

Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

INTERNET SAFETY WEEK

February

www.bpps.ie



Ar Thriail Na Tuiscine
In search of Understanding

Dear Parents,

We hope this message finds you well. We would like to extend our gratitude for your participation and support during Internet Safety Week at Bush Post Primary School. The week was filled with informative sessions and engaging activities to raise awareness about online safety, equipping our students with the necessary skills to navigate the digital world responsibly.

Highlights of the Week:

An Garda Síochana Workshop:

We were fortunate to have representatives from An Garda Síochana share valuable insights on online safety. Their talk emphasized the importance of saying 'no' to requests online and provided practical tips to help students stay safe in the digital space.

TY Microsoft Dream Space Ambassador Workshop:

Our Transition Year students, serving as Microsoft Dream Space Ambassadors, visited 1st year classes and conducted an interactive workshop on Internet Safety. They shared valuable tips and resources, empowering their peers to make informed choices online.

Internet Safety Poster Competition:

Our 1st and 2nd-year students participated in an Internet Safety Poster Competition, showcasing their creativity and understanding of online safety concepts. The entries were impressive, reflecting a keen awareness of the importance of responsible digital citizenship.

DML, SPHE & Wellbeing Lessons:

Throughout the week, Digital Media Literacy (DML), Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) and Wellbeing classes incorporated discussions on online safety. This integrated approach ensures that online safety is an ongoing conversation within our curriculum.

Selfie Frame Capturing the Week's Events:

A selfie frame was used to capture memorable moments throughout the school during Internet Safety Week. It served as a fun and engaging way to document the activities and celebrate our collective commitment to online safety.



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Parental Guidance:

As we wrap up Internet Safety Week, we encourage you to continue the conversation at home. Here are a few additional tips to promote online safety:

Open Communication:

Foster an open line of communication with your child. Encourage them to share their online experiences and concerns with you.

Set Boundaries:

Establish clear guidelines for screen time and online activities. Discuss the importance of privacy settings and responsible online behaviour.

Stay Informed:

Keep yourself informed about the latest online trends and potential risks. This knowledge will empower you to guide your child effectively.

Lead by Example:

Demonstrate responsible online behaviour and emphasise the importance of treating others with respect in the digital space.

Thank you once again for your active participation in Internet Safety Week. Together, we can create a safer and more positive online environment for our students.

Best regards,

Shane Brennan

Special thanks to our Dream Space Ambassador students – Kate Hanlon, Myah Ward & Ellen Callan, Caretakers Gerry McEnaney & Eamonn Sheridan



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Bush Post Primary School

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Green School News

February

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Visit in

Thanks to Senator Erin Mc Greehan who gave a presentation on the history of Irish trees to the Green Schools and the First years.

Erin is involved in a project called Mile Crainn na Eireann. This is an initiative to encourage the planting and embracing of Irish Native Trees.

Erin gave details on the history, Irish folklore, place names and the medical uses that native Irish trees had throughout Irish history.



Tree Planting

Thanks to Matthew , Ollie and Roan from L.C.A.5 who planted 15 native trees for our pocket wood. The trees were donated by Torin Fleming through a free trees initiative in Co. Louth. Trees planted are Birch , Rowan , Hawthorn and Scots Pine.



Upcoming dates -

Monday March 18th - Bank Holiday.

March 4th - 8th -

Transition Year Work Experience.

Tuesday March 12th - First Year Parent Teacher Meeting.

March 11th - 15th - Seachtain na Gaeilge.

March 18th - Green Schools Week/Activity Day

Monday March 25th - April 5th - Easter Break .

**AFTER SCHOOL STUDY
CONTINUES – EVERY MONDAY,
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY.
SNACK PROVIDED! 15.50 -
17.45.**

Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Artwork

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Relove Fashion TY Art

The following TY Art Students (5 Groups) have been shortlisted for the next stage of the 'Relove Fashion Competition 2023/24'.

Each group had to research, design and create an outfit using old unused clothes. They had to create a PowerPoint showcasing their design process and how sustainability played a huge role in the creation of their outfit.

The next stage of the competition will include an interview with the Head Judge, and Programme Manager of Rediscover Fashion, Arran Murphy, where they will be able to share with them more information on their process of their outfit creation.

