

St. Joseph's National School,

Bekan, Claremorris, Co. Mayo

Phone: 094-9380311 E-Mail: bekanns@gmail.com

Twitter: @BekanSchool



School Newsletter

November 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

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

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.** Due to the building project there is increased risk and parents are asked to be particularly vigilant when parking at the school.

Building project: The sewerage works upgrade and infant yard refurbishment are now completed. It is hoped that the new room will be completed by February. We will then paint the whole school and upgrade entrance doors to classrooms at the front of the school.

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. This closure will be on **Friday 10th December**

School will close at 12:00 noon on that day and buses will collect pupils at this time.

School Inspection: A school inspection by the DES was carried out on Tuesday 2nd November. The focus of this inspection was on anti-bullying policies and procedures. The Inspector was very complimentary of the school and satisfied that all procedures are in place and adhered to. Parents are reminded to be watchful for any changes in their child's behaviour that may alert them that all may not be well. If you suspect that your child is unhappy in school please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to discuss your concerns and the school will endeavour to do everything to ensure the matter is resolved.

School absences: Please ensure that when your child returns to school after an absence, **a signed absence note** (available at the back of school diary) must be given to the class teacher. Once again we remind you that we are obliged to forward names of pupils who are **absent from school for 20 days or more to Tusla**

Communion and Confirmation Classes

Congratulations to all pupils who recently received the sacraments of Communion and Confirmation. A special thanks to Fr. Brendan McGuinness and all the teachers who were involved in the preparation of the children.

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 contact number for every family.

Dates for your diary

Christmas Holidays: Closing Wednesday 22nd December at 12 noon.
Re-opening on Thursday 6th January

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.

Kind Regards,

Marie McDonagh

Parents' Association News

Halloween fundraiser Thank you to everyone who very kindly supported our 50/50 draw. We raised €900 for school funds.

Christmas 50/50 and Bumper Raffle

This year the PA are delighted to announce that there will be another 50/50 raffle which will take place before the Christmas holidays. There will be a bumper raffle with great prizes for runners up so make sure to buy tickets.

Appreciation: We would like to thank all the parents who helped us organize teas/coffees, cakes.. for the retirement function of Geraldine Lyons. We would like to wish her a long and happy retirement.

Board of Management News

Retirement of Ms. Lyons: The Board would like to thank Geraldine Lyons most sincerely for the wonderful dedication and commitment to the pupils under her care for the past 21 years in Bekan School. She is wished health and happiness in her retirement.

New teaching appointments; A special welcome to Claire Walshe who will be teaching Junior Infants and to Fiona Butler who will be covering the shared SET post this year. Both teachers are wished every success in their new posts.

Policy Updates: The following school policies for Bekan School were ratified/reviewed this term. Child protection and safeguarding, Anti-bullying policy and School Code of behaviour. All ratified policies are available on the school website (www.bekanschool.ie) or a hard copy can be requested through the office.