

St. Joseph's National School,

Bekan, Claremorris, Co. Mayo

Phone: 094-9380311 Website: bekanschool.ie

Twitter: @BekanSchool



School Newsletter

Term 2

2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

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

Wellbeing in Bekan School

In recent months, Wellbeing is a topic that has become very significant for all of us. In Bekan, the staff are currently looking at the development of a school programme where we will target a number of areas of wellbeing that we feel should be addressed. As part of this evaluation we will be taking part in the **Amber Flag initiative** which is in association with Pieta House. We will be setting up a student council to enable pupils have an input into this programme also. Further details to follow on this.

Primary Language Curriculum

This term the Dept. of Education and Skills have sanctioned a half-day closure to facilitate staff in-service for implementation of this curriculum. The next closure will be a half-day on **Wednesday 16th March**. School will close at 12:00 noon on that day and buses will collect pupils at this time.

School Uniform

Pupils must wear the correct uniform everyday unless a written note is provided. School tracksuit to be worn for PE. No hoodies or pants with stripes are permitted.

Uniform compliance is part of our school's code of conduct.

Car Parking

Parents who bring children to school by car are requested to park along the school wall **on the school side of the road only**, allowing children to walk to the school gates on the footpath. **Please do not park directly opposite the school gates or in the way of the school buses.**

Healthy Eating

This school has a healthy eating policy in place. Please be aware that crisps, fizzy drinks and chewing gum are not allowed. Pupils should only have a sweet treat on Fridays. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated with this.

Dates for your diary

First Confessions: March 10th at 11am

Communion Retreat: April 7th 2022

First Holy Communion: 7th May 2022

Mid-Term Break: School will be closed on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th February

Staff in-service: School closes at 12 noon on Wednesday 16th

St. Patrick's Weekend: School will be closed on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th March

Easter Holidays: School will close on Friday 8th April at 3:10pm and re-open on Monday 25th April.

Please check out our website (www.bekanschool.ie) for information on school and 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.

Kind Regards,

Marie McDonagh

Parents' Association News

Outdoor classroom

We are delighted to announce that the PA are funding the cost of a new **outdoor classroom** at the back of the school as part of the school development programme. This will be used by all classes and while it will also enhance teaching and learning (weather permitting!!) it will also be a lovely addition to the school grounds.

Christmas fundraiser Thank you to everyone who very kindly supported our Christmas 50/50 draw. We raised €850 for school funds. Congratulations to Lisa Finn who won the jackpot.

50/50 Raffle

This year the PA are delighted to announce that there will be another 50/50 raffle which will take place at St. Patrick's Weekend. Details will be sent home with students nearer the time.

Board of Management News

Voluntary Contributions: This fee is €50 per family and the money is used by the school to help fund many of the extras not covered by the Department. The Board has spent a lot of extra money in the past couple of months in order to ensure our school is safe and well equipped. All classrooms have been refurbished. Interactive screens and Hepa filters were also installed throughout the school. The voluntary contribution is essential for the running of the school and all children benefit from it. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Policy Updates: The following school policies for Bekan School were ratified/reviewed at the last Board meeting; Policy on class allocation, Policy on splitting classes and the School Improvement Plans for numeracy & literacy 2022 All ratified policies are available for viewing/download on the school website or a hard copy can be requested through the office.