**Back to School 2021 Reminders**

Welcome back everyone! We had a great school year last year despite the pandemic and are looking forward to another year.

**Classes & Rooms** – details on our website and noticeboard in entrance alley.

**Starting and finishing**

Starting and finishing times – **see** [**www.stbrigidsinfantschool.ie**](http://www.stbrigidsinfantschool.ie) **PARENT INFORMATION**

First class children may be dropped into the yard. Junior and Senior Infant children must be supervised by an adult or sibling until collected by teacher. All children must STAND in their line. There is plenty of time for running and playing during the two break times.

Once again we will have staggered starting and finishing times to reduce crowding in the yard. The Early Start and Junior Infant children will work up to a full day.

Children will say goodbye to parents out in the yard. We have lots of staff available to look after children who need help to say goodbye. We will take good care of your children so don’t be worried!

Please FOLLOW THE YELLOW ARROWS and KEEP RIGHT on the path.

Book rental, workbooks, crests and ties - call to Jackie’s office window or give the money in an envelope to a staff member. Receipts will be issued. Please settle your account as soon as possible. A weekly payment plan can be arranged on request.

€55 for Senior Infants and First.

€60 for Junior Infants.

Early Start – no charge.

Crests and ties available in Jackie’s office. Knock at the window.

**Masks**

Staff will be wearing masks. Children will NOT be wearing masks.

The Board of Management is strongly urging all adults and teenagers to wear a mask on school grounds to reduce the transmission of infection in our school community. As our school yard is

**Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette**

Children will be sanitising their hands under adult supervision entering and exiting the building, before and after using toys, books or learning materials, before eating, after using the toilet. Children will be having lessons in hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

**Social distancing**

Staff will be keeping a safe distance and will communicate with parents through Class Dojo, Aladdin text messages, phone calls or brief, distanced chats. No one is allowed into the school building unless by appointment. Any meetings will be held in a well-ventilated room observing social distance. The Junior Infant teachers will be in touch with parents to set up Class Dojo.

Children MUST line up on the smiley faces or foot prints and stay in their line until collected by class teacher.

Children will be staying and playing with their own class bubble only during the day.

A small team of staff (class teacher, support teacher, SNA or childcare worker) will be working with each class bubble to limit interaction.

**Fresh air and ventilation**

Like last year, we will be doing lots of outdoor learning and the children will have two outside breaks every day.

The classroom and corridor windows will be open every day. Children should be dressed warmly every day. Please make sure children have vests, extra jumpers, leggings and tracksuit bottoms which can be worn under and over the uniform on cold days.

**Unwell children** Public health advice is for a precautionary approach i.e. children who are OFF FORM in ANY WAY should stay at home for 48 hours and parents should ring doctor for advice. Children who are unwell in any way will be minded by a staff member in the parents’ room until they are collected by a parent. Please make sure we have your numbers up-to-date.

**Travel** Parents should follow government advice regarding return from abroad. Please be aware that this advice is updated regularly and can change overnight.

**School lunches**  Free school snacks, lunches, milk and water are provided by Glanmore Foods. Ham is back on the menu twice a week. New menus will be handed out soon. Children should bring an empty lunch box to take home their unfinished lunch.

 **Quick communication checklist**

Do we have three up-to-date emergency phone numbers?

Have you saved our school number on your phone?

Have you checked our school website for information ? It’s updated regularly.

Are you ready to use the Class Dojo app to communicate with class teacher?

We will send further details about how we will keep the communication lines open between home and school when the children have settled in.