

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are glad to be approaching the end of January which has seen increased Covid infection in our school. We are thankful for the support of our parent body during this period and we ask that parents remain vigilant for Covid-19 symptoms until this phase of infection diminishes in our school community.

Catholic Schools Week: This week in school we are celebrating Catholic Schools Week and traditionally we would invite our many wonderful grandparents to school to celebrate Grandparents' Day together. As this is currently not feasible this week children will be creating individual pieces of work in their classrooms to present to their grandparents (in their own time). In a sense of 'coming together to celebrate' we as a school from 2nd – 5th class will be tuning in virtually to Mass with Fr Mc Eneaney on Wednesday morning @ 9:30am to celebrate Grandparents' Day. 6th class will represent the school by attending mass and we ask as many of you as possible to join in person or via the following link <https://www.churchservices.tv/ballybay>

Covid-19: As many of you will be aware, Taoiseach Micheál Martin confirmed the lifting of nearly all Covid-19 restrictions at the weekend. The Department of Education has communicated that following the government announcement, schools will continue to operate with their COVID-19 plans, with all current protective measures in place, until 28 February 2022.

Student Newsletter: We are happy to announce the return of our student newsletter which will be created monthly on rotation between 5th and 6th class for the remainder of this school year. 6th class began by producing our **JANUARY NEWS**. I commend them on their hard work and I hope you and your family will enjoy reading their first publication. Our Student Newsletter is available at the following link: <http://www.scoileanna.ie/january-student-newsletter-2/>

Enrolment 2022-23: for junior infants opens on 1st February and will run until the end of the month. Our enrolment application form can be found on the school website www.scoileanna.ie along with information for new parents under the tab **Admissions**. Alternatively, you can contact Gráinne in the office via telephone or email if you wish to arrange to collect an application form from the office. If you know of anyone wishing to enrol a child in the new school year we ask you kindly to pass on this information.

Wellbeing Week: will be held in school from Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd February. We are currently working with the SÉ student council to organise fun and enjoyable events for all. Further details to follow.

Important Dates: I want to bring your attention to a few important dates which have been confirmed for the coming weeks and months.

Sunday 20th February Enrolment & Pledge Ceremony for 6th class in St Patrick's Church @ 12:15pm

Thursday 24th – Friday 25th February (inclusive) Mid-Term Break

Tuesday 8th March Sacrament of Reconciliation for 2nd class in St Patrick's Church (time TBC)

Thursday 17th + Friday 18th March Closure for St Patrick's Day and Bank Holiday

Sunday 27th March Confirmation in St. Patrick's Church @ 3pm

Monday 11th – Friday 22nd April (inclusive) Easter Break

Saturday 28th May First Holy Communion in St Patrick's Church @ 11am