

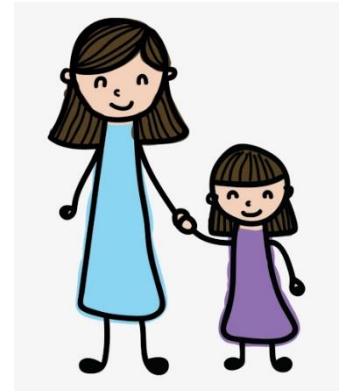
# **Welcome to St. Brendan's National School.**



Welcome to our new Junior Infants and their  
parents.

# Welcome!

- This is an exciting time for you and your child.
- The purpose of this slide show is to inform you of what to expect when your child starts school.
- It will outline the daily school routine, books/uniforms/homework etc. and how best to prepare your child from now until September.



# Our school

- 7 mainstream classes and 2 ASD classes (An Cuan)
- 13 teachers and 9 Special Needs Assistants
- Purpose built ASD Unit An Cuan
- Principal: **Marie Hurley**
- Deputy Principal: **Carmel Kenny**
- School Secretary: **Fina Golden** (office hours 8.30 am-1.30pm except Thursdays)
- **Currently recruiting for 6 new teachers!**



# The School Day

- School re-opens on Thursday August 31st
- Infant day starts at 9.20am and finishes at 2.00pm (3pm from 1<sup>st</sup> class-6<sup>th</sup> class)
- First week until 7<sup>th</sup> September infants go home at 12.30 pm
- Small break/sos 10.50am – 11.10am
- Big Break/Lón 12. 40 pm – 1.00pm
- Our school calendar is available on the school website
- **Local Aftercare Services are available in Cartron-Hopes and Dreams**

# A Typical Junior Infant Day

## Morning

- **Aistear:** Structured Play for 30-40 minutes per day.
- **Nursery Rhymes/Poems/Songs :** Support Language development
- **Phonics:** learning to read and write using letter sounds and names
- **Small Break/Sós: 11.00am -11:10am**
- **Storytime:** Based on the months themes and subject topics
- **Maths:** Following the ready set go Curriculum
- **Gaeilge:** Learning Irish through songs, games and interactive activities
- **Lón 12:30pm -1:00pm**

## Afternoon

- **Music/Art/Drama-** once a week and activities takes place during Aistear
- **S.E.S.E:** Science, Geography and History practical activities takes place during Aistear.
- **SPHE:** Health and Safety , personal safety, etc
- **PE:** two days per week for 30/40 minutes
- **Religion:** Grow in love programme
- **Goodbye Songs/Prayers**
- **Home Time:** 2:00pm

Note: Children are collected at the infant door



**Literacy**



# The Arctic



**Art**



**Science**



**Numeracy**



**Role play**



# Homework

- Homework will revise what your child has learned that day in school. This year homework will be communicated to parents through a dedicated Junior Infants Class App. (further details in September)

## **Your child's homework folder**

- **Literacy:** Reader, reading record, library book and tricky words.
- **Maths** written number formations and practical number line work.
- **Grow in Love** religion book.

**\*\*\*Homework should not take any longer than 15-20 minutes\*\*\***

# School Uniform

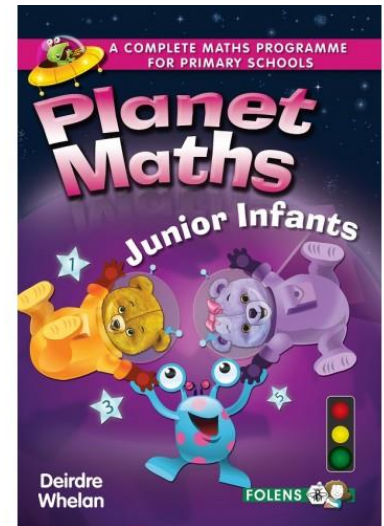
- School uniform is a crested navy sweatshirt, monogrammed navy sweatpants and a white polo t-shirt.
- Tracksuit can be purchased in KOOL KIDZ, Wine St.
- **Runners with Velcro straps** are recommended for children starting school if your child cannot yet tie their laces.





