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# ST. PATRICK'S N.S. EASTER NEWSLETTER 2023

## Our School Garden

Spring has sprung and all of the classes are very busy with their preparations. We will be planting an assortment of vegetables in the polytunnel and the raised beds along with establishing a new wildflower bed to help with pollination.

## School Car Park

As parents are aware, our car park gets very busy especially at 3pm pick up. We do ask that parents pull up as far forward as possible in the car park at collection time. Please do not park in the marked yellow box as doing so causes a tail back at the gate. If you are collecting children from the after school service please park at the top of the car park particularly if you will be leaving your car unattended. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Le déanaí, bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge faoi lán seoil sa scoil. Rinneamar neart imeachtaí éagsúla chun an Ghaeilge agus an chultúr Ghaelach a chéiliúradh, mar shampla tráth na gceist, ealaín, amhráin

agus filíocht. Anuas ar sin, chun deireadh a chur leis an seachtain iontach, eagraíodh céilí sa chlós agus bhí spraoi agus spórt ag na daltaí go léir, ag damhsa agus ag baint taitneamh as an gceol traidisiúnta. Seachtain den chéad scoth a bhí againn ag baint sult as ár dteanga agus ár gcultúr álainn. Mar a deir an seanfhocal “Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam” agus is fíor é sin gan aon agó!

## Confirmation 2023

Well done to our 5th and 6th class pupils who made their Confirmation on the 2nd of March. We would also like to thank our choir from 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes and Bishop Leahy, Fr. Gibson, Fr. O'Connor and all our staff here for their help on the day.

## Swimming

Our 3rd class will begin swimming lessons in the Woodlands House Hotel Leisure Centre starting on 26th April for 6 weeks. Lessons can be paid for through the Aladdin app and must be paid for in advance.

## Engineers Week 2023

The pupils had a great week during Engineer's Week 2023, participating in workshops, learning about different types of engineers and what their jobs entail as well as having the opportunity to become "engineers" themselves.

## South Teams

Well done to all our pupils who trialled for South teams recently. Chloe McGrath was selected to represent the South Primary School camogie team in the Eithne Neville Cup competition. The South played two great games during the competition and ran out eventual winners after defeating a gallant City team in the final. Well done to Chloe and all her teammates on a fantastic win.

## Green Schools

Green School - Our school has submitted an application for a Green School Flag accreditation. The process will take place over the coming years and each year the school will build on the goals achieved and expand on the new targets to be met. We are starting this coming year with 'Litter and Waste' and we will be establishing a Green School Committee who will communicate to the school and the wider school community about the new initiatives etc to be introduced and implemented. Our school will also take part in the *Team Limerick Clean Up* on the week before our Easter holidays cleaning around our school.

## Important Dates and Times

- [School Closes at 12.15pm on Friday 31st March](#)
- School reopens at 9.20am on Monday 17th April
- Holy Communion 20th May in Bruree Church at 11am
- School closed Monday May 1st- Bank Holiday
- **School closed Friday June 2nd- Teacher In Service Day**
- School closed Monday June 5th- Bank Holiday
- School will close Fri 23rd June at 12.15pm for summer holidays



## **School Self Evaluation**

I would like to thank all our parents who responded recently to our Maths questionnaire. We are busy analysing the responses at present as well as the responses to a questionnaire our 4th,5th and 6th class pupils have completed. We will also analyse standardised test results before starting to write our School Self Evaluation report and School Improvement Plan. We are also surveying parents, pupils and teachers in relation to wellbeing in our school this week.



### **World Irish Dancing Championships**

Best of luck to Lucy and Tara Frawley who head to Montreal, Canada on the 30th March to take part in the Irish Dancing World Championships. A great achievement and a very exciting time for our two pupils.

### **Inter Schools Show Jumping Competition**

Well done to Grace, Hannah and Catherine who represented the school recently in the Inter Schools Show Jumping competition in Clonshire. The girls came third overall which was a great achievement.

### **GAA in Bruree NS**

Niamh Curran, our GAA Coach, has been attending the school since January and takes all our classes out each Friday. She has just finished a block of Gaelic football with our pupils in 1st to 6th class and is now concentrating on hurling and camogie for the coming weeks. She will continue to focus on Gaelic football and fundamental movement skills with our pupils in infants

Our boys from 3rd/4th class and girls from 5th class recently competed in an indoor hurling and camogie blitz in Kilmallock. The pupils played very well in all their games against strong opposition.

