



# NEWSLETTER

## Brannoxtown CNS

30th of September, 2024

**Dear Parents and Guardians,**

*It is hard to believe we have already arrived at the end of September and what a wonderful month we have had! A huge welcome to our new Junior Infants who have settled in seamlessly to life at Brannoxtown CNS. We also welcome all pupils who have joined us across our school and to our returning BCNS pupils, it was been great to catch up with you all! Each and every one of you has made a positive start to the year and embody the BCNS values of respect, teamwork, ambition and effort!*

### Our Classrooms

#### The BCNS Team

This year we welcome two new faces to the BCNS team!

Kate Lyons joins Múinteoir Síle as SET teacher in the school.

Fiona O'Driscoll also joins the SET team in a part-time capacity every Thursday and Friday.

#### Our Classrooms:

Current enrolment is 82 pupils across 4 mainstream classrooms. At Brannoxtown CNS, we pride ourselves on the fact that we guarantee small class sizes so that our teachers can provide the care, support and high quality teaching and learning experiences that allow every BCNS pupil to thrive.

#### Class Teachers:

**Junior Room:** Múinteoir Eoin

**1st & 2nd Class:** Múinteoir Eimear

**3rd 4th Class:** Múinteoir Lyndsey

**5th & 6th Class:** Múinteoir Deirdre

**SET:** Múinteoir Kate, Múinteoir Síle, Múinteoir Fiona

**SNA:** Suzanne Dowling

**Secretary:** Liz Kavanagh

**School Services:** Sinéad Leydon

### Swimming Update

Below are the update swimming days for our 2nd – 6th Class pupils. If you have not yet signed the permission slip on Aladdin, please do so.

**Thursday** 1st of May @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 6th of May @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 13th of May @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 20th of May @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 27th of May @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 10th of June @ 10:40

**Tuesday** 17th June of June @ 10:40

*Further details will follow closer to the time*

### Homework

Homework begins once again for our 1st – 6th Classes. Homework will start after the mid-term break for our Junior Room. At Brannoxtown CNS, we value quality over quantity. Pupils can expect a small amount of Maths, reading and sometimes Gaeilge.

#### Daily Reading:

Please encourage your child to read at home for at least 10 – 15 minutes each day. It helps build their reading skills and fosters a love for books.

# Important Reminders



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Office Hours

Liz Kavanagh, School Secretary, will be in the School Office and available for parents every Tuesday, from 10am to 3pm.

### Parking

The school set-down area can be used at drop-off and collection time. We ask that parents do not use the Church car park at any time.



## PARENT-SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

### Aladdin Schools

We encourage all families to make sure that they can access Aladdin Schools using either App or web access. All school communications will be sent via Aladdin. Using Aladdin Schools, families can:

- contact your child(ren)'s class teacher.
- contact the office
- sign permission slips
- log attendance notes.
- E-Payments: we have just received confirmation that e-payments will be ready by the end of October if not sooner!



## SCHOOL FEES

School fees contribute to the provision of valuable additional educational opportunities for children such as:

- Specialist coaching
- Class trips
- Arts initiatives & supplies
- Gardening equipment
- Supplementing tours and trips/welcoming visitors.

The BCNS 2024/25 are:

**€75 for one child**

**€140 for two children**

**€200 for three or more children**

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### Healthy Eating Policy

As we review our Healthy Eating Policy, we wish to remind families that Brannoxtown CNS is a Healthy School. Instead of assigning a 'treat day', we focus on healthy eating throughout the week, aiming for a balanced diet and avoiding sugar-high and over-processed foods. Our school is a nut-free zone for all classes.

### Green School: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Brannoxtown CNS is a Green School. This year, we are asking children to bring food packaging and wrappers home in their lunchbox. In the next few weeks, all children will discuss and agree further actions to reduce, reuse and recycle.



# Our BCNS Community



## JOIN THE BCNS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Are you a parent passionate about making a difference in our school community? The Parents' Association is looking for dedicated volunteers to join us! By volunteering, you'll:

- Have a Voice: help shape school events, policies, and activities.
- Connect: build strong relationships with other parents, teachers, and staff.
- Make an Impact: support our students' growth and create positive change in our school.

Whether you can give a little time or a lot, your involvement will make a big difference!

Interested? Contact us via email

[bcnsparentgroup@gmail.com](mailto:bcnsparentgroup@gmail.com) to learn more and get started. Together, we can create a brighter future for our children!

## PARENT ASSOCIATION EVENTS!

### Bag 2 School

Thanks to the contributions of old clothing, shoes and soft toys, the BCNS PA raised €116.40.

