



St Mary's Convent Primary School

Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire
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Imlitr 17
26th February 2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The school year is certainly moving along at pace and in this imlitr you will find a lot of information about our activities and events that have happened or will happen over the next few days and weeks. I hope the children all enjoyed the recent mid-term break which was a chance to recharge the batteries. Prior to the break the children enjoyed our Valentine's day celebration where they wore pink and red and bought cakes at the cake-sale organised by our ever active parents association.

School Improvements

During the break we took the opportunity to improve the existing pathway from the Summerhill road entrance. This path is now more clearly defined and is safer for all. We also ensured that the children have direct access to the safe footpath around the side of the school by removing a patch of grass and putting in some hard surface. I would encourage all parents and children who enter the school from this direction to ensure they are using the footpath as they enter the school.

A reminder to parents that the gates are open at 08:50 to receive children. Some children are being dropped off in the environs of the school much earlier and there is no supervision available. I would seek your cooperation in these matters.

School Closures.

On Friday March 8th the school will be closed to pupils as the building is being used for voting in the Referendum. The school will also be closed on **Tuesday 16th April** for staff inservice in the new maths curriculum.

Lenten Season

Lent is a time for reflection and prayer and an opportunity to think of those less fortunate. There are a number of ways we can observe Lent such as abstaining from chocolate and treats. But there are other ways to make a difference such as the Mass challenge and giving up some time to help others.

First Penance

Congratulations to the children who are making their First Confession on Tuesday 27th February @ 7pm in St Patrick's Church. Preparations are well underway in Ms O' Connor's and Ms. Mulligan's classes for this important sacrament.

Kind Regards,

Fergal Kelly

Principal

School Closures

Please be reminded there will be no school on the following dates:

Friday March 8th Referendum
April 16th Inservice Training

Easter Holidays begin **Friday 22nd March at 12 noon**. School returns on **Monday 8th April**.

Parent Teacher Meeting

Parent/Teacher Meetings for Junior Infants are due on **Wednesday February 28th and Thursday February 29th**. Appointments have already been sent through Aladdin Connect. If you have not received your appointment, please contact the class teacher. Parent teacher meetings for Ms Marmion's class Room 8 have also been notified to parents. They will take place on the week of March 11-15th. Please make an appointment if you have not done so already.

**Please see letter below
regarding
MEASLES from HSE**

Mass 7 day Challenge

Fr Paul wanted to let pupils know that the **7 Mass Challenge has started for Lent** again. If any of your pupils are interested, we have **cards available in the office**. When they attend a Mass they receive a stamp from the priest afterwards in the sacristy. When they have 7 stamps they have completed the challenge and they receive a certificate at Easter time.



Banna Ceoil

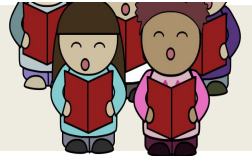
The musicians and teachers of our Banna Ceoil have been working hard every Tuesday after school and we are thrilled to say we have been invited to take part in Córfhéile na Scoileanna this year.

Our last performance at Córfhéile took place the same week as all the schools closed back in March 2020 so it's a great achievement to be able to travel to the National Basketball Arena in Dublin again, after all the disruption that Covid caused to musical activities. This year, we are honoured that Room 30 will join the Banna Ceoil for the performance. We encourage parents, families and friends to come along and see the children on the day.

Our performance will be part of the matinee show on Tuesday 5th March. The show lasts from 10.30am - 12.30pm and our performance will last about 7 minutes. Many other schools will be performing on the day, so it will be a very enjoyable day out for all.

Córfhéile is a music festival aimed at providing children with the opportunity to perform without the stress of competition. All participants are winners!! Admission for adults is €5 and children €2 - the Box Office there will only accept cash. We will send separate details to the children of those performing about bus times, cost etc in the next few days. We hope to see a few supporters in the audience!!

School Choir



St Mary's school choir will be performing again this year at The Big Sing. We have started to rehearse all of the songs and are looking forward to a great performance! The Big Sing will take place on the 19th of April in the National Boxing Arena. We will update you with more details as we receive them.

Ms. Austin and Ms. O'Connor

Homework Club

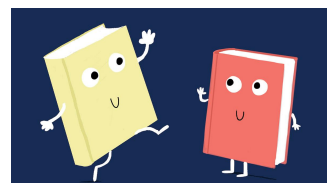


Homework Club will run Monday to Thursday over 5 weeks (**19th Feb-21st March**). Children will be assisted with homework, provided with a small snack and supervised in a quiet environment.

It runs from 2.50-3.50 but if your child is waiting on a sibling in St Michael's they are welcome to stay until 4.00. Forms now available at the office.

Paired Reading Update

We are in the middle of **Paired Reading Month** with First, Second and Third classes, this February. Parents/guardians with children in these classes are reminded to continue reading with your child each night and don't forget to record the books read on the sheet provided.