Mia/Ruby/Shannon

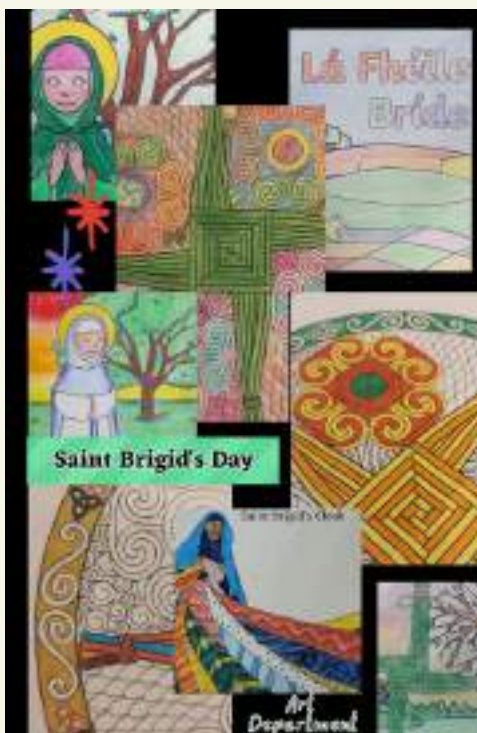
Kaitlin J/Niamh

Clodagh/Kate

Niamh L/Eva

Emily/Ellen/Sophie/Sarah/Rosie

St. Brigid's Day - Artwork



TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

ACADEMIC AWARD FOR SOPHIE IN DCU

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I first applied for a chance to participate in a Centre for Talented Youth Ireland (CTYI) Law course in DCU last May. Throughout studying for my Junior Cert exams, I wrote a few small essays on my goals and aspirations for my future career, and separate reasons on why I felt I deserved to be accepted into the course I chose. I got letters of recommendation from some of my teachers and sent in my final application.

I ended up being accepted into the Law course and began in early September 2023. I commuted every Friday morning and evening up and back to Dublin by bus. The course focused on Tort Law and the Irish Legal System, both of which are areas of law needed for any future law exams I take. Tort Law focuses primarily on civil matters, such as compensation and taking people to court. The Irish Legal System explores the Court Systems and the details within it. I knew going into this course that law was what I wanted to pursue as a career, but DCU really helped back my dreams up, stabilising them and giving me something to work on. Throughout my first semester, I made so many friends from all over Ireland that I had never met before. I still talk to a lot of them, and a few even came back with me for a second semester that started in January. This course has been so beneficial for me, whether through confidence or knowledge. But DCU was also a step up from secondary school, and it took a lot of hard work to keep up with the standards of which they hold you to. In college, you are expected to be independent and teach yourself a good amount of the materials. I spent many weekends putting in my own time to study, and most weekdays too in the lead-up to my exams and presentations. I took my final exams in early December and got my results back in late January. I received a first class honours certificate in Tort Law and the Irish Legal System, which I was really happy with. All the hard work was worth it. I would highly encourage anyone considering doing TY to push yourself and take part in any of the courses that the CTYI program offers in DCU. It's such an amazing experience to be a part of, and you might just realise what you want to do when you grow up!!

TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

ENGLISH TRIP TO SIVE

February

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On the 22nd of February, Transition Year English students from Bush Post Primary attended The Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, to watch a production of John B. Keane's classic play, 'Sive'. 'Sive' follows the story of a young girl born out of wedlock, who is at the centre of a plot devised by a matchmaker and a bitter aunt, who force her to marry a much older man in order to receive the dowry on offer. The students spent the morning in Dublin and opted to have lunch before the production. They were accompanied by Ms Byrne, Ms O'Hanlon, Ms Harkin and Ms Dugdale. The play is a part of the Leaving Certificate course, and the trip no doubt furthered the students' understanding of the iconic Irish drama.



TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

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Conradh na Gaeilge



On Monday February 19th, all Transition year students took part in a special workshop by Conradh na Gaeilge called the 'Seó bóthair'. Aoife Curtis is one of 3 coordinators who travel the county to inform students about the Irish Language. The aim of the workshop was to empower and encourage students to use Irish more often, by informing them about the advantages and opportunities that the Irish language provides. She spoke with students about the growth of our language and about various ongoing Irish language campaigns both within and outside of School. The workshop encouraged students to use critical thinking to examine their opinions about the Irish language through Agree/Disagree statements and an open debate about opinions and misconceptions. Students were also informed about their rights of where they can use the language and spot prizes were given out to students for active participation. Shay Hoey picked up a few stickers for his many answers, Ruairí Hollywood-Walker left with lovely pair of new sun glasses and top prize went to Marc Byrne with his new T-Shirt.

