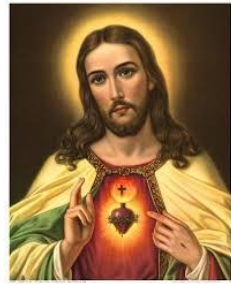




**St. Brigid's PS Tirkane/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd Tír**  
**Chiana**  
**Newsletter/Nuachtlitir**  
**June/Meitheamh 2026**



Phone: 028 79643346

email: [info@stbrigidsps.maghera.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stbrigidsps.maghera.ni.sch.uk)

**Safeguarding Team:** Múinteoir Clare O' Kane (Designated Teacher for Child Protection),  
**Foireann Slánchumhaidthe** Ursula O' Hanlon (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)  
Shauna McCusker Governor responsible for Child Protection

Dear Parents / A Thuismitheoirí / Caomhnóirí,

The last month is one of the busiest months in the school year. We hope the weather will continue to be kind to us as we prepare for our Sports' Day.

It is also a time where change is on the horizon. Múinteoir Ciara Rang 3 has been appointed as Principal/ Príomhoide in Gaelscoil Léim an Mhadaidh and will leave St Brigid's/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd to take up post in September. Whilst we congratulate Múinteoir Ciara on her new position and wish her God's blessings in her new job, it is with heavy hearts that we let her go. Múinteoir Ciara has been a dedicated member of staff in our school for 25 years and before that was instrumental in the setting up of Irish Medium education the Maghera area. We will miss her huge presence throughout our school. At the Leavers' Mass on 24<sup>th</sup> June, we will have a presentation to Múinteoir Ciara to mark our deepest gratitude to her for all her hard work and dedication to our school. Any parent wishing to contribute towards the presentation can send a donation in to the office/class teacher (with the exception of Múinteoir Ciara) on or before Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

As this is my final newsletter of the school year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone in St Brigid's Tirkane/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd Tír Chiana for another great year's work.

- To Cairde Naomh Bríd- we are indebted to you for the work you do and for the generosity shown by you. In today's financial climate every school is increasingly dependent on the good will of the parents and their fundraising initiatives.
- To Fr Doherty for his pastoral guidance throughout the year and the wonderful way in which they speak to the children every time he visits us. They love to see him in the school.
- To the Board of Governors of St Brigid's/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd, thank you for your great support and the dedication you show to our school.
- To Robert Emmets Sleacht Neill for funding our fantastic coaches Darragh, Keeley and Andrena and for making the club, pitch and hall available to us throughout the year.
- To the staff of An Carn, for their help and support and for the way in which they have made themselves and their wonderful facilities available to us throughout the year.
- To all our parents, for your constant support in everything we do.
- Finally, to the pupils of St Brigid's/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd. We hope you all have a great, happy and safe summer.

Le Dea Ghuí  
Ursula O' Hanlon

**Suíomh Gréasáin na Scoile / School Website**  
<https://www.stbrigidspstirkane.com>



## First Holy Communion / An Chéad Chomaoineah Naofa



The children in Rang 4 received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday past 30th May. Thank you to Fr Doherty for his lovely child-centred mass. The children all carried out their roles very well and were so confident within themselves. Múinteoir Aisling prepared the children so well as was obvious from beginning to end on the day and the P4s will do us proud next week at their special ceremonies.

Thank you, Múinteoir Aisling and Mrs Cassidy for all the special work you do in preparing our children for this day.

The children from the parish of Maghera will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June in St Patrick's Church Glen at 11am and the children from Granaghan parish will receive their first communion on the same day at 2pm.

We look forward to seeing them on their special day.

## Cór / Choir

A huge thank you to the pupils of St Brigid's/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd and Mrs Downey who did us all proud on all the special occasions this year. Go raibh maith agaibh go léir.



## End of Year Mass / Aifreann Deireadh na Bliana

Our end of year mass will be on **Wednesday 24th June at 1pm** in the assembly hall. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall and all parents and grandparents are most welcome.

We say a final farewell to our P7/R7 classes on **Wednesday 24th June** and we take this opportunity to wish them all the best as they embark on the next part of their journey.

**Beannacht Dé oraibh go léir!**

## School Trip/Turas Scoile

We are all excited about our big day out! The children have all been given a bus number and messages have gone out on SeeSaw detailing final instructions. Wishing everyone an enjoyable experience.



## Neuro-Developmental Information Session

As part of our evening sessions for parents, we are pleased to say that there will be an evening with a Neuro- Developmental practitioner. The session will take place on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm** in the assembly hall. All are welcome!



**Skipathon / Scipatón** : We are holding a “skipathon/scipatón” on the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June to raise funds which will help to pay for our new IM and EM Literacy books. It will run throughout the week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We would ask the children to try and get their sponsor sheets filled and returned to the teachers by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June. The sponsorship forms will be sent home later this week.

## Teisteanna Deireadh Bliana / End of Year Tests

### School Reports

The pupils from Yrs 3-7 are completing their Standardised Assessments. Reports are currently being prepared by the class teachers/múinteoirí and are scheduled to be sent out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June. If you would like to discuss these reports, please do not hesitate to contact the school to make an appointment with the class teacher.



This year we are continuing to take part in a CCEA pilot assessment for Numeracy/Literacy and Numeracy Irish Medium. We hope these assessments will be successful and that we will be able to use them in school from next year on.