# Books and belongings

- All books and supplies will be purchased by the school as part of the Free Book Scheme
- All your child needs is a lunch box and uniform!
- Please clearly label lunch boxes, uniform jumpers, coats, scarves and gloves with permanent marker.
- Each child will be given a homework folder, which will go home on Monday and must be returned on Friday with the homework for the week completed.



# School Meals Scheme

- A hot lunch is provided free each day by our supplier Fresh Today.
- Each child is given a menu and their own unique code.
- You can access the menu on the internet from home and change your child's lunch order as often as is required. There will also be an app for this.
- You can also text the word change and they will call you to make the changes.
- Your child's hot lunch arrives in their classroom at lunchtime everyday.
- We have water stations in every classroom and each child receives a water bottle. Children are not permitted to drink juice during the day.



## ALLERGEN KEY

<b>G</b> W	Glute wheat	<b>N</b>	Nuts	<b>P</b>	Peanuts	<b>ML</b>	Milk	<b>NA</b>	Not applicable
<b>D</b>	Durum	<b>E</b>	Eggs	<b>F</b>	Fish	<b>M</b>	Mustard		
<b>B</b>	Barley	<b>SP</b>	Sulphates	<b>SS</b>	Seseme Seeds	<b>S</b>	Soya		
<b>O</b>	Oats								
<b>R</b>	Rye								

# Break-Time Snack

- Breaktime snacks should be healthy, easy and quick to eat and something that your child enjoys. Children are encouraged to bring food packaging/waste home.
- Children should bring a resealable lunch box which they can open and close independently.
- We have a Healthy School Eating Policy. Popcorn, fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate, biscuits etc. are **not allowed**.  
**You can send a small treat on Friday.**
- We encourage children to drink **water** only in school. This water is available free as part of the school meals scheme.
- We are a **NUT FREE** School. Nuts or products containing nuts are **not allowed**. Please check packaging before sending into school. This is to protect a number of pupils with **SERIOUS LIFE THREATNING NUT ALLERGIES**
- We have several playgrounds. The playground is supervised at all times by a teacher and special needs assistants. Incidents on the yard will be reported to parents and recorded.



# If your child is absent or late

- The Rolla is taken every morning at 9.50am.
- Please notify the school if your child is going to be late or absent for the day. You can do this through the Pupil Absence Notification Form on the school website.
- Following your child's return to school after an absence please inform the class teacher of the reason for absence or update the absence notification form.
- <https://stbrendanscartron.com/surveys/survey-14/>
- The late book at the door must be signed if a child arrives after 9.30 or is collected early from school.



**Please let the class teacher know in the morning if someone different is collecting your child.**

**If it's a last minute change, please call Fina in the office.**

# Getting ready for school

When starting school children need to be able to:

- express their needs appropriately
- use the toilet independently and wash and dry hands
- blow their nose with a tissue
- sit up at a table and eat a packed lunch properly
- dress and undress themselves
- sit quietly to listen to a story or a piece of music
- wait patiently, share and take turns
- tidy up things they have used
- say goodbye with a smile !!!!!!!



# How to prepare your child

- Practise opening and closing lunchbox and bottles peeling fruit, opening packets, yogurts etc.)
- Show your child how to put on/take off their coat (buttons/zip) and tie shoelaces.
- Teach your child to recognise their own name.
- Read – make it a special time between you. The benefits of a story at bedtime are endless.
- Chat – talk to them, answer questions, reassure them, tell them about school/teachers.
- General skills – cutting, sticking, colouring, holding a pencil, painting, gluing, pegs, márla, counting, pouring, setting the table etc.
- Gross Motor Skills-Hop, Skip. Balance, Run and Jump, Throw, Catch and Kick a Ball, go to the playground.
- Friendships – encourage them to play with other children, take turns, share, play boardgames, I Spy, Card Games, etc. Encourage them to talk to an adult if there is a problem.

