



St Brigid's Primary School

Website: www.stbrigidsmayogall.ik.org

St Brigid's Bulletin

News Letter

September / October 2022

Term 1 Takes off:



Term started on Thursday 1st September with 248 pupils enrolled. We were joined by 35 new Primary 1 pupils we also welcomed Liam McGinnis P3, Eliza McAteer P4 and Cora Hughes P5. We do hope that everyone will be happy here.



Primary 1



Liam, Eliza and Cora



New Staff Joining our staff team:



We have a number of new staff who have joined us this academic year. They are Mrs Ciara Trolan in P5 who has returned back from a career break, Miss Oonagh McAlister in P1/2, Miss Anna Martin in P3 And Mrs Joanne McNeill who is employed two days a week covering Mrs Aileen Mitchell and Mrs Claire Valletly who are on temporary variations. Anne McCartney, Joanne McReynolds, Erin O'Neill, Rachel Caulfield, Caoimhe Mulholland and Maura McCrystal are our new Classroom Assistants.



New ASC2 Unit:

We were very fortunate that in September we opened our second Autism Specific Class. With the support of the Education Authority, a mobile classroom was renovated and redecorated. We were also part funded to set up a Sensory Room adjacent to our ASC.

Unfortunately, the new furniture, workstations and sensory equipment have not arrived yet!

In order to avail of an Autism Specific Class, a child must have a "statement" from an Educational Psychologist. Our ASC is for children from P1 – P7 and we currently have eight children enrolled, 2 primary one pupils, 1 primary 2 pupil, 2 primary 3 pupils, 2 primary 5 pupils and 1 primary 7 pupil. Only one girl and seven boys.

The teachers in ASC1 are Mrs Paula McCrum and Mrs Anne McGlinchey and the assistants are Miss Megan Fleming, Miss Erin O'Neill and Miss Cara Heaney all of whom are specialists in working with children who have Autism.

The teacher in ASC2 is Mr Ryan Doherty and the assistants are Mrs Anne Hegarty and Mrs Maura McCrystal.

Both ASCs is proving to be an excellent asset to our school, with the children integrating into mainstream classes, and reverse integration where mainstream pupils go into our ASCs.

