



Scoil Bhríde, Loreto National School

Scartlea, Muckross, Killarney, Co Kerry.

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Family Note #1

October 2024

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Dear parents,

The weeks are progressing so quickly, it is hard to believe that we are approaching the Halloween break again with over 6 weeks already completed in school.

Welcome; We extend a very warm welcome to our 20 new pupils who have joined the school this September. We wish them all the very best and they begin their journey with us here in Scoil Bhríde, Loreto National School.

Bluebells; We welcome all the new preschoolers and a very warm welcome back to Rosemary, Alison, Valerie, Conor and Siobhán. Bluebells are running a before and afterschool service. For more information, please email info@bluebellskillarney.ie

Parking and road safety; Drop off and collection times are extremely busy times at our school. We ask that you park safely and respect our neighbours while doing so. Please continue to drive carefully in the area and remind your children not to leave the school grounds until they see you. Your continued patience and co-operation at these busy times is greatly appreciated.

Teaching Practice; We welcome past pupil, Treasa O'Sullivan as she completes her final year teaching practice in both 6th class and Infants. We wish her the very best during her time here in Loreto National School.

Transition year experience; We also welcome Carla Catarineu Gil, a Spanish student who will be completing her experience with us here in the school every Thursday for the next few months.

Say yes to languages; We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Miriam Long to our school to teach French to 5th and 6th classes. This programme has been an excellent addition to our school over the past number of years and we are delighted to be able to offer French this year.

First Holy Communion 2025; We look forward to celebrating First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 24th at 10.30am in Muckross Church.

Confirmation; We also look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Mary's Cathedral on Friday March 7th 2025 at 11am.

Parent Teacher meetings; These face to face meeting will be held in the school on the evenings of Wednesday 20th November and Wednesday 27th November. Booking for these meetings will open on Aladdin after the Halloween break and you will be notified of this. All class teachers and support teachers will be available to meet on these evenings. If these times or dates do not suit, please contact the class teacher to organise a new time/date.

Uniforms; We ask that all pupils wear their uniforms and school tracksuits on the appropriate days. Junior infants, Senior Infants, 1st class and 2nd class have P.E on Wednesdays and Fridays. 3rd class, 4th class, 5th class and 6th class

have P.E on Mondays and Thursdays. We are asking pupils to bring jackets to school and not to wear shorts as the weather is becoming cooler.

Healthy eating; As we are a healthy eating school, we ask that all parents provide their children with a healthy snack for their first break. A small treat is allowed on a Friday. Our healthy eating policy is available to view on our website. We are also a **nut free and fish free** school as we have pupils who have severe allergies to both. We ask that you please adhere to this policy.

Hot Lunches; The Lunch Bag provide the school with hot lunches and this seems to be a huge success throughout the school. If, for any reason, you do not wish your child to avail of these lunches, please notify the school. Also, if you are aware of an upcoming absence from school, please cancel your order on the app to avoid waste.

Cancellations must be made 48 hours in advance.

School Closure; Please note that the school will be closed on **Thursday, December 5th** to facilitate staff training on the new Primary Maths Curriculum.

Contact; If you wish to discuss a matter, please contact the class teacher through SEESAW or by phoning the office.

Absences; We are obliged to record all absences and reasons for same. You can record your child's absences on the Aladdin app. Please note that under the Education Act 2000, all schools are also legally obliged to report any absences totalling more than 20 days on one school year regardless of reason.

Enrolment 2025; Applications for our Junior Infant class 2025 will open shortly. Application forms will be available to download from our website or directly from the office

Halloween Dress up; All pupils may dress up on Friday, 25th October if they wish. All donations welcome in aid of CHI hospitals at Crumlin, Temple Street and Connolly.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal; We are delighted to be taking part in the Hope Foundation Christmas Shoe Box appeal. Information will be forwarded via Aladdin. Please note that Friday 8th November is the last date for receipt of shoe boxes

Regards,

Brian O'Sullivan