



**St. Brigid's National School, Ballysax, Curragh, Co. Kildare. R56 E782**

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Principal: Ms. Esther Reddy Deputy Principal: Ms. Aelish Collins  
Assistant Principal II: Ms Maria Jones Assistant Principal II: Ms Maria Houlihan  
Roll No. 16302F Phone: 045-441829 Charity No. 20124342  
email: [office@stbrigidsballysax.com](mailto:office@stbrigidsballysax.com) Website: <http://stbrigidsballysax.com/>

14<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe, but we're in the final few weeks of yet another school year. In contrast to last year though, we're still waiting for the summer weather, which hopefully will come!

**Book Rental:** The end of the school year is a busy time as we finish off one year's work while at the same time preparing for the next. We're sending you a lot of important information this week about the Book Rental Scheme. This scheme has been rolling out in Ballysax for a number of years, with the aim being that ultimately Book Rental would be part of our whole school plan for every child. We are now at that stage and every child next year will receive their books and stationery through the scheme. A letter with the charges involved follows, but also showing you the cost to purchase the necessary requirements outside of the scheme, to show the savings involved. Can you please forward payment by **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Teachers and SNAs for 2019/2020:** Classes have been allocated to teachers for next year and are as follows:

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Junior & Senior Infants | Ms Maria Houlihan  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Class   | Ms Elaine Downey & Ms Jane Molloy (Job Share)                              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class   | Ms Colette O'Sullivan  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class   | Ms Clíodhna Byrne  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Class   | New Appointment (Parents will be contacted as soon as appointment is made) |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Class   | Ms Ciara White   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Class   | Ms Marie Kavanagh  |

Special Education Teachers: Ms Monica Donohoe, Ms Maria Jones, Ms Aelish Collins

SNAs: Ms Deirdre Allen, Ms Linda Butler and Ms Eleanor Shepherd. Ms Shepherd will be going on maternity leave in September and parents will be informed when a new appointment is made.

**End of Year Reports:** Teachers have been working very hard to give you a comprehensive account of your child's development in their current class. Reports will be posted next week. Please send in a SAE for each child by Monday.

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*Play together, learn together, grow together.  
Ag imirt le chéile, ag foghlaim le chéile, ag fás le chéile.*

**Parent Teacher Association:** The PTA has been working diligently to organise the end of year fundraiser and social occasion which is the Greyhound Racing Night in Newbridge on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Tickets are €10 per adult and there is no charge for children. Please support. The profit from pre- paid tickets goes to the school, but the school does not benefit from tickets sold at the race track on the night of the event. Tickets are on sale in the school office and from any member of the PTA.

**Sports Day:** Sports Day was planned for tomorrow, Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, however the forecast for tomorrow is too bad. We aim to have it next Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, weather permitting.

**School Tours** are ongoing. Thanks for your support with school tours and to teachers and SNAs for their care and attention.

#### School Calendar 2019 – 2020

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>School resumes:</b>        | Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2019  |
| <b>October mid-term:</b>      | Closed from Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October to Monday November 4 <sup>th</sup> 2019                        |
| <b>Christmas:</b>             | Closing on Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December and re-opening on Monday, January 6 <sup>th</sup> 2020         |
| <b>February mid-term:</b>     | Closed on Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2020 |
| <b>St. Patrick's Weekend:</b> | Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2020  |
| <b>Easter:</b>                | Closing on Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April and re-opening on Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020               |
| <b>May Bank Holiday:</b>      | Closed on Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2020  |
| <b>June Bank Holiday:</b>     | Closed on Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May, Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June               |
| <b>Summer closing date:</b>   | Friday June 26 <sup>th</sup> 2020  |

***From Thursday August 29<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Junior Infants will finish school at 12.30pm. From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September they will be in school until 2pm.***

I'm sure I will be in contact with parents again before the end of June, but this letter contains a lot of important information that I know you need to have now. In the meantime, if you have any concerns about any aspect of your child's development here in school, my door is always open.

Kind regards,

Esther Reddy, Príomhoide

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# **Book Rental Scheme for 2019-2020**

## **St. Brigid's National School, Ballysax**

Our Book Rental Scheme will be available to all students from Junior Infants to 6th Class in September. In line with our Board of Management and Department of Education guidelines we will provide all textbooks, workbooks and ancillary books on this scheme. **From this year 2019-20, the Book Rental Scheme is mandatory for all pupils.**

To run in conjunction with this we will also be providing all copies etc required by your child during the school year. This is known as the Class Pack and is also a compulsory purchase in the scheme.

We also provide a Reference Pack, which includes both dictionaries, an atlas and tables book required by your child from 2nd class upwards. To purchase this pack is **optional**.