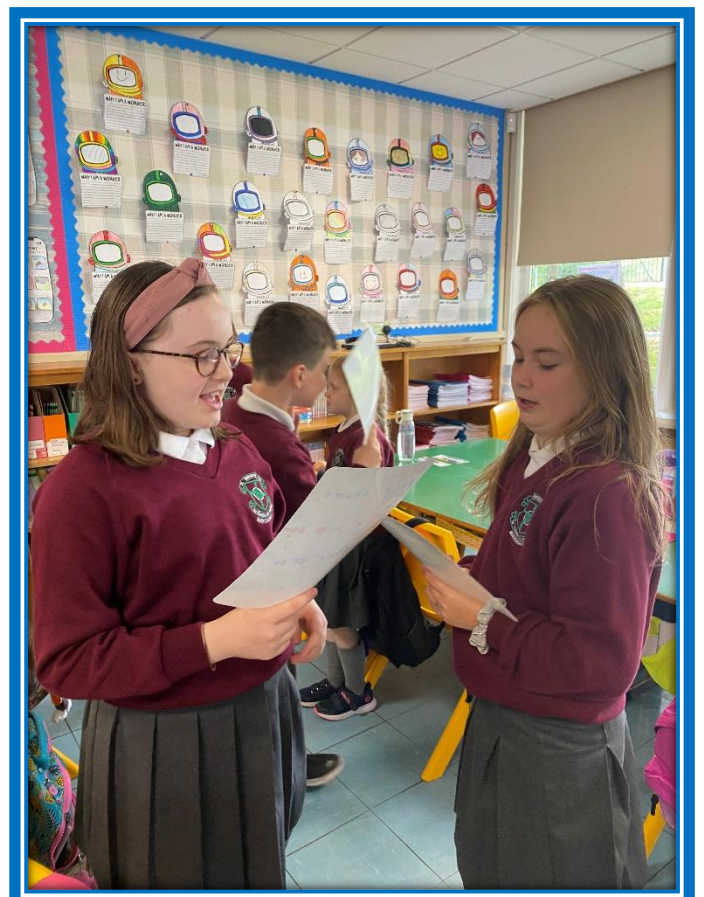
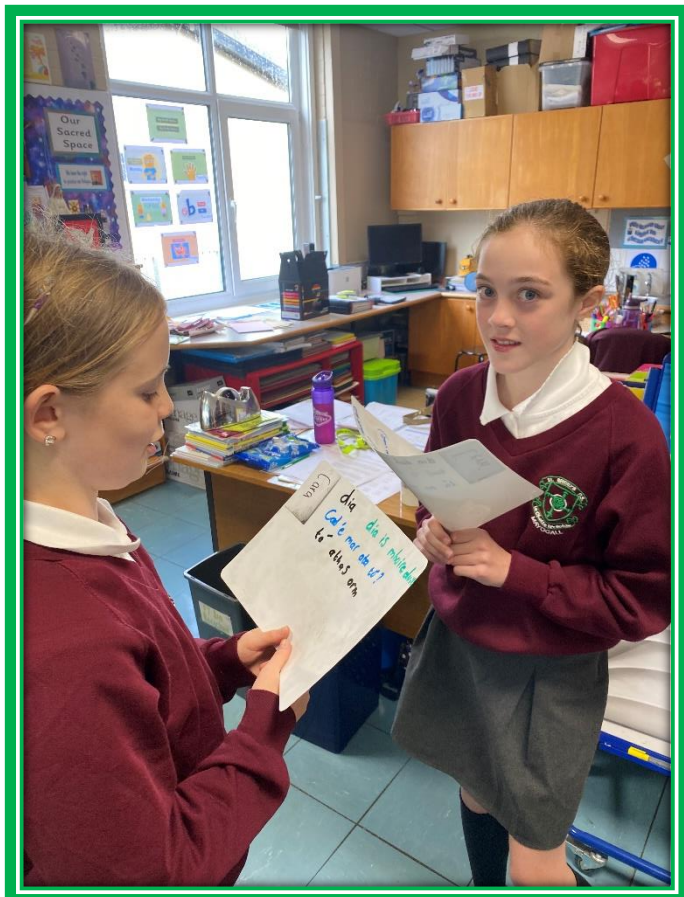
New Sign:

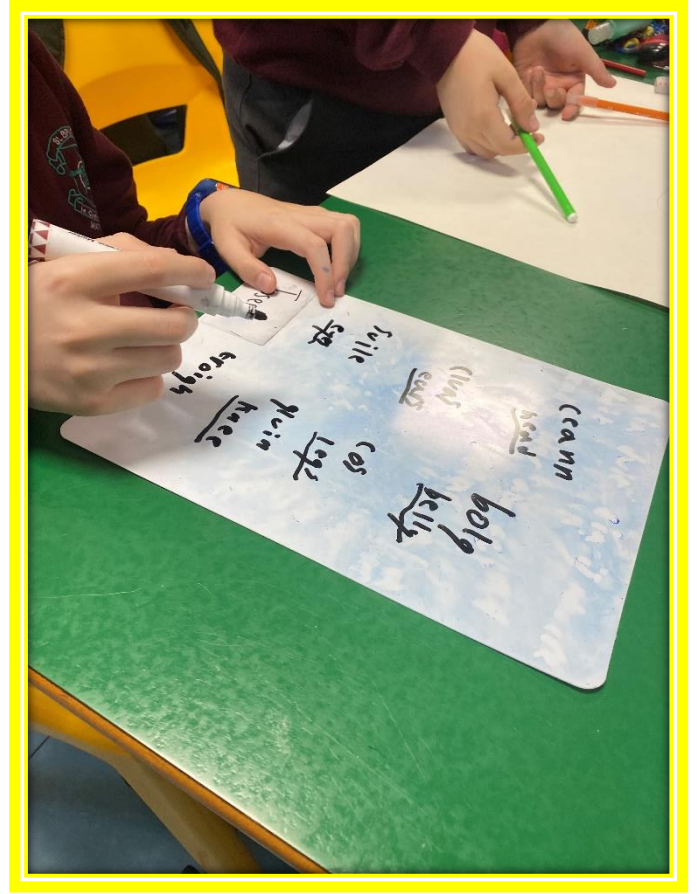
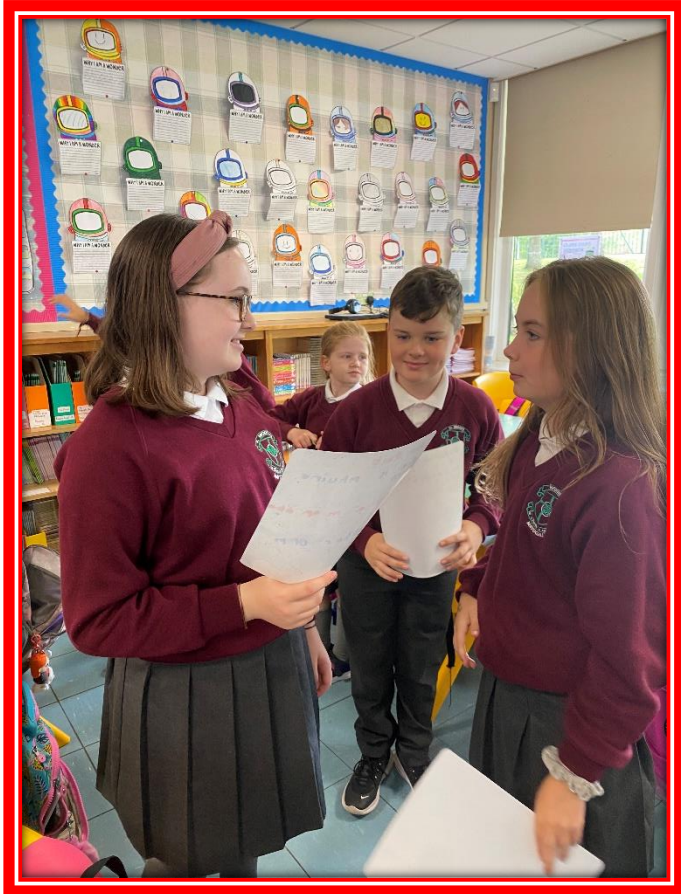
Sincere thanks to Richard McCloy and family for supplying our new sign. Please support Signfit, a local company for all your signage needs.



