



## Cois Bá - Cairdeas, Cumasú & Creideamh



# December Newsletter



### Green Schools

Our Green School's Committee has been busy setting up their first reviews on our Biodiversity theme. At present, Third class pupils are exploring Litter and Waste with Biodiversity. Meanwhile, Fourth class pupils are investigating Energy and Biodiversity. Fifth class pupils are focusing on Water and Biodiversity. Whilst, some Sixth class pupils are looking at Travel with Biodiversity. Term two will involve putting plans into action. In the meantime, here are some ideas as you prepare for Christmas.

#### Bayside Senior's 5 Tips to Prepare for a Greener Christmas

1. Try to remember to bring your old batteries and mobile phones into school for the 'Batteries for Barretstown' Appeal.
2. Try to remember to bring your used postage stamps for the charity collection box.
3. Try to avoid using plastic when shopping and buying gifts.

*Did you know?*

- Only 9% of plastic is actually recycled
- 80% of all marine litter is plastic
- A plastic bottle can take 400 years to completely decompose.

4. Try to avoid buying bigger volumes of food such as, 2 for 1 promotions, unless you need them.

*Did you know?*

- 1/3 of our food goes in the bin.

5. Please buy local, buy Irish or make your own gifts.

**P.S.** If you're wondering about New Year's resolutions and would like to volunteer some time and expertise our Green School Committee would love to hear from you. Please contact [s.murray@baysidesns.ie](mailto:s.murray@baysidesns.ie). Thank you!

### Wellbeing Week

Thank you to the school community for making our **Wellbeing Week** such an enjoyable time when we celebrated **World Kindness Day** and being kind to each other. We also launched our **Bayside Online Book Club** with the help of our hard working PABS Committee.

If you would like to order some books from the online Scholastic Portal for Christmas, you can use the following link which has also been emailed out to all parents so check your inbox!

<https://schools.scholastic.ie/mary-joseph-snr-ns/digital-book-club>

A percentage of the total sales comes back to our school so it's a win - win deal for us all!

The catalogue has also been sent home with your child. The last date for order submission is **3rd December**. You can opt for books to be delivered to home (at a cost of **€6 for orders under €30 and free for orders over €30**). Or opt for free delivery to the school.

Bayside SNS Wellbeing Support Team would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Christmas. We would also like to remind everyone to pay some kindness forward this festive season!



### School Self Evaluation

During this very challenging school year we are focusing on the area of wellbeing for our school community as our priority for school self evaluation.



READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE [www.baysidesns.ie](http://www.baysidesns.ie) or follow us on twitter @BaysideSns



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### Sacramental News

The junior and senior schools have been liaising closely with the parish and we have been meeting regularly with Fr. Peter to try and plan for sacramental preparation for our pupils in 2021.

As I am sure you are aware, up until today we have been subject to Level 5 restrictions and our parish church was not open as a result. Now that Mass can go ahead with conditions, Fr. Peter is committed to confirming the outstanding class of pupils, that were not confirmed this year, as soon as he can arrange that. In 2021 he hopes that the four classes, that did not make their Communion can then be accommodated, as well as the current 2nd and 6th class pupils who would be due to receive sacraments in May.

Fr. Peter is also the administrator in Foxfield-St. John and looks after the sacraments for the schools in that area as well. With all this in mind, he has asked that we reschedule our Confirmation date to **Friday 28th May 2021** (subject to public health advice and restrictions at the time). He appreciates all your support and understanding as he continues to try and navigate these difficult circumstances.



### Dates for your Diary

-Progress reports were emailed out to parents and guardians by class teachers yesterday. Please check your inbox to see how your child has been getting on in school. This is in lieu of parent/teacher meetings this year.

-Deadline for recycled Christmas decorations **Monday 7th December**.

-Pupils can wear their Christmas jumpers/Santa hats/festive wear on **Monday 21st December!**

-The school will close for the Christmas holidays on **Tuesday 22nd December at 12 o' clock midday**.

- We will reopen on **Wednesday 6th January**.

### Lost and Found

Our 'Lost and Found' box was empty at the beginning of September. It is nearly full now, mostly of jumpers and cardigans! If your child is missing their school jumper or cardigan, please ask them to check the Lost and Found Box in school. Always remember to label your child's belongings so they can be easily returned to the rightful owner!

### Covid-19 Update

As you are aware, we were recently notified of our first case of Covid-19 in our school community. We really appreciate the support of our Board of Management in having a risk assessment ready so that when we liaised with the public health team, they agreed to get the whole class tested. We are very reassured that there was no onward transmission within the class. The Board also gave permission for all the books to be sent home to pupils who were restricting their movements and anyone who needed to borrow a device was given the option of using a school chromebook. Books, devices (and a little treat!) were delivered to the pupils at home and they engaged really well with their teacher on Google Classroom.

We are continuing to do our best to keep classrooms well ventilated and to get the children out in the fresh air as much as possible. Some of our young scientists have been monitoring the temperature in the school and we are pleased to report that even with windows open, it tends to be in the early twenties, so it is nice and warm in here! The weather outside is still very unpredictable so don't forget the waterproof shoes and coats with hoods every day.

*Merry*  
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
*New Year*

*As we come to the end of this unprecedented year, we would like to thank everyone in our school community for their kindness and support. It has been very challenging keeping our school open during Level 5 restrictions and we really appreciate your cooperation and goodwill. We hope you have a happy and peaceful Christmas and that we can all stay safe and healthy in the New Year!*

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