

Easter Newsletter 2016

As the end of term draws near, we look back on some events which took place this term:

Green School

The Green School Committee has been very busy this term working on the travel theme. We had a wonderful Action day on March 4th to highlight the importance of travelling, when possible, in an environmentally friendly way, and the students have certainly risen to the challenge! It is great to see the growing number of bicycles in the shed every morning and there has been a great increase in the number of students who are parking and striding to school. Remember to park and stride we need to park at least 1km away from the school. We are in debt to Ms Murphy and the committee for all their hard work.

Operation Transformation

We had a very successful Operation Transformation programme. Each class took on two weekly initiatives; aerobic moves at assembly, which we all thoroughly enjoyed and 15 minutes extra running every week. We celebrated our improved fitness levels on Thursday 10th with a 1km fun run. Don't forget to continue to practise the 6 healthy tips we learned throughout the programme:

- 1. Reduce treats**
- 2. Replace sugary drinks**
- 3. Make being active fun**
- 4. Less screen time**
- 5. Reduce portion sizes**
- 6. More sleep**

We thank Ms Daly for keeping us so fit!

Cross - Country running

Our school team has competed in two events to date in February and March and have represented the school brilliantly. Children from 3rd to 6th run distances of 300m and 600m. We are competing against schools in the South Dublin region. Our next event is on April 14th, so our training continues in earnest.

Swimming

All classes have now completed their 6 week swimming lessons as part of the PE curriculum. We have seen great improvements and the children really enjoyed learning this important life skill.

School Choir

5th and 6th class choir members performed in *Córfhéile na scoileanna* on Tuesday 1st March in the National Basketball Arena. The choir received a wonderful report and did themselves and Holy Spirit Senior School proud. Their amazing talent and dedication shone through in their melodious performances. Well done and thanks to Ms Jameson and Ms Taffee for their musical expertise.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

March marked *Seachtain na Gaeilge*, which we celebrated with a *Céilí Mór* on Wednesday 16th in the school hall. Everyone had great 'craic' and it was lovely to hear Irish phrases being used around the school.

Cake Sale

Wednesday was a 'sweet' day for us, as the Parents' Association ran a most successful and enjoyable cake sale. It was a great fundraiser for the school and a delicious experience for all. Thanks to all the students who baked and bought and to all our volunteer parents. We are so grateful to the Parents' Association for all they do for the school.

Youth Trade Fair

Students from 6th class took part in a Youth Trade Fair this week. Each group came up with an enterprising business idea and carried through their plan from start to finish. Products for sale included; phone covers, phone stands, sweet treats, books, dvd's and a cookery book. The students put so much hard work into their ideas. They are to be congratulated for their business prowess and application to the task. The proceeds of their wares are going to the charity 'Myaware', a charity which fights for myasthenia, Thanks to Clare from the School Completion Project and the 6th class staff.

Proclamation Day

The children have been very busy rehearsing their family histories in relation to the 1916 Rising. Each class has worked on a different aspect of the rising and their wonderful projects have been displayed in the school hall for Proclamation day on Tuesday 15th, a day we are delighted to celebrate with the parents . Our celebrations culminated in the reading of our own proclamation and the raising of the tri-colour, as we sang Amhrán na bhFiann. We encourage you to visit some of the many museums and exhibitions relating to 1916, to add to the children's knowledge of this historic event .

Road Safety

The Board of Management has serious concerns regarding the parking of cars by some parents outside the school gates. We ask all Parents/Guardians to respect the road markings and lollipop lady by only parking in legally permitted areas. This is for the safety of all the children. We remind you that there is ample parking in both the Church and Community Centre grounds. Also note that Parents/Guardians are asked not to drive up the school avenue at any time during the school day. Thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

Lá Fhéile Pádraig agus Cáisc shona daoibh go léir