European Day of Languages:

To celebrate European Day of Languages our P7 pupils were deep in conversation in Irish. They learned common greetings and responses as well as parts of the body. They are really looking forward to learning more throughout the year!





Mass:

Pupils from P4 – P7 have a rota to attend Mass on Friday morning in Our Lady of Mercy Church.

Primary 7	9 Sept	7 Oct	11 Nov	2 Dec
Primary 6	16 Sept	14 Oct	18 Nov	9 Dec
Primary 5	23 Sept	21 Oct	25 Nov	16 Dec
Primary 4	30 Sept	28 Oct		

Music Tuition:



Music Tuition started on Monday 12th September EA tutor Ms Helena Nicholl began violin tuition and Mrs Lauren Stewart began flute, clarinet and saxophone tuition on Thursday 15th with our pupils. We have been very fortunate this year to be able to offer more pupils the opportunity to start music tuition.



School Photographer:

On Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th September C S Moments Photography took our school photographs and feedback has been very positive.

Reading Buddies:

Our P7 pupils read to their P1 reading buddy each Friday morning, modelling good practice in reading and sounding out all their phonics! Well done everyone.



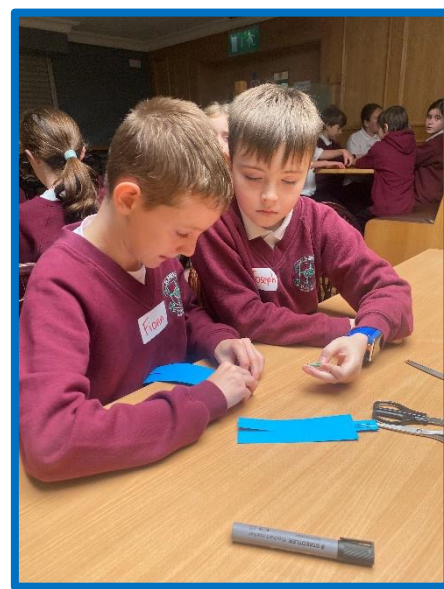
Swimming:



P7 pupils started swimming lessons on Monday 20th September at Greenvale Leisure Centre. Already those in the beginners group are making good progress. This is a compulsory aspect of N.I. P.E. Curriculum.