### Shared Education

Each year group who took part in Shared Education projects this year will be being treated to a day out with all the other children to celebrate the success of our first year in the new partnership. This trip will be to the Jet Centre in Coleraine. **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June. There is no cost to parents for these trips!**

We raised the amazing amount of £1230 on our sponsored walk for The Children's Cancer Foundation!

Thank you to everyone who contributed.



### Fan The Flames Mass for Yr7 Confirmati in the Derry Diocese

Fan the Flame Mass celebrates all the children who have received the sacrament of Confirmation in the Diocese of Derry during the past year. The children will travel to Derry's Celtic Park for the occasion on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June.**

### New Classes 2026/Ranganna Nua 2026

On the 4<sup>th</sup> June when the Yr 7s are out of the school building for the day, we will take the opportunity to allow the children to move on to their next teacher/classroom (where appropriate). The new Yr1s will also visit our school on that day and because we have such a big intake, we will have our new P1s and half of the Rang 1s on Thursday and the second half of Rang 1 on Friday. We have already emailed all parents of our new Rang 1s to further clarify the groupings.

They have been invited to spend the morning from 9:30am – 11:00pm in their new classrooms.

We hope they enjoy their first visit.

### Cuairt ar Ghaelcholáiste Dhoire

R5 will visit Gaelcholáiste Dhoire on **Thursday 4th June.**

They will leave our school at **9:15am** and return for normal hometime. Lunch will be provided at the college. Details of those who require special diets have already been forwarded to Gaelcholáiste already.



### Sports' Day / Lá Spóirt 2026



Our Sports Day will take on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** at Sleacht Néill pitch. The weather is key to the success of the day and we really hope to get a good one! In the event of bad weather, we may have to postpone proceedings and just run the races off at school when opportunities present.

We are very grateful to Sleacht Néill Robert Emmet's for the use of their pitch for the day. The day will begin with the children being dropped off at the pitch from 8:30am and all pupils are to be picked up at 1pm. Buses will operate on this day.

## Sábháilteacht ar an Fheirm Farm Safety in the summer

As the summer season gets underway there is no place busier than the farm. We urge you to impress upon the children the importance of staying safe on the farm. We will do likewise in school.



## Care in the Sun / Tabhair aire agus tú amuigh faoin ghrian

In June/July/August we hope to take good care of our ourselves and protect our skin and eyes from the sun.

### Top Tips The 5 Ss:

**Slip** on a T Shirt

**Slap** on a sunhat

**Slap** on the sun cream

**Sunglasses** for the eyes

**Stay in the shade** at the hottest part of the day (12-3pm)



## Signing Pupils out Early/ Ag fágáil na scoile go luath.

Pupils who leave school early for any reason must be signed out by a parent/guardian using the sign out slips at the reception. The slip must be handed in to the office for record keeping and the secretary. We ask for you full support for these procedures which are in place to safeguard all children.



## Oilteacht Rothaíocht / Cycling Proficiency for P7/R7 pupils

Congratulations to all P7/R7 pupils who took part in the cycling proficiency lessons. We are grateful for the excellent instruction of Mrs Mc Mullen and Mrs Cassidy. God Bless and keep safe all who are out on the road on their bicycles.

## Imeachtaí Spóirt / Sporting Fixtures

We have several fixtures up and coming:

- **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** Sharon Donnelly Cup for girls' football at Glen pitch
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June** The Francie Brolly Gaelic Football Blitz in Gaelscoil Neachtain (R7)
- **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** Sports' Day 2026
- **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June** Boys' Football Castle Cup
- **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June** Camogie Castle Cup Tournament at Glen Football pitch
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June** Girls' Football Castle Cup
- **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** Boys' Hurling Castle Cup





## **Nut Free School**

St. Brigid's Primary School/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd Tír Chiana is a nut free school. **No** food containing any trace of nuts or nut essences are allowed in the school. (Nutella, Peanut Butter etc.)



## **Turais Scoile /School Trips**

**P1/2** will enjoy a day out at Cosmic Kids on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**.

**R1/2** will follow to Cosmic Kids on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June**.

Both days will include a play session, a meal and a party bag.

The trip is priced at £15 per person and can be paid from now on. We ask that all money is paid by **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June**.



## **Dinner Money / Airgead Dinnéir**

As the end of the school year is fast approaching, we are trying to reconcile the financial books. There is a significant deficit in the dinner money. Please pay all outstanding dinner money immediately via the ParentPay app.

## **Free School Meals Forms / Foirmeacha Béilí Saor in Aisce/Bus Transport forms**

Pupils in receipt of free school meals will receive notification shortly from the SELB. These forms must be completed immediately and returned to the SELB. If these forms are not returned promptly to the Board your child may not receive free meals in September 2026 (forms returned late last year meant child/children did not receive free school meals in September)

Transport forms must also be completed for each child.

**Please Note: Parents must apply for Free School Meals for every child individually and not as a family.**

## **Friends/Cairde Naomh Bríd**



More details to follow

## **Laethanta Saoire / School Holidays**

The school will close for all pupils on **Tuesday 30th June 2026 at 11am** and will re-open on **Thursday 27th August** for **P1/R1 pupils only** and for all other pupils on **Tuesday 1st September 2026**.



**The school holiday sheet for 26/27 will also be posted on our website soon.**

**We at St. Brigid's/Bunscoil Naomh Bríd wish everyone a happy and safe summer holiday. Thank you, parents for your support at school all year.**