**Barnaderg National School**

**Barnaderg, Tuam, Co Galway**

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***Telephone:*** (093) 49357

***e-mail: contact@barnadergns.com***

***website: www.barnadergns.com***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Fáilte ar ais ar scoil. We welcome all the children and staff back to school. A special welcome to our new Junior Infants: Joseph, Luca, Darcy, Robin, Sarah M, Gavin and Sarah R. We hope that becoming part of Barnaderg N.S. will be a great time for each of them.

All classes have settled in well in the opening days of the school year. We can feel a lovely atmosphere in the school. We want every child to achieve their best through a combination of hard work and fun experiences. We look forward to a great year in Barnaderg N.S.

**Our staff this year are:**

Junior & Senior Infants: Ms. Maeve Breen

1st & 2nd class: Mr. Martin Mulryan

3rd & 4th class: Mr. John-Henry Flattery

5th & 6th class: Ms. Sarah Byrne

Special Education Teacher: Ms. Anne Marie Doyle

Special Education Teacher: Ms. Eimear O’Flaherty

Special Education Teacher: Ms. Ann Marie Duggan

Special Needs Assistant: Ms. Gilleesa Lane

Special Needs Assistant: Ms. Lisa Kenny

Special Needs Assistant: Ms. Michelle Tighe

Special Needs Assistant: Ms. Noreen O’Reilly

Secretary: Ms. Pauline Donohue

Thank you to our cleaners Mary & Nicola and our caretaker Jason for maintaining the school throughout the year. The school is looking very well inside and out. We appreciate all your work.

**Our Board of Management are:**

Geraldine O’Connor (Chairperson), Fr. Jarlath Heraty, John-Henry Flattery, Anne Marie Doyle, Martin Bermingham, Martina Feeney, Deirdre Byrne, Peter Greaney.

**School holidays for the year are as follows:**

Mid-Term Closed Mon. 31st Oct.– Fri. 4th Nov. inclusive

Christmas Closing on Wed. 21st Dec.

 Re-opening on Thu. 5th Jan.

Public Holiday Closed Mon. 6th Feb.

Mid-Term Closed Thu. 16th Feb. & Fri. 17th Feb.

Public Holiday Closed Fri. 17th Mar.

Easter Closing on Fri. 31st Mar.

 Reopening on Mon. 17th Apr.

Public Holiday Closed Mon. 1st May

Public Holiday Weekend Closed Fri. 2nd June & Mon. 5th June

Summer Holidays Closing on Tue. 27th June

The school may close to facilitate staff in-service during the year, dates to be confirmed.

**Communication**

School Newsletters will be emailed to you and text-a-parent will be used for short messages. Please ensure that the school has your correct phone number and email address.

**School Website:**

Our new school website is now live. You are welcome to browse it at [www.barnadergns.com](http://www.barnadergns.com)

We will be adding content during the year. Our popular Facebook page can be followed at <https://www.facebook.com/barnadergns>

**Illness:**

If your child has an illness that can be spread to others or if they require temperature controlling medication during the day, please keep them at home until they are well.

If your child becomes ill or hurts their head during the school day, you will be notified by phone.

**Healthy Eating:**

Children are asked to bring healthy lunches each day. No fizzy drinks, no energy drinks, no crisps, no bars, no biscuits, no buns. A small treat is permitted every Friday.

**School Photographs:**

Memory Lane visited our school on Tue. 6th September. Proofs will be distributed along with order forms when they arrive in the school.

**Tin Whistle:**

We ask that all children from 1st – 6th class bring their tin whistles to school from Mon. 19th September onwards. Tin whistles can be purchased from the school. Please let us know if your child needs a tin whistle.

**Football Coaching:**

Football coaching will take place with Mr. Flattery every Thursday from 3.00 p.m. to 3.50 p.m. Coaching will start on Thursday 22nd September and continue until Thursday 24th November, weather permitting.

Boys and girls from 4th – 6th class are welcome to participate. All children will need football boots as we will be training on grass. All children must bring a gum shield to each training session.

**School Jerseys:**

Please check at home for school jerseys, and ask past pupils that you may know, as many of our jerseys have not been returned.

**Morning arrival:**

School starts at 9.20 a.m. each morning. The Board of Management has arranged for supervision to start at 9.10 a.m. each morning. Please do not send pupils to school before this time. The Board of Management takes no responsibility for children arriving early.

**Afternoon collection:**

We are continuing with our staggered collection times for the first term of the year.

Junior & Senior Infants: 2.00 p.m.

1st & 2nd class: 2.51 p.m.

3rd & 4th class: 2.55 p.m.

5th & 6th class: 3.00 p.m.

**School uniform:**

Children are expected to wear their school uniform every day.

Boys: Grey polo shirt, grey trouser, maroon jumper.

Girls: Grey polo shirt, grey skirt/pinafore/trouser, maroon cardigan/jumper.

A maroon tracksuit may be worn for PE. This tracksuit is also suitable for daily wear if preferred. Please note that branded tracksuit bottoms/leggings are not part of the school uniform.

**Personal belongings:**

Please label all your child’s personal belongings including lunchboxes, jumpers, stationery etc.

**Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal:**

We will send leaflets re. shoebox appeal home as soon as we receive them. For anyone who wishes, please return your box to the school before November 8th.

**Galway Cross Country:**

The 2022 Galway AAI Primary Schools’ Cross Country Championship semi-finals will be held in the playing fields of Nolan Park, Renmore in Galway City on Tuesday 20th September. Races for East Galway commence at 12.30 p.m. The Board of Management will cover the entry fee and children taking part will be asked to pay for bus transport to the event. Best wishes to all our competing athletes!

**Football Blitz:**

St. Jarlath’s College are hosting their primary school football blitz on Wednesday 28th September. Boys and girls will represent the school in this event.

**Gordon D’Arcy school visit:**

Gordon D’Arcy (Heritage and Nature Expert) will visit the school on Wednesday October 12th. Al classes will be taken on suitable nature walks on the day. Suitable footwear and clothing are recommended on the day.

**Credit Union Art Competition:**

The theme for this year’s competition is ‘It’s a Wonderful World’. Any child wishing to take part may ask for an entry form in school. Closing date for entries is Friday 14th October.

**Parent-Teacher Meetings:**

Parent-Teacher meetings will be held in November. Teachers will send out details regarding these in due course.

**Mr. Mulryan’s retirement:**

Mr. Martin Mulryan will retire from teaching on Friday October 28th. We will host a school mass and send-off on the day. Parents and past pupils will be welcome to attend. Further details will be issued in due course.

**Happy Tots- Breakfast club & After school club:**

Caroline Lohan is now operating a breakfast club from 8.00 a.m. to 9.10 a.m. each morning. She is also operating an afterschool club from 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. These services are available for school aged children. For further information please contact Caroline on 087-2389427.

**Payments:**

24-hour pupil insurance: €6.50 per child

Arts & Crafts: €15 per child

Voluntary contribution: €50 for 1 child

 €80 for 2 or more children

Book rental: Please see booklists for book rental costs. Pauline will contact each family in relation to individual costs.

All payments can be made via the Way2Pay payment system. Pauline will issue payment requests next week.

Please note that all payments can be made in installments and spread out over a period.

\*Voluntary contribution- we appreciate whatever your family can contribute.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh bliain iontach maith again.

Is mise, le meas,

John-Henry Flattery