Shared Education:

As part of the Shared Education Programme Primary 6 and 7 pupils from St Brigid's travelled to Lavey Termoneeny Centre to meet up with P6/7 pupils from Knockloughrim Primary School on 27th September, 4th, 11th and 18th October. Here they took part in their project – Physical Fitness, Mental Wellbeing and STEM.





Start of Year Mass:



Our start of year Mass was on Monday 3rd October. When all our pupils and staff are in the Church we have it filled to capacity. Thanks to Mr Scullion and our choir for the lovely singing. Well done to all our pupils who contributed to the Mass – reading, offertory procession etc.



On Thursday 6th October we had a visit from Fitness Freddy. Each class enjoyed a fitness session with Freddy whose enthusiasm and commitment are legendary! We raised a fabulous £3,114 which will go towards paying for our new Activ Panels. Our Inter-active White Boards are quite out-dated and we need to replace three of them at a cost of over twelve thousand pounds. The money raised will supply one of our three boards. Thank you for your support.

Primary 7





Primary 3 had so much fun dancing and singing along with Fitness Freddy.



School Census:



On the 7th October the annual DE school census took place. In St. Brigid's we had 248 pupils, 114 boys and 134 girls. 16 pupils had a Statement of Educational Needs.

Flu Vaccination:

On Friday 7th October the majority of our pupils received the Flu vaccination.

Cross Country:

The new season of cross country competitions is underway and St Brigid's girls' and boys' teams took part in the first event, which is sponsored by Flahavan's, at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on 12th October. This was the first competitive race for all on the girls' team and for the majority of the boys' team and they all enjoyed the challenge competing against fifteen other schools.

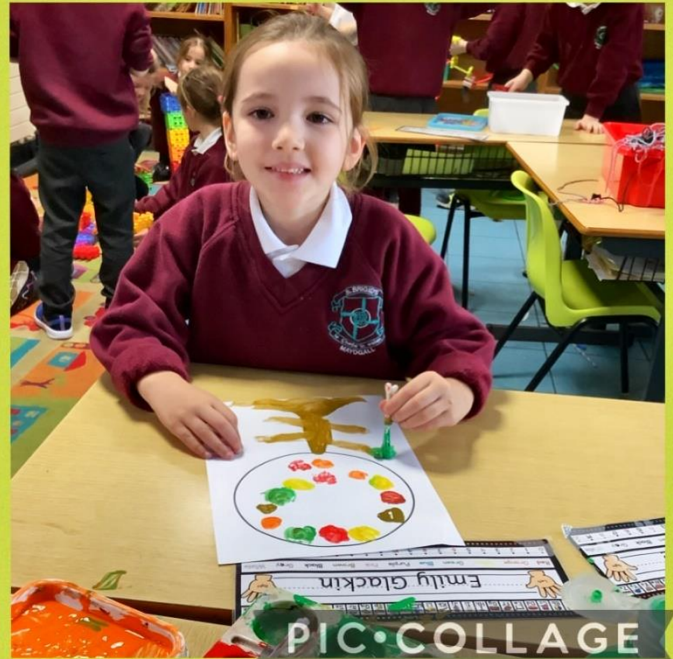
The girls' team: Cassie, Ellie, Jessica, Saidhbhin, Sarah and Sine performed strongly and took 3rd place with Saidhbhin taking the silver medal, just one second being the winner.

The boys' team: Ben, Charlie, Ciaran, Daniel, Liam and Micheál was placed 6th with Charlie as the team's first finisher.

Both teams are looking forward to the next round in December.



Primary 3 ~ with some of their Autumn pictures



MINDFULNESS AMBASSADORS:

Due to the high quality of written applications and interviews, twenty three new mindfulness ambassadors from primary six and seven were appointed in October. These children will now undergo a four week training programme before submitting a video presentation for assessment. On successful completion, ambassadors will begin in term two to guide younger pupils in the school in a range of practices. They will also be responsible for leading whole school assemblies on a variety of themes related to mental and emotional resilience.

We wish them well as they embark on their new role. Thank-you for offering your time and talents in service of our school community.