Road Safety Presentation by the Louth Road Traffic Road Division

The TY class enjoyed a very informative and hard hitting talk on Road Safety from local Gardaí. They spoke about the responsibility of pedestrians, cyclists, Motor bike riders, Quad bike riders, Tractor driver, passengers and car drivers. They also spoke about the dangers of drink and drug driving and students undertook breathalyser and drug tests during the session and the Gardai showed the detection methods available to them in policing our roads. They learned about speeding, using seat belts, intoxicated driving, i.e. alcohol and drugs, driver distraction and fatigue and passenger safety. The purpose of the talk was to help students develop the awareness, knowledge, values and skills to become safe road users.



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Tackle Your Feelings mental health and wellbeing campaign

On February 28th, the TY's took part in a workshop as part of the Tackle Your Feelings mental health and wellbeing campaign. It focused on the importance of looking after our mental health, with modules on resilience, happiness and optimism.

They completed an 8-week programme along with their wellbeing teachers and were rewarded with a visit from two Leinster Academy and Ireland Under 20's players. Temi Lasisi and Aitzol King were accompanied by TYF campaign manager Hannah McCormack on Wednesday the 29th of February, and took part in a fantastic Q&A with students. They discussed how they managed the pressure of playing such an intense sport, the support they receive from family and friends, and how they felt that sport was an positive outlet growing up.



TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

STUDENT ENTERPRISE COMPETITION

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On February 27th, three TY mini companies (school finalists) attended the annual Student Enterprise Awards Competition in the Fairways Hotel. 'Ecoteach' displayed a range of decorative birdhouses, 'Crucai Croise' showcased their impressive hand made crocheted blankets and plushies and 'North East Protein' displayed a range of tasty protein balls. The students were interviewed by three judges and spoke of their enterprise journey. Congratulations to all the students.

Pictured below:

Lewis Boyle, Damien Mill, JP McKeown, James Mayne, Daniel Fealy. (Ecoteach)

Fiadhait McDonnell, Grainne Rice. (North East Protein)

Eva Mee, Niamh Brady, Sophie Rose Caldwell, Kate Duffy. (Crucai Croise)



CAREER VISIT - OUT

February

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VIISIT OUT TO DIKIT

A huge thank you to Sharon Tuohy and all at DkIT for facilitating a TY Taster Day in Nursing and Early Year's Education. Eight students from Bush PP attended the event on February 21st. They followed an exciting timetable of practical lectures which provided students with an opportunity to experience undergraduate nursing, midwifery and early year's programmes.



CAREER NEWS

February

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DKIT VISIT - IN



Thank you to Eamon McGlone of FAI who presented to a large group of TY, 5th and 6th year students on the ETB FAI course which is run in DkIT. Students were told that if they gain distinctions on the course, these distinctions are equivalent to 390 CAO points. They also heard of the education modules that are part of the course including modules in anatomy and nutrition.



Third year students attended a Subject Choice Workshop on February 6th where they learned how to use <https://www.qualifax.ie/course/218293> to research Leaving Certificate subjects.

BUSH POST PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORT

February

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The junior camogie team attended a blitz in Kiltale GAC, Meath on 27th February. Over 20 girls attended the blitz with all students getting three games. The students had a brilliant day, with excellent levels of camogie displayed. Well done everyone.



Well done to our u16 boys' football team who reached the Flood Cup Final by beating St. Joseph's Secondary School by seven points.

BUSH POST PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPORT – RUGBY WIN

February

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Well done to our senior rugby team who won the North Louth Final against Ardee on a score of 27-10. Tries from Ryan Martin and Christopher Loughran, and 12 points from the boot of Diarmuid Reilly set the team up for an impressive victory. Great performances from Conall Quinn at lock and Philip McCormack on the wing gave the team momentum for victory. Congratulations to coaches Mr. Guerin and Ms. Mulholland.