Field Trip

The pupils of rm17, rm23 & rm24 visited Martry Mill last Wednesday 21st February.

James Tallon, a 5th-generation miller, gave us a tour of the mill. It is the last working watermills and believed to be the oldest, best maintained, traditional flour mill in the country.

The children had the opportunity to mix ingredients for and bake loaves of traditional brown soda bread. The baking started with the pupils collecting flour for their bread from the old pre industrial revolution millstones.

Everyone had a great day



Irish Dancing



The Carney School of Dancing have been taking children from **Second, Third and Fourth** Classes for Céilí Dancing lessons in the Dr Eileen Reilly Hall. The cost is €5.00 in total per child for the five weeks. The children will participate in a Céilí during **“Seachtain na Gaeilge” (Irish Week)** on 15th March.

This is a great way to introduce the children to a rich part of our culture and a wonderful way to keep fit. Children are to wear their school tracksuits on **Monday 19th February, Wed 28th February, Wed 6th March, Wed 13th March and Friday 15th March.** Go raibh mile maith agaibh!

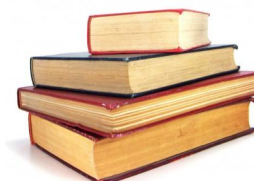
World Book Day 2024

World Book Day is on Thursday, March 7th. To celebrate this special day the children (and staff!) are invited to dress up as a book character of their choice. There is no pressure to do this, and no money is required.

World Book Day book tokens will be distributed during the week and are valid until March 31st. These book tokens can be used in all participating bookshops and can be exchanged for specially priced books at €1.50 or to get a discount of €1.50 off other books on sale.

TOP TIPS FOR READING LINK

https://youtu.be/vn_RgzkiifU



Active School News

Run Around Europe 24

Run Around Europe' is a **whole school** running challenge. This initiative focuses on **participation, inclusion and fun** with lots of **learning opportunities** along the way.

All classes, at all class levels are challenged to build a 'Run a Day' in to their daily routines across the 4 weeks of the challenge. Working together as a class, and as a school, our combined km will bring us to many of the capital cities across Europe. We hope to run to Turkey to support local athlete, Liam Foley.

Liam Foley attended the Active Assembly and afterwards launched our 4week running challenge called Run Around Europe. It begins today 26th February 2024. The active committee and 4th class pupils ran a few laps with Liam.

Liam won two gold medals in Italy last year and is representing Ireland next month running in the World Trisome Games in Turkey. As a school, we will walk/jog/run laps daily and virtually support Liam as we complete the 4week running Active Schools challenge. It is 3,399km from Ireland to Turkey. 1 lap = 1km. The staff and pupils of St.Mary's would like to wish Liam the very best in the World Trisome Games in Turkey in March

Last Friday there was great energy crested in school with thanks to the pupils of 4th class, rm18. The children hosted a whole school Active assembly. The pupils & staff participated in many exercises eg.squats, heel flicks, frog jumps etc. Well done to Mr.Carmody and the pupils of 4th class rm18



IMPORTANT DATES

Banna (School Band):	Tuesdays Rehearsal for 3rd - 6th Class 2:50 - 3:30pm
Camogie:	Wednesdays 2:50-3:50pm
Communion:	Saturday 11th May @ 2pm
First Confession:	Tuesday 27th February @ 7pm
Jnr.Inf Parent Teacher Mtg:	Wednesday and Thursday 28th and 29th February
School Choir:	Thursdays 2:50-3:30pm for 5th & 6th class

Nathanna na Seachtaine: Tá brón orm (I am sorry)

Seanfhocal na Míosa: Ní hé lá na báistí, lá na bpáistí! (Rainy days are not for children!)

GREEN NEWS

Travel is the Green theme for these two years. We, at St Mary's are committed to promoting sustainable ways to get to school and are determined to reduce carbon emissions around our school.

WOW

WOW resumes this Wednesday, weather permitting. Meet up at Gulliver's at 8:50 a.m. Wrap up well as it is still cold. Thank you again to the pupils and teachers who keep this initiative going.

COW will resume after Easter. That gives people time to fix up their bikes and locate their helmets. Pupils in Fourth classes will be receiving cycling lessons with Cycle Right after Easter.

Our Walking Bus will start up again in the last term. This was a huge success last year. We hope lots of people will get involved again this year. We really rely on volunteers to keep this initiative going. Please contact the school if you are interested closer to the time.

The girls in 6th Class are contacting the bus companies in an effort to reduce idling outside the school. Could we also ask all parents to try not to have car engines running while waiting for your children. Now that the weather is warming up, it should not be necessary. **Míle buíochas!**



GARDENING

Room 17 got busy planting spring flowers. See how they are blooming!

