**Scoil Bhríde**

*Nurney, Co. Kildare*

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1st December 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

**Dates for your diary**

* ***School closes at 2pm on December 2nd for all pupils*** to facilitate a staff meeting and fire safety training. The bus has been told.
* School will close for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday December 22nd for all pupils at 12.30pm. Buses have been told. The school will re-open on Thursday January 6th 2022 for all pupils at 9.20am

**A new pupil!**

A picture containing clothing

Description automatically generatedWe welcome a very special new pupil and visitor to our school ***“Noddy” the Nurney Elf***. We are asking all boys and girls to please keep any eye out for Noddy. He does not like to be moved so please don’t touch him as he too is trying not to get COVID-19, but he does love big warm smiles and he also loves when people say to him “Hello” or “Dia duit”. He speaks Elfish, English and Irish! He also loves to see children being well behaved! Welcome to Scoil Bhríde Noddy!! Anyone got or willing to make a Nurney Jersey for him?

**Sadly, No Christmas Cards this year between pupils due to COVID-19**

Sadly, due to COVID-19 there will no Christmas Post Box for the pupils outside the school office this year due to COVID-19

In order to limit the possible spread of infectious disease and keep our school open we are asking all pupils and parents to please not pass Christmas cards to each other in school. We really need your help on this. We have come so far, let’s do our utmost best to get to the Christmas holidays COVID free. Thank you everyone!

**Antigen testing programme for primary school pupils**

All the information you need on the new antigen testing scheme for primary school pupils can be found on the COVID-19 page of our school website. In addition there is also a useful HSE guide for parents on any questions you may have regarding PCR tests and isolation, as well as useful links to mental health support services for families.

****Winter Fest Hamper Raffle organized by 6th class for all pupils in memory of Catherine O’Donoghue late of Walterstown Nurney (partner of our great school caretaker Pat). All donations go to ‘The Dining Room’, a homeless support service which provides hot food and drinks, soup, sandwiches, clothing and sleeping bags in Newbridge twice a week for up to 50 people and various families per night.**

Tickets for the raffle will be sold Tuesday the 7th and Thursday the 9th of December. Tickets are 1 Euro per line. Christmas arts and crafts will be sold the same day as the tickets. Classes will be notified of arts and crafts prices and products closer to the time. A Covid safety risk assessment and control plan has been developed to minimize the possible spread of any infectious disease.

Winners of the raffle will be announced at our December school assembly. The winner will get a hamper. There are two hampers. One for junior infants to 2nd class and one for 3rd to 6th class. All donations to this fundraiser are welcome and greatly appreciated.

**Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment**

Our school’s child safeguarding statement and risk assessment has undergone its annual review and is available on our school website for reading and comment. Thank you.

***Wednesday Note and school information also available on***

[**www.nurneyns.com**](http://www.nurneyns.com)

***Thank you for your co-operation with the above.***

**Vinny Thorpe – Principal**

*(Doctoral Student) M.Ed (SL), MA.Comp.Mus, H.Dip.Prim.Ed, H.Dip.Mus.Tech, P.Grad.Dip.Ed.St(SEN), B.Mus.Ed(H.Dip.Ed), Dip.Mus.Ed, T.Dip.ICT*