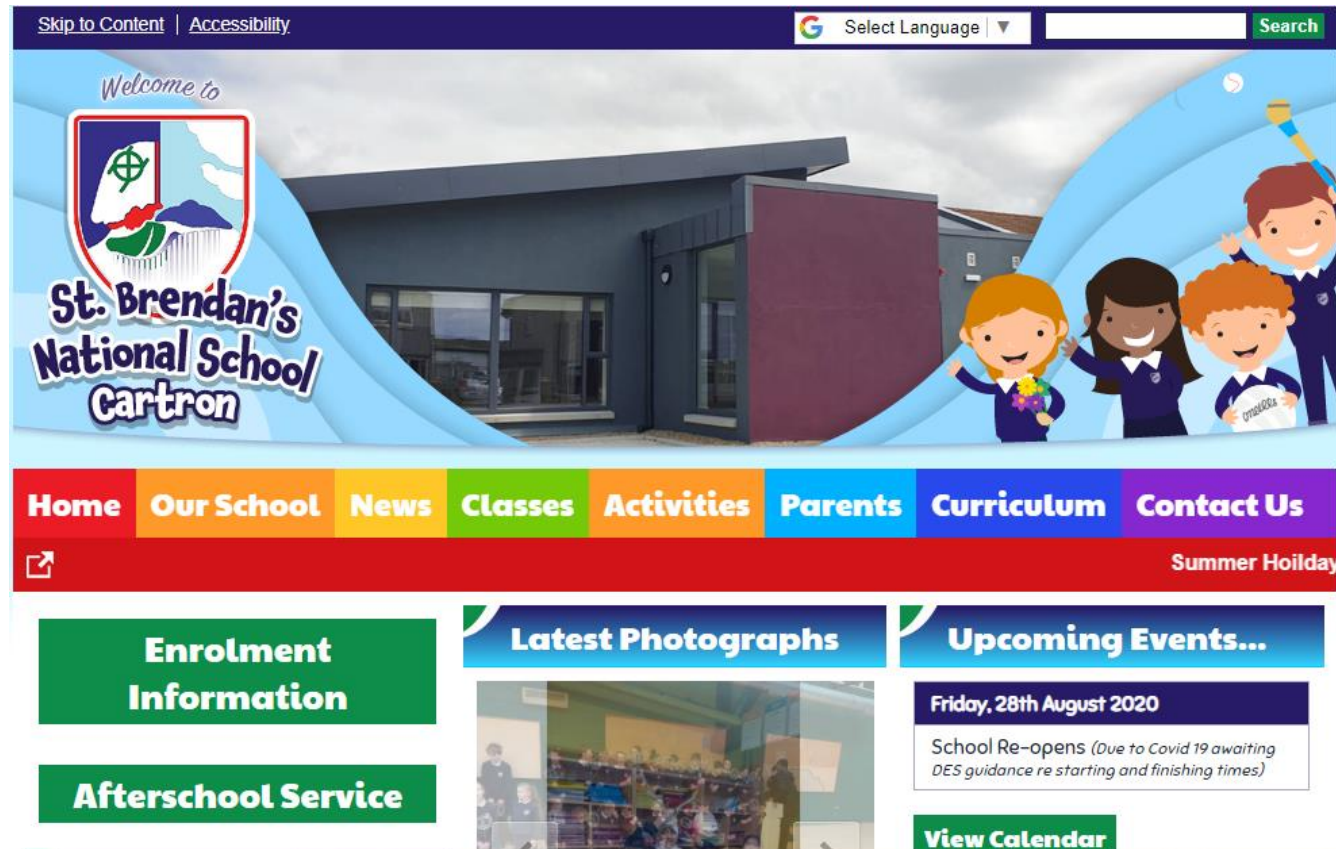


# August/September 2023



- Ensure your child has a good breakfast on their first day.
- **Be Positive!!** Chat about school, making friends and the fun they will have. If they know another child starting reassure them that their friend will be there.
- **A few nerves and excitement is normal for you and your child**–If your child is upset on the first morning try to settle them and leave as soon as possible. We would encourage parents to slip away when their child is settled and engaged in an activity.
- Children go **home at 12.30pm** for the first week.
- For the first couple of weeks parents can drop their child down to the classroom. After this we would encourage parents to drop their child at the front door.

Visit our school website  
[www.stbrendanscartron.com](http://www.stbrendanscartron.com)



# Further Information



- We will be in contact again in September to advise on how you can help your child with their homework, reading, writing, phonics, maths etc.
- If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at [principal@stbrendanscartron.com](mailto:principal@stbrendanscartron.com)
- Don't forget to check out our school website to see more of what goes on in our school and for updates throughout the summer regarding re-opening.
- Looking forward to getting to know all the children at this special and important time in their lives.

Thank you for your time 😊