**Remember
green is cool
at home and
at school!**

Community News

WE'RE BACK!

EASTER ACTIVITY CAMP

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, TRIM

Dates : Monday 25th-Thursdays 28th March
Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm
Cost; €80 per child

For Bookings & Further information contact: _____ ct:
The Office 046 9431919 / 086 3043462

Action Packed Fun for 4 - 12 year olds!

- Creative Easter themed arts & crafts activities
 - Wide variety of games & sports
- Baking tasty treats to eat and take home
- Fun science experiments • Face painting
 - Easter egg hunt

Children will need to bring a packed lunch & drink every day. All activities are fully supervised and insured at all times. The camp activities cater for both junior & senior age groups. Should you wish to enrol your child please complete and return application form overleaf with camp fee and return to St. Mary's Primary School, Trim.

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____ Age: _____

Class: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Contact: _____

Please state if your child has any allergies or medical conditions:

Receipt

Date: _____

The sum of € _____ received from _____

for Easter Camp.

With thanks

St. Mary's Primary School

Becky's in Trim have some fantastic news! They are celebrating their 1st year business anniversary this April and giving parents of the kids in St Mary's School a **50% discount on school uniforms for the month of April only.**

St Mary's School will be the first school in Ireland with **NON ITCH school uniforms** as i have upgraded the jumpers to NON ITCH. This is very important as parents find it hard putting jumpers on kids that feel itchy.

There is no booking deposits on this offer and full payment is required. Offer valid on April 2024



The banner features a white background on the left with a boy and a girl in school uniforms. The boy is on the left, wearing a blue sweater and dark trousers, standing on a green ball. The girl is on the right, wearing a blue sweater and a dark skirt. In the center, there is a large grey starburst graphic containing the text "50% Off" in a large, bold font. Above the starburst, it says "Becky's First year anniversary" and below it, "Month of April Only". At the bottom of the starburst, it says "T&C Apply". On the right side of the banner, there is a dark grey vertical bar with the text "Becky's Uniforms" at the top, followed by "St. Marys School Uniform", "Non Itch School Uniforms", "100% Acrylic", and "ONLY Sold at Becky's" in white text.

Becky's
First year anniversary

50% Off

Month of April Only

T&C Apply

Becky's *Uniforms*

St. Marys School Uniform
Non Itch School Uniforms
100% Acrylic
ONLY Sold at Becky's



February 2024

Re: Importance of MMR vaccine and being measles aware

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian,

In recent months there has been a rise in cases of measles in parts of the UK and Europe. On 7th February the HSE reported the death of an adult with confirmed measles. This is the first confirmed measles case notified in Ireland in 2024.

We are asking parents to be measles aware and to make sure your children have received their recommended MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines.

Be measles aware

Measles can be unpleasant and is a potentially serious and highly infectious disease.

The symptoms of measles include:

- high fever
- cough
- runny nose
- rash, which usually appears on head and neck first and spreads to rest of body

Serious complications of measles include pneumonia and encephalitis (swelling of the brain). One in five infected may need to go to hospital and it can be fatal.

More information about measles symptoms is available at: <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/measles/> or by searching 'HSE measles'.

If your child has been diagnosed with confirmed measles by your GP or hospital please contact your school. Children in your child's class may need to be vaccinated if they are not fully vaccinated against measles.

MMR vaccine

MMR vaccination is the best way to protect against measles.

Uptake of both doses of the MMR vaccine has been below 90% for some time. This is of great concern because measles can be serious and highly infectious.



Oifig Náisiúnta Imdhionta
Aonaid 8/9 Páirc Gnó Shráid an Mhainéir
Sráid an Mhainéir
Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 X320

HSE National Immunisation Office
Unit 8/9 Manor Street Business Park
Manor Street
Dublin 7, D07 X320

www.immunisation.ie
[Twitter](#), [Instagram](#),
[YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#)
t 01 8676108
e immunisation@hse.ie

Two doses needed

Your child needs two doses of the MMR vaccine to be considered fully vaccinated. The first dose is given by GP practices when children are 12 months of age. The second dose is given by HSE school vaccination teams when children are in junior infants. (In Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal, this vaccine is delivered by GP practices).

Junior infants

If your child is in junior infants, please take the opportunity to get them vaccinated with their 4 in 1 and MMR vaccine. HSE school teams are still visiting schools to offer the vaccine. If your child missed the vaccine when the teams visited your school this year, you can contact the HSE school team to arrange an appointment to get the vaccine.

MMR vaccine for older children and adults

It is not too late to be vaccinated. The MMR vaccine is now available as a catch-up vaccine through GP practices for anyone who may have missed their first or second dose.

More information

More information about the MMR vaccine is available from www.immunisation.ie

Kind regards,

Dr Lucy Jessop

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Public Health
MCRN 404629