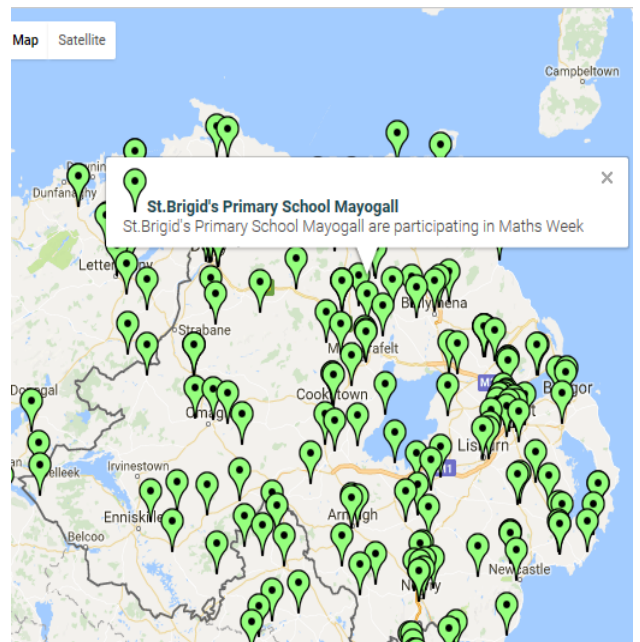


Maths Week Ireland 2022

Everyone in St. Brigid's P.S have been enjoying Maths Week Ireland 2022.

This year Maths Week ran from 15th - 23rd October.

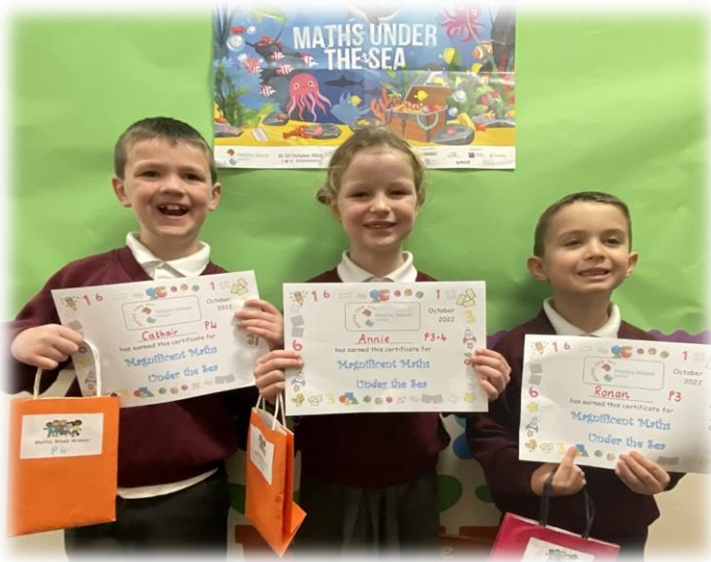
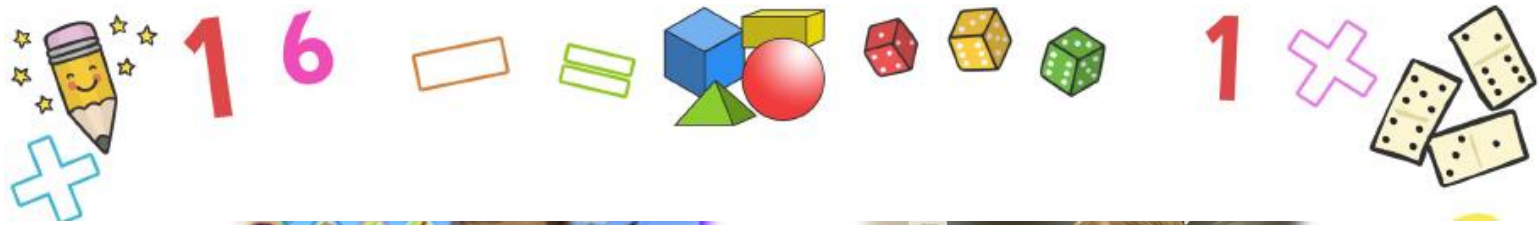
All our pupils from P1 - P7 got involved in Maths and Numeracy lessons in support of this year's theme "Maths Under the Sea," along with 464,468 other pupils across Ireland.

