

January 2025 news from the classes

Ms. Kenny's class are learning all about 3D shapes, we made prints in playdough with our 3D shapes to see what 2D shapes they make. In art we explored print and created fireworks using prints of forks. We also created monsters using blow painting techniques and added legs and eyes. In music we learnt about pulse and we learnt some dance moves to go with electronic dance music!

5th Class have been delving into the theme of emigration in various countries. This theme ties in with their new novel "The boy at the Back of The Class". We have started a country study of Australia- studying facts, geography of the country and flags.

Ms Ryan's Senior Infants have been learning about the importance of exercise this month. We have enjoyed learning about different sport and the Olympic Games. We learnt about Irish Olympians Katie Taylor and the O'Donovan brothers, Paul and Gary. We also had lots of fun experimenting with blow art, creating blow art monsters! J

First Class for Science made salt crystals, this shows how evaporation occurs. They enjoyed reading the novel "The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark" and currently reading Stick Man. The boys learned 3D shapes by constructing different kinds of 3D shapes. First Class are really looking forward to learning how to play the tin whistle in music.

We are busy preparing for our First Confession in **2nd class** by learning our songs and prayers and attending mass each week. We love listening to Fr Arnold's mini lessons on the church after mass and have lots of questions for him! In Maths we have enjoyed lessons lately on the calender and time. We learned all about St Brigid in SESE and look forward to her bringing the spring! We made some cute lambs in Art to welcome the beginning of Spring!

Ms Grimes Class have settled in well since returning from their Christmas holidays. We have been very busy learning about the Chinese New Year 2025 - The Year of the Snake. We have also been learning about St. Brigid and we created lovely St. Brigid's crosses.

Junior Infants had a busy January learning all about winter and winter weather. We have been busy learning our sounds and singing our Jolly songs. We started Stay Safe this month and we are learning all about our feelings and keeping ourselves safe.

A group of **6th Class** boys are working very hard on their Vex robot to take part in the Offaly Vex Competition.

Mr Cunningham's Class are enjoying learning all about money in Maths, playing games to become confident using the correct coins and notes

This month in **Cairdeas** we started the term setting out our New Year's resolutions! We also made beautiful daffodils in preparation for spring!

3rd class had a great January, learning a new song on the tin whistle for Catholic Schools Week. We also spent time exploring the classroom and school measuring and learning all about length. The children all loved learning about volcanoes and volcanic eruptions!

This month **4th class** have welcomed the new year by created beautiful Chinese calendars , 2025 the year of the snake. We have also learned the story of St Brigid and have designed beautiful cloaks. In geography we have discussed rocks and soils and identified the many types that can be found around the world. In history we explored the race against space between Russia and America and witnessed Neil Armstrong taking his first leap.

St. Brendan's Boys P.S. January/ February - 2025



St. Brendan's PS Birr : Funding announcement February 2025

The Board of Management of St Brendan's PS are delighted to announce that funding has been secured for our additional SEN accommodation project at the school. The Department of Education has approved the project to now proceed to the construction stage under Contractor Ciaran Grogan Construction Ltd.

The Board would like to thank Minister for Education Helen McEntee and her predecessor Norma Foley for their support. We would also like to thank the Devolved Projects section staff in Department of Education capital buildings unit for their support and advice.

The Design team under architect Kenny Lyons and Associates will now plan for the 12 month build with contractor whilst ensuring that our school continues its good work on a daily basis. Our school community can look forward to the start of this exciting construction of SEN rooms and Autism classes which will enable children and staff to work in the most modern setting available and will greatly enhance the teaching and learning environments for all concerned.

School Principal Niall Crofton expressed delight that the plans for this extension, which has been in the pipeline for the past five years, are now reaching fruition. Adding, it will greatly enhance the facilities that the school provides for the needs of all students in the community, and the schools commitment, through its mission statement, to ensure all pupils get an opportunity to reach their potential.

Chairperson of the Board of Management Pat Teehan expressed delight at the announcement and thanked the Principal Niall Crofton and the staff for their dedication and commitment in providing an education, for so many children with additional needs whilst waiting for this new purpose built accommodation.

Dates for your diary

Mid term break—School closed Thursday 20th and Friday 21st February 2025.

March Dance programme with Lisa Hogan—Mondays for 5 weeks

Tag rugby with Laura- Wednesdays starting 26th February

St Patricks weekend—school closed Friday 14th and Monday 17th March 2025

PLC staff in-service day—school closed for all pupils on Monday 27th March.

1st Confessions for 2nd class boys—Wednesday 26th March @ 7.30pm

- Boys to wear full school uniforms

Confirmation for 6th class boys- Saturday 15th March 11am

The Green School Committee

We are continuing their hard work to apply for the Global citizenship litter and waste flag in March.

We have a very busy month ahead with lots of activities such as Big travel challenge, we are trying to reduce travel in cars over 2 weeks.

No waste Wednesday where the boys are challenged to use less waste.

Working on projects about countries and fair trade for our day of Action at the end of February.

Well done to the committee's continued hard work!



Junior infants - September 2025

We are now accepting applications for enrolment September 2025 for junior infants - please contact the school 0579121033 or secretary@stbrendansps.ie for enrol forms. Forms and admission statement 2025 regarding the number of places available can be viewed on school website also.

For any new families we can arrange a look around the school upon request as always. Looking forward to having another amazing group of boys starting their primary school journey at the school.

Parent contact

Please make sure to update the school about any changes to mobile numbers / address or email. The school maintain contact with parents through texts / emails / social media and termly newsletters.

VEX Robotics programme 2025

@VEXRoboticsIE our boys had an amazing time at the @offalycoco VEX robotics event last week - Well done to Jack / Harry / Ewan and Sam and massive thanks to Ms Makim and Mr Cunningham for all their hard work supporting the team ★★★★★

Visit of INTO President to our school

Delighted and honoured to have the Irish National Teachers' Organisation President Carmel Browne visit our school today ! Carmel came and met the boys from 5th / 2nd and junior infant classes - the boys had a great chat with her about education and the new math curriculum which Carmel is passionate about - for her visit we held our teacher appreciation day and our BOM kindly provided the coffee van with coffee and bun for all school staff to brighten a Monday.