### Crazy Hair Day

This Friday, the 4th of October, the Parents' Association invites BCNS pupils to wear a crazy hair style into school!

### Where do PA funds go?

All funds collected by the BCNS PA are spent with your children in mind, be it resources for the classroom, a trip from the ice-cream van or even partial funding of school activities. Members of the PA have a great opportunity to connect with the school leadership team to have their say on the experiences that they would love to see their children have at school.

## THANK YOU!

At Brannoxtown CNS, we wish to express our immense gratitude for the work that was carried out in our school over the summer.

Firstly, we thank parents, Joe and Lyndsey McGivern, who gifted the school a two-day deep-clean of our school buildings and grounds, courtesy of **MCR Group**. Needless to say, our school was sparkling and in tip-top shape for the return of our pupils.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to parents & extended family members, Susan Fitzgerald, Ian Hallissey, Ken Hallissey, Julia Carroll, Brian Young and Aoife Brennan who did trojan work on the school grounds in late August. We are blown away by the spirit of community that we have here at Brannoxtown CNS.



**Crazy Hair Day**

**@BCNS**  
**Friday 4th October**  
€2 per child (larger donations also gratefully accepted)  
Payments can be sent to the BCNS PA revolut account or in cash to one of our PA collectors on the morning

**Prizes for the wackiest hair do in EACH CLASS and an ENTIRE SCHOOL Homework Pass up for grabs!!**





# IMPORTANT DATES

at Brannoxton CNS!

OCT

**4**

ALL DAY  
CRAZY HAIR DAY!

OCT

**18**

SCHOOL CLOSED  
*Primary Maths  
Training Day for Staff*

OCT

**25**

ALL DAY  
*Hallowe'en Dress Up  
Day*

**25TH OF OCT - 3RD OF NOV**

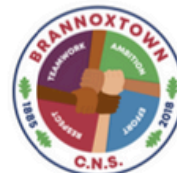
MIDTERM BREAK

*School closes at 14:30 on Friday the 25th of October  
School reopens at 08:40 on Monday the 4th of November.*

**20TH & 21ST OF NOV**

PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS

*School day ends at 14:15 on both days to facilitate PT Meetings  
Invitations to attend will be shared on Aladdin closer to the date*



## Brannoxtown Community National School (CNS) School Calendar 2024/2025

### School Day:

<b>Drop-off:</b>	8:40am – 8:50am	
<b>School begins:</b>	8:50am	
<b>Breaks:</b>	Snack begins at 10:30am.	Lunch begins at 12:15pm.
<b>School ends:</b>	1:30pm: Junior & Senior Infants	2:30pm: First to Sixth Class

### Junior Infant phased enrolment:

Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> August (2 days):	9:30 - 11:00 (Bring snack only)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> of August (2 days):	8:50 to 11:00 (Bring snack only)
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> of September (1 week):	8:50 to 12:00 (Bring snack & lunch)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September onwards, normal schedule:	8:50 to 1:30 (Bring snack & lunch)

1

Calendar Event	School Closure Dates (Inclusive)
School begins	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> of August: Junior Infants only (9:30-11:00) Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> of August: All students (08:50 – 14:30)
October Mid-Term Break <b>One week closure</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> of October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> of November (inclusive)
Winter/Christmas Break <b>Two-week closure</b>	School closes on Friday the 20 <sup>th</sup> of December at 12 noon <b>(1/2 day)</b> School reopens on Monday the 6 <sup>th</sup> of January
St. Brigid's Day <b>One day closure</b>	School closes on Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> of February
February Mid-Term Break <b>Two-day closure</b>	School closes on Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> of February (inclusive)
St. Patrick's Day <b>Two-day closure</b>	School closes on Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> of March (inclusive)
Spring/Easter Break <b>Two-week closure</b>	School closes on Friday the 11 <sup>th</sup> of April at 12 noon <b>(1/2 day)</b> School reopens on Monday the 28 <sup>th</sup> of April.
May Bank Holiday <b>One-day closure</b>	School closes on Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> of May.
June Bank Holiday <b>One-day closure</b>	School closes on Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Summer Holiday	School closes on Friday the 20 <sup>th</sup> of June at 12 noon <b>(1/2 day)</b>

### Additional Days, Brannoxtown CNS:

*\*Families will receive advanced notification of any additional closures or half-days that may arise to facilitate election events, DES directed closures to engage with CPD, or half-in half-out staff planning.*

*\*Department of Education training day for the New Primary Maths Curriculum, Brannoxtown CNS will close on Friday the 18th of October*