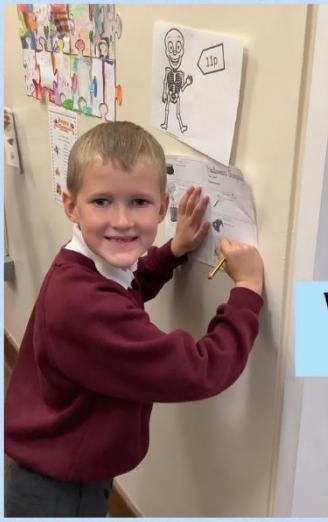


This week has been such a fun way to promote positive attitudes towards Maths amongst our pupils while highlighting further, the understanding of our world through Maths.

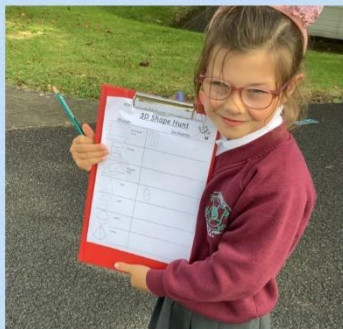
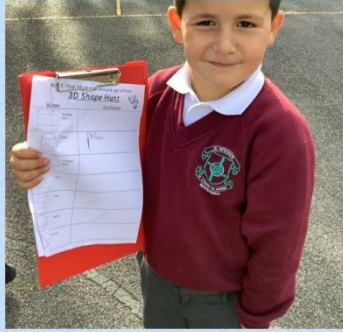
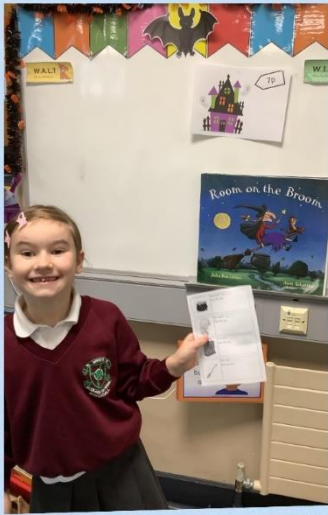
A huge thank you to everyone for all your calculating and counting!

With some extra special congratulations also going to our
Maths Week Competition Winners!





We completed lots of fun maths activities 🙌😊

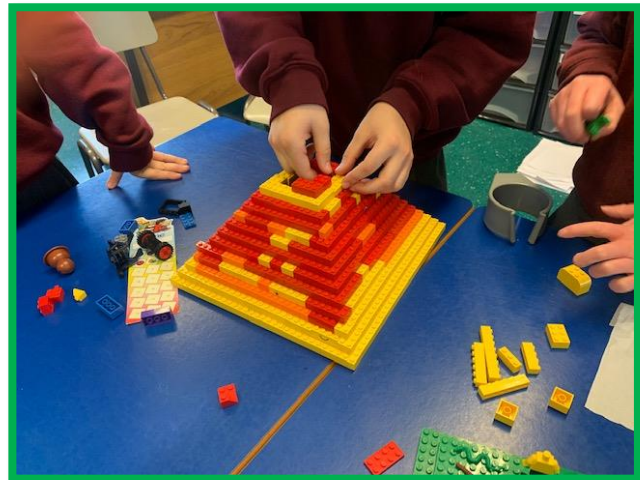


PIC•COLLAGE



Primary 5:

Building Pyramids like the Egyptians. Making mummy models.



All Primary 7 children have a partner that they communicate with regularly using their Google Chromebooks. The children complete a range of Literacy, Numeracy and World Around Us activities each month with their partners. We are very grateful to the J.D.O. Foundation for supplying our pupils with a Google Chromebook.

The use of our JDO Chromebooks has placed us in a very good position for distance/blended learning and our children and staff are highly competent in ICT.

JDO Hangout:

On Thursday 14th October Primary 7 have had their first JDO google meet with their Spanish partners. They introduced themselves and spoke about their school. Twice a month we will have video calls with our partners and we can't wait to complete activities together!





