



# BCNS NEWS

October 2022

End of Term 1

Dear Parents,

This term, we celebrated our 4th birthday and the start of our 5th year at Brannoxtown CNS! Our school population has grown from just five children on Day 1 to over 80 children today and we look forward to appointing our 4th mainstream teacher, later this year.

Here we share some information for parents about current and planned initiatives and important diary dates (on this page and on the back page). The centre two pages are devoted to children and celebrating their learning adventures at BCNS!

We are so proud of our children. Every day they inspire (and challenge!) us to grow and flourish... together. On behalf of our staff - Deirdre, Lyndsey, Peadar, Suzanne and Liz, I wish you a very happy mid-term holiday. We look forward to welcoming all families back to school on Monday, 7th of November.

Until then, from us all ... Happy Halloween!

Sarah

## Meetings with Parents

### Student Support Meetings - November

Toward the end of November, meetings will be scheduled with parents of children receiving support from the Special Education Teacher (SET), Múinteoir Peadar. Parents will receive scheduling options during the first week back after mid-term.

### Parent Teacher Meetings - February

Parent Teacher Meetings for all children will take place mid-year, from January 31st until the February mid-term break. Parents will receive scheduling options in the first week back after the winter break.

## New Parent Group

The first meeting of the Parent Group is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 9th, at 7:30pm**. Parents are invited for tea/coffee from 7:15pm. It's a hybrid (online & onsite) meeting. [Thank you for responding to the short online survey](#) to say if you may be interested to take-on a lead/team role. Meeting details (including the link to join the meeting online) will be sent to any parents who expressed an interest.



## Half-Day for Staff Meeting



School will close for a half day on **Monday, 14th November** to facilitate staff meeting and CPD (Continuing Professional Development). Junior Room students and siblings will finish school at 11:50am and all other students will finish at 12noon. The Naas/BCNS school bus will collect children at 12 noon!



### Mobile Library

- November 8th & 29th
- January 10th & 31st
- February 7th & 28th

## November & December Drama! Drama! Drama!

We are thrilled to welcome **Mauricio Quevedo, Drama Teacher, and professional Actor and Director** back to our school for Drama workshops with all children after mid-term. **Mauricio will work with children (process drama) on Mondays and Tuesdays for the second half term, i.e., in November and December.**







**Week 1 ...** was wonderful! Well done everyone on a super-duper start to the new school year. Special welcome to our new students and families. We're looking forward to a great year together!

**Week 2:** We've been busy exploring... Free Play, My Family, Theraputty, Energy, Soccer Coaching, DIY Videos... and lots more!



**Week 5:** Huge thanks from all children, 2nd-6th for a magical day out at Giltown Stud! Also in Week 5, we enjoyed Mé Féin, Data, balance in gymnastics, human body poses, Autumn, sky colour paintings, Monster Surprises and KWL Charts!



**Week 6:** Mile buíochas/ A thousand thanks to our Mums, Dads, Grans and Grandads who visited to celebrate Family Day! Well done to children and families on all your preparations. It was a wonderful celebration of family life, in all its stages.





**Week 3:** Another busy week with lots of activities including Dot day, fine motor skills, kindness, puppets, respect, soccer coaching, a new PE Hut charter and DIY number systems.



**Week 7:** This week we had great fun with whole body handwriting, gallery walks, syllable division, gymnastics, marble mazes, 2-D shapes, paper quilling, writing workshop on iPad Notes and human Maths sentences!



**Week 4:** Check out some of our activities and topics including Architecture, Autumn art, dinosaur chase, dream homes, mobile library, paper sculptures, reading outdoors, report writing, respect dramas and Tiki heads.



**Week 8:** A great week of fun-filled learning filled with autumn walks, blackberry painting, futsal, weather research, respect videos, doodle bots and pumpkin carving!





## Board of Management

The first meeting of the Board of Management this school year was held on Thursday, 20th October. Four more meetings of the Board are scheduled on **December 1st, February 16th, April 27th & June 8th**. Our 8-member board includes two parent nominees (Mitzie Day and Eugene O' Brien), two community nominees, two patron (KWETB) nominees, one teacher nominee and the Principal. [You'll find an Agreed Report \(summary\) of each meeting here on our school website.](#)

## School Policies

Four updated/new policies are published on the school website, [available here](#). The first two of these are considered 'essential' policies for every school:

- **Child Protection:** Child Safety Statement and Risk Assessment
- **Anti-Bullying** Policy
- **Communications with Parents** Policy
- **Class Size and Class Progression** Policy.

[Parents' feedback on school policies is always welcome using this feedback survey link on the policy webpage.](#)

## November & December Healthy Eating

Across the school, staff and students practise healthy eating daily as part of a broader wellbeing focus. Thank you to all families for continuing to promote healthy bodies and healthy minds through healthy and nutritious school lunches. Teachers will provide opportunities for all children to think and talk about food, nutrition and healthy eating for the second half-term.

## School Calendar - February Break

An earlier version of the school calendar included incorrect dates for the February break. The **2023 February mid-term is from Monday 13th to Friday 17th**, inclusive. [Parents will find the updated calendar here on our school homepage.](#)

## November & December Positive Behaviour!

After mid-term, our whole-school focus is on positive behaviour. All teachers will work with children to be their best selves, i.e., to develop positive behaviours for themselves, their relationships with others and their interactions with the world around them.

Senior Room children will explore the potential of multimedia (e.g., recorded podcasts) to share key messages about positive behaviour from the school's **Positive Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy**. These multimedia projects for children, parents and teachers will focus on appropriate and safe behaviours including the use of technology and online media.

## Thank you, Provincial!

Our sincere thanks to **Provincial** for their very generous gifts to the school, this year. These included **IT equipment and resources for maths and language**. Our iPads and learning resources are used daily, across classes; these are gifts that keep on giving - opening windows and doors to new learning adventures, for us all!

## Míle buíochas, Provincial!

## Winter & Spring Events

- This **December**, teachers will share **videos** from each classroom for the winter celebration.
- After February mid-term, parents will receive an invitation to our **Spring Event/Performance!**