We also competed in the mini 7s hurling and camogie blitzes recently. Our camogie team were very unlucky not to qualify for the next round losing out a last minute goal to Kilbehenny NS. Our boys played great hurling in a very strong group featuring Kilmallock NS and Ballyagran NS.

## **Teacher/Artist Partnership**

Yvonne Edmonds has been a visiting artist to our school as part of TAP (Teacher/Artist Partnership) in association with Limerick Education Centre in Dooradoyle. She has worked with first class for six, two-hour sessions. The range of work the pupils covered varied from copper wire bead work to wax batiks on fabric. The children explored so many new areas of art and really enjoyed working with a professional artist.

## **Guided Reading/L.L.O.**

2nd/3rd class have recently finished a block of guided reading using our Big Cat readers in recent weeks. 3rd/4th class have now started their block. Senior Infants have also started a block of Literacy Lift Off and our juniors will begin their block after Easter.

## **Communion Class**

Well done to the 20 pupils in 2nd class who recently made their First Confession with Fr. Gibson. Preparations are beginning for their Communion at the moment which takes place on May 20th

## **Visit to Beech Lodge**

Our newly formed school band made a trip to Beech Lodge on Thursday 16th March to play some tunes for the residents. Our band, made up of pupils from 4th, 5th and 5th classes, have recently been formed under the guidance of 5th class teacher Muirne Lyons. Well done to all.

## **Rock your Socks**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our fundraiser for Down Syndrome Limerick on World Down Syndrome Day on Tuesday 21st March. We receive great support from Down Syndrome Limerick. We also had a Danceathon on the day with all pupils taking part. We raised €1150 on the day and this money will be presented to Down Syndrome Limerick this week.



## School Photos

Eamonn Andrews, photographer, will attend the school on Thursday 27th April to take photos of pupils. In a slight change to last year, parents will have to sign up in order for their children's photographs to be taken. We will send out all the information to parents after the Easter holidays. There is no obligation to get photographs taken on the day but we did want to offer the service to our new infant pupils and to our 6th class pupils who are leaving us this year.

## FAI Soccer Blitz

Our 6th class attended the annual FAI soccer blitz in Seanchóill Sports Complex Parteen last Friday. They played some great soccer in poor weather conditions. Our boys teams were lucky enough to qualify through to the next rounds which will take place in April. Well done all.

## World Book Day

Our pupils really enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters during our 'Character Parade' on World Book Day. We also had lots of opportunities to read our favourite novels and discuss some of our favourite characters and books on the day. We love reading here in Bruree NS and encourage our pupils to read as much as possible.

## Active Flag

All the children have been very active over the last number of weeks. Activities have included 'Feel Good Friday,' 'Active Lines' and our Run Around Ireland Challenge. A skipping club has also been set up by some eager pupils. We are really looking forward to 'Active School Week' coming up shortly.



## eTwinning

2nd & 3rd recorded some songs in Irish for their eTwinning partners. They also sent photos of their beautiful St. Patrick's Day art to show the Italian pupils how St. Patrick's Day is celebrated. They are currently preparing presentations about various aspects of the school, from the school day to the subjects, extra curricular activities etc throughout the school. They are looking forward to the presentation they will receive in return from the Italian pupils so they can learn about primary school in Italy. An online meeting where the pupils will get to speak to each other within the classroom is planned in the coming weeks.

## Primary School Book Scheme

As you may be aware, the Department of Education has announced a Primary School Book Scheme. From September 2023, school books, workbooks and copybooks will be provided by the school. The schoolbooks and workbooks will be on loan to the children. They must be returned at the end of the school year, or if the child leaves the school. There will be a requirement for parents to buy some additional items such as stationery for children to use at school. We will have more details on the scheme and how it will operate in St. Patrick's during Term 3.

## Happy Easter

Happy Easter to everyone in our school community. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and support during Term 2. We are already looking forward to an exciting last term.

*G. Killeen*



# Photo Gallery