A QUICK GUIDE TO

Created by @miss_aid

LIVE CAPTIONS FOR POWERPOINT

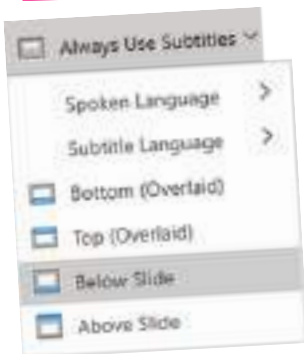
WHAT IS LIVE CAPTIONS?



Microsoft provides live captioning and subtitles, including translated subtitles. Many languages are supported, including English.

Subtitles enable deaf, hard of hearing or multilingual (ML) students to follow along with presentations.

TURNING ON SUBTITLES



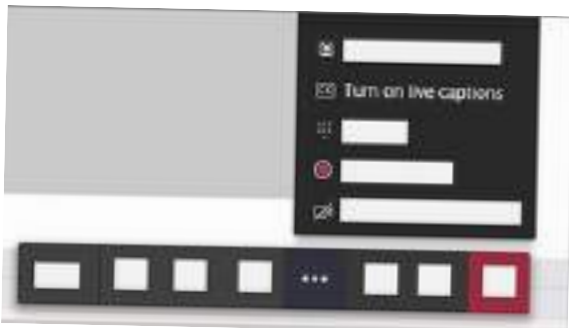
You can choose which language you want to speak while presenting, and which language the caption/subtitle text should be shown in.

On the Slide Show tab, select Use Subtitles. Then click Subtitle Settings to open the menu of options.

TEAMS MEETINGS



To use live captions in a teams meeting, go to your meeting controls and select **More options > Turn on live captions.**



LIVE CAPTIONS



Open OneNote for the web > click **view** tab > click **Live captions** button.

The live captions pane opens and your teacher will create a **join code** that you need to enter into OneNote.

Choose a captions language and click join, then on the right captions begin coming through in real time.



In the upper right of the transcript pane you can click **pause** to **pause the captions in real time.**

You can then highlight text that is important. If you un-pause the transcript, everything your teacher has said whilst you paused will appear so you will not miss any information.

TRANSCRIPTS IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE

You can set the transcript to appear in a different language from what the teacher is saying, so if the teacher is talking in English, French or Spanish captions can be generated in real time.

The process for starting **the transcripts in another language is the same**, but when you select the language (see below), choose the language you want the captions to appear in.

WHERE CAN I USE SUBTITLES?



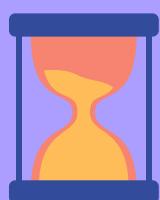
ACCELERATE LEARNING WITH THE RIGHT TOOLS:
FIND ADDITIONAL QUICK GUIDES TO GET STARTED



FAMILY AGREEMENT FOR ONLINE SAFETY

The internet is a big part of our lives and creating a family agreement is a great way to have positive conversations about using the internet safely and responsibly, and to set clear expectations. Through discussion about how and why your family goes online, both child and parent pledge to take specific actions around their use of the internet and agree on what will happen if the agreement isn't followed.

All families are different, but these considerations could be a useful guide to help you focus on what is most relevant for your family and their ages.



Time Spent Online

When can we use the internet for school work

When can we use the internet for entertainment

When can you be online

How often can we be online, and for how long?

How does it feel when we have spent too much time online?



Sharing online

- Do we know what information is ok to share, and what is not ok to share?

How do we keep personal information safe?

What do we know about password use and security

Do we know how to use privacy and safety settings, and why?

Content online

Which websites are okay for us to use?

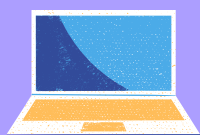
What can we do if we see, read or hear something online that doesn't seem accurate or reliable?

When is it okay to download files, games or apps, or click on a link?

- Do we know what the age requirements mean on the apps and games we use?

- Do we need any restrictions on making in-game or in-app purchases?

What parental controls might help us as a family?



Communicating online

Who can we chat/play games with online?

How do we treat other people online?

What can we do if we see someone being treated badly?



Getting help

What can we do if we are bothered by something online?

- Do we know where the block and report buttons are on the apps, websites and games we use?



