

School Newsletter



December 2019

Bekan National School

The following is a brief update on events/issues that will be of concern to you this term.

New classroom: The Board of Management are delighted to announce that the Department of Education and Skills have agreed to fund a new classroom which will be used for support group-teaching and ICT. It is hoped that this build will commence in spring 2020.

Digital Learning; The school has just purchased 25 new iPads which will be used by all classes to develop digital learning in our school.

Rugby training: Pupils from 4th-6th are undertaking a six week programme for development of rugby skills. This initiative is funded by Rugby Ireland.

Gaelic training: Pupils in 1st-4th Class are participating in a Gaelic skills development course as part of the GAA schools' excellence programme.

Cycle safety course: Pupils in 4th & 5th will be given an opportunity to participate in this course which will be delivered in the new year.

Christmas Concert This year our Christmas Concert will take place on Thursday 12th December at 6:30 pm in Began Church. The Juniors will perform a musical called "Angel Express" and the Seniors will stage "Lights, Camels, Action!" We hope all families will join us on the night for a good evening's entertainment!

Pupils are asked to be in the Church for **6pm** please.

Mobile Phones: Pupils are not allowed to bring phones to school **at any time** and most especially on the day of the Christmas holidays. If a pupil is found to have a phone it will be confiscated in line with school management policy.

St.Vincent De Paul Fundraiser

Every Christmas the school hosts a fundraiser for our local St. Vincent De Paul Society in Ballyhaunis. This year we will have a **Christmas Jumper Day** on Thursday 19th December. Pupils can dress up and bring in €1 on the day for this very worthy cause.

A Special Visitor: On the day of the Christmas Holidays the junior classes will have a visit from a very special man in a red suit!

Phone numbers: Please ensure that you inform the school if you have changed your mobile number or email and it is very important that we have a second contact number for every family.

Dates for your diary

First Holy Communion: 9th May 2020

Christmas Holidays: School will close on **Friday 20th December at 12 noon** and re-open on **Monday 6th January 2020**

Please check out our website (www.bekanschool.ie) for updates on school projects and individual class blogs. You can follow us on Twitter - @BekanSchool

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if there is an issue or problem you wish to discuss

Parents' Association News

Thank you to everyone who supported our Halloween Disco which raised €700.

Christmas Bake Sale There will be a Christmas Bake Sale in Began Community Centre after 11:30am Mass on Sunday 15th December. There will be a wonderful selection of delicious cakes and treats available. Please support this very popular school fundraiser by baking or buying!

50/50 Raffle

This year the PA are delighted to announce that there will be a separate 50/50 raffle which will take place at the Christmas Bake Sale. Tickets have been sent to all families today.

Board of Management 2019-2023

Chairperson; Gerard O'Gara

Bishop's patron: Fr. Brendan McGuinness

Board secretary: Marie McDonagh

Teacher nominee Roseanne McNeive.

The ballot papers for the parents' representatives on the Board of Management for 2019-2023 were counted on Wednesday 20th November by members of the Board and the Chairperson of the Parents' Association.

The two parents' representatives elected to the Board are;

Lisa Brennan and Peter Noone.

Following an initial meeting of the two elected parent nominees, the elected teacher nominee, the two nominees of the patron and the principal, two extra members from the wider community were proposed.

Community Nominees: Darren Gavin and Bernie Boyle

The new Board of Management is now in place for 2019-2023.

Thank you to all parents who took the time to vote in this election.