 (Comhordaitheoir an Aonaid Lán-Ghaeilge)*

Mrs Clara Mac Giolla Fhiondáin
Comhordaitheoir Sainriachtanais Oideachais

Cúntóirí Teagaisc

Mrs C Doherty
Cúntóir Ranga P4/P2 Maoirseoir Lóin
M Whic Clonnaith
Cúntóir Ranga R1 Maoirseoir Lóin

Foireann Neamhtheagaisc

Mr Philip Brooks

Maoirseoir Foirgnimh / Glantóir

Foireann Chistin Bhéilí Na Scoile

Mrs Colette Johnstone

Mrs Ann Gallagher



Ag Tosú ar Scoil

Bunscoil Naomh Bríd, Tír Chiana