For Safer Internet Day 2022 **Webwise and the National Parents Council** are calling on all families to **#TalkListenLearn** and help both children and parents talk about the benefits and the challenges of the online world. The online world is a big part of children's and teenager's lives. It is important to be involved with what they are doing online, and by talking, listening and learning together as a family it will help to support them to both navigate the challenges and make the most of the digital environment.



TALK

The best way to support your child to have a safe and positive experience, regardless of age, is to talk with them about what they are doing online.

Start that chat on the right footing using the fun and engaging Webwise **#TalkListenLearn** Topic Generator! The Topic Generator gives families

conversation starter questions that will allow parents and children to talk about key online safety topics including privacy, safety, sharing online, and false information.

- The Webwise Parents Hub also provides Talking Points to support parents to have a conversation about a range of tricky topics

LISTEN

Listen to what your child has to say, and make discussions about their online activities a regular part of family life. Showing your child that you are interested, and value what they have to say, will help give them the confidence to speak to you if they need support.

- Encourage your child to tell you about what they like doing online and what websites they use.

Ask them about their opinions on technology and internet, and what concerns they may have.

- Keep an open mind, listen to what they have to say, and reassure them that they can always come to you if they need help.

Listen to the experts! Visit the Webwise Parents Hub for advice from

parenting, education, technology and psychology experts on a range of key online safety topics.



LEARN

The internet is a fantastic resource which gives children and young people the opportunity to learn, create, research, play games, have fun and connect with other people. Learning about what they are doing online will help parents to support their child to do this safely, responsibly and positively.

- Join in and discover the internet together. Why not set aside some time to play your child's favourite online game, watch videos they like with them,

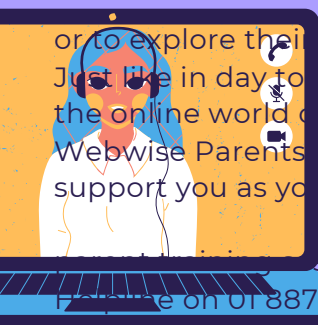
or to explore their favourite apps.

Just like in day to day life, the activities, opportunities and challenges of the online world can be an evolving journey for you and your child. The Webwise Parents Hub has a range of free information and resources to support you as you support your child in the digital world. Parents can

also access free online training from the National Parents Council, book a

parenting session for your local school, and access their parent's

Phone on 01 8874477.



ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS



1. HAVE THE CHAT

Have regular conversations with your child on the important things to look out for online and potential dangers.



2. AGREE RULES

Agree on a clear set of rules in your home about internet use and around screentime. Remember the importance of a healthy balance!



3. ASK FOR HELP

Reassure your child that they should always come talk to you if something happens online.



4. TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Not all information online is correct. Encourage your child to critically evaluate information they come across online.



5. LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Do as you say! Modelling behaviour is the most powerful way you can influence your child's behaviour!



6. JOIN IN

The internet is a great resource for children! Play your child's favourite computer game and discover the online world together.

Visit [webwise.ie/parents](https://www.webwise.ie/parents) for more expert advice, support and resources

MANAGING YOUR ONLINE REPUTATION



CHECKLIST

Your digital footprint is the record you leave behind online. This is made up of your online interactions, information and content you post and share, and includes content shared by others. A digital footprint can build up a picture of you online, use this simple checklist to help manage your online reputation.



CHECK YOUR SETTINGS: Some of the most popular social networks are set to public by default, meaning everyone can see our photos, what we are sharing or talking about. Regularly check your privacy settings across your social networks and apps. We recommend a 'friends only' option for your online profiles.



SEARCH FOR YOURSELF ONLINE: Do a quick search for yourself online, if you find something you don't like report it with the website or network host requesting the content be removed.



DEACTIVATE OLD ACCOUNTS: Social media changes so quickly, it can be easy to forget about old accounts or networks we've signed up to. If you're not using an account delete/deactivate it, this can help avoid risk of accounts/profiles being hacked.



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME ONLINE: What we do online can follow us around, ensure you make a positive impact. Whether it's starting a blog, raising awareness for something you care about or becoming the next Bill Gates...the possibilities are endless!



THINK BEFORE YOU POST: Before you share, comment, like, post, Tweet or pin anything...ask yourself if this is something you want everyone to see? Use the **THINK** model if you're unsure about posting something online >>> Ask yourself is it **T**True? Is it **H**elpful? Is it **I**llegal? Is it **N**ecessary? Is it **K**ind?