This year we are investing in a whole school English series of books. Last year we invested in new Irish, SESE and religion books. We hope to update our Maths books in the near future.

| <b>Class</b>          | <b>Actual Cost of Books *not including copies etc.</b> | <b>Book Rental</b> | <b>Class Pack *all copies, folders etc.</b> | <b>Cost per child Book Rental and Class Pack</b> | <b>Reference Pack Optional</b> |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Junior Infants</b> | €39.40   | €25.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€45.00</b>                                    | €0.00                          |
| <b>Senior Infants</b> | €36.35   | €25.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€45.00</b>                                    | €0.00                          |
| <b>1st Class</b>      | €70.24   | €55.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€75.00</b>                                    | €0.00                          |
| <b>2nd Class</b>      | €101.54  | €55.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€75.00</b>                                    | €5.00                          |
| <b>3rd Class</b>      | €124.00  | €60.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€80.00</b>                                    | €10.00                         |
| <b>4th Class</b>      | €124.04  | €60.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€80.00</b>                                    | €10.00                         |
| <b>5th Class</b>      | €129.54  | €60.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€80.00</b>                                    | €10.00                         |
| <b>6th Class</b>      | €130.13  | €60.00             | €20.00                                      | <b>€80.00</b>                                    | €10.00                         |

**These books will be ready for your child in their classroom on the first day back to school, 29th August 2019. Payment for book rental needs to be made by Monday 24th June ONLINE by cheque or cash. If paid directly to the school please put it in an envelope with your child's name and class clearly written on the outside.**

## **Classroom Fees 2019-20**

**St. Brigid's National School, Ballysax**

**Due for payment in September - Available to pay Online using DataBiz Solutions**

**This fee allows additional resources to be available to every child in the school.**

|                 |               |                   |        |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|--------|
| Art/Craft:      | €20.00        | Photocopying      | €10.00 |
| Software Access | €6.00         | Reading Materials | €15.00 |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>€51.00</b> |                   |        |

**Allianz 24/7 Insurance (optional but recommended) €9.00 per child.**

### **Additional Curriculum based Activities**

**Cycling for 3rd Class:** 3rd Class will have 8 cycling lessons delivered by Cycle Safe and subsidised by Kildare Co Council. There is a cost to parents of €15 per child, payable now or in September.

**Swimming:** 3rd to 6<sup>th</sup> class will have 6 swimming lessons in the in the Curragh Pool with trained instructors. This is part of the school curriculum. It is subsidised by the Board of Management but there is a cost to parents of €45 per child for the 6 lessons.

### **School Uniform:**

Grey V-neck Jumper/Cardigan with school crest, blue shirt/blouse, grey skirt/pinafore/trousers.

**DARK** shoes or runners to be worn with uniform.

Tracksuit: Navy crested round-necked sweatshirt, plain **NAVY** tracksuit trousers (No brands or logos accepted). Plain blue or white polo shirt.

### **Summer Uniform:**

Plain blue or white polo shirt, navy/grey shorts knee length (unbranded).

**School tracksuit/jumpers with crests available at "Back to School" (opposite back entrance to Whitewater). Alternatively you can buy plain grey jumpers or navy sweatshirts and we will arrange to have crests embroidered on them in September at a cost of €4 per crest.**

**School uniform is to be worn on their first day of school. Your child's teacher will inform you of what days tracksuits are to be worn.**

**ALL UNIFORMS JUMPERS, TRACKSUIT TOPS, COATS, LUNCH BOXES, BOTTLES, FLASKS ETC. TO BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH CHILD'S NAME.**



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June, 2019.

Dear Parents,

The Board of Management applies every year for a grant to help towards the cost of school books. We received word that this grant is now available. The money received will be divided among whatever children are eligible for it.

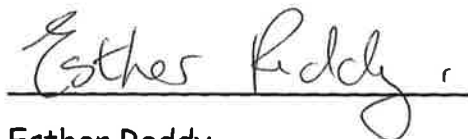
This year we will put the money towards the book rental scheme for the children and will notify families of the shortfall they need to pay.

Pupils eligible for assistance for assistance from this grant are those:

- *Whose families are dependent mainly on social welfare payments*
- *Whose families are on low incomes from employment*
- *Whose families are experiencing financial hardship because of particular circumstances in the home*

If you wish to avail of this grant please fill out the form below and return it to the school tomorrow marked "For the attention of the Principal" or post to the school by next Wednesday 19th June. All matters concerning this grant will be treated in confidence.

Le gach dea-ghuí



Esther Reddy

Principal.

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**I wish to avail of the grant towards the cost of school books.**

**Number in family attending Ballysax N. S. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Signed Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_**