Thanks to Ms G. O’Kane for her very hard work in co-ordinating two Erasmus+ Projects, which are due to finish in June 2023. Our European partner schools are:-

Project 1 STEAM	Project 2 Entrepreneurship
Spain - CEIP Victoria Diaz	Greece - 4Dimotiko Sxolelo Lamias
Croatia - Osnova Skola Glina	Spain - CEIP la Santa Cruz
Poland - Szkoła Podstawowa Wjciecha	Italy - Istituto Comprensivo G. Toniola
Ireland - St Dominic’s NS Tallagh	Finland - Myllyojan Koulu, Oulun Kaupunki
Iceland - Grandaskoli Reykjavik	Sweden - Apelgardsskolan

Project 1 is designed to enhance ICT skills through STEM activities. The project will provide opportunities for integrated learning, hands on discovery and adaptations to ensure lessons will reach all students and their ability levels.

Project 2 is aimed to open the minds of pupils in Primary Schools to the joy of entrepreneurship. The project will provide pupils with a set of skills that they will need to enhance their future employability. Pupils will be encouraged to own and run their own mini-business.

Due to the ongoing Covid restrictions travel to our partner schools may not be possible, but we continue to meet virtually. The children enjoy their partnership projects and the opportunity to see life in European schools – they are amazed that they are the only school who wears a uniform!

HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS AND FUN DAY



As always we were very impressed by the creativity of our parents as the pupils dressed up for Hallowe'en. A list of the highest prize winners are:-

ASC1	~	Caragh-Rós Totten, Peter Keenan
ASC2	~	Peadar Hegarty
P1	~	Cassie Duggan, Conan Keenan
P1/2	~	Senan Mullin, Orlagh Dorrity
P2	~	Eilish McCloy, Declan Birt
P3	~	Ellen McAllister, Gustavo Costa
P3/4	~	Jack Dillan, Rosie Duggan
P4	~	Roisin Shivers, Cathain Grieve
P5	~	Aodhan McCloy, Erica Davey
P6	~	Sean Anderson, Eireann Maguire
P7	~	Adam Harris, Jessica Cushnahan

Primary P1/2





Cooking up
some
Halloween
treats!



PICCOLLAGE

Primary 2



PICTCOLLAGE

Primary 2



PICCOLLAGE

Primary 3 loved dressing up for Halloween. They especially enjoyed the whole school parade and getting to carve their own class Pumpkins!





Primary 5



Staff Training:

In St Brigid's P.S. we give a high priority to the professional development of all our staff. Listed below is a number of training and development events attended by staff:

August 26th – 31st Baker Days

In addition, lots of our staff training has been online through Webinars, Google Meets, Teams or Zoom.

September	20 th	P McC Autism Course
	21 st	M O'K Course in Glenavon
	22 nd	P McC
	27 th	M O'K
October		R D Course
	28 th & 29 th	C O'N on Course
	12 th	C McK Downs Syndrome Training
	12 th & 13 th	C C 1 st Aid Training
	19 th	O McA RE Course
	20 th	M O'K, P McC, R D and G O'K Autism Impact Training
		M O'K Cluster Meeting

Dates For Your Diary

31st ~ 4th November 2022
7th ~ 11th November 2022
22nd ~ 3rd January 2023
13th ~ 17th February 2023
17th March 2023
6th ~ 14th April 2023
1st ~ 5th May 2023
29th May 2023
30th June 2023

Halloween Break
½ days for Parent Teacher Meetings
Christmas Holidays
Mid-Term Break
St Patrick's Day
Easter Holidays
May Mid~Term
Sports Day
School Ends

School Website!

Our school website is LIVE!

Please log on to www.stbrigidspsmayogall.com and see all our information.

We are adding information to our site so remember to check in regularly for updates.

In addition to school news there will be a class area where you can see samples of work.

In the Parents Area you will find:

❖ The School Calendar

❖ Dinner Menu

❖ Newsletters

❖ Holiday List

Our termly school Newsletter is also posted on the website you will be able to see it online and in colour! Be sure to read it for all the news and photographs of life in school.

Our website is linked to our social media sites Facebook and Twitter. In addition, there will be a school App which you can download so that all the latest news will go straight to your phone!

Get school updates via your phone

Our school is now listed in the **Schools NI** app, which allows you to view and receive messages via your phone or tablet. The app is available on Android devices, and will give you access to our school news, calendar letters.

To install the app, open [**School Website**] on your phone or tablet and click App' button that appears at the top of the screen.



school updates
both Apple and
events and

the 'Download



Schools NI
Receive school updates
via your phone

Download App

Next time you open the Schools NI App our school will be listed at the top of the list. You don't need to have the app open to receive messages.

Log on and look in