



# St Mary's Convent Primary School

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Imlitir 4  
23 October 2024

Dear Parents,

This Imlitir has news and announcements that may be of interest to you as we approach the mid-term break.

**Halloween Break:** The school will be closed for mid-term break from Monday October 28th to Friday 1st November inclusive. The school closes this Friday, 25th October at 2:50 pm and reopens on Monday 4th November. We hope the children enjoy the break after lots of hard work and activities since the end of August. We have been very fortunate with weather this term as the children have enjoyed their breaks outside and have been able to line up most mornings. We hope this continues into the mid-term and beyond.

**New pupils:** It is great to see the new pupils settling in and not needing parents in the line in the mornings. It's natural that it takes time but we are now at the stage when all the children come in and go to the line of their own accord. Sometimes as a parent it is difficult to walk away if your child appears to be upset but normally as soon as you are out of sight, the children settle into the day ahead quickly. It was nice to meet with many new parents at our coffee morning recently and we hope that it helped those present to build connections with the school and the parents association.

**Parents Association.** It was great to meet with the parents association in the past week where we discussed homework policies, attendance strategies and admissions policies. These were really informative discussions and many changes and recommendations were debated. It is hoped we can organise these meetings on a regular basis.

**Halloween Activities:** There are lots of activities planned for the next few days to celebrate the season. Spooky walks, trips outside school, cake sales and classroom art and baking projects abound! The children really enjoy all the various pursuits. The rest of the Imlitir has more details.

**Erasmus Programme:** Staff from St Mary's are continuing to participate in an Erasmus programme in Spain this Halloween. The theme of this programme is- *A Transformative Approach to Staff Development in Food Waste and Greener Schools Initiatives*. This ties in very much with our culture of environmental awareness and the introduction of our school meals programme. As a school we strive to encourage the active participation of teachers in professional networks to improve pupils' learning and this programme will give new skills in this area.

**Road Safety.** The children participated in a road safety programme this week. The children were educated on road safety and how to use the roads and crossings in a safe manner. We feel that this programme is a huge benefit to your students, teachers and the parents as we take to the roads during the holiday period.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy Halloween and we will see you all again on the 4th November.

Fergal Kelly-Principal



# GHOUL SCHOOL NEWS

## SPOOKY WALK on Friday 25th October

Our traditional spooky walk will take place on Friday 25th October weather permitting. Children can of course dress up on the day.



## Halloween Bake Sale on Friday 25th October

On Friday 25th October, the Parent's Association will be hosting our annual Halloween Bake Sale for all the students. The children can indulge in some buns and biscuits while wearing their fancy dress! For this bake sale, we are kindly asking the following class years to bake/send in buns and biscuits for us to sell: Junior Infants, 1st Class, 3rd Class, 5th Class.

The bake sale will take place in the school hall from 9.20am – 11.00am and each bun will cost 50c (€2 limit per student). For those baking/sending in buns and biscuits, please drop off buns and biscuits to the school hall from 9am. Label any special dietary buns/ biscuits and hand them in separately. The school has a NO NUTS policy due to potential allergies.

As always, volunteers to help sell the buns and biscuits are very much appreciated, so please do contact the Parent's Association at [pa@stmarystrim.ie](mailto:pa@stmarystrim.ie) if you are available to help out. If you are feeling adventurous, you can dress up in your favourite Halloween costume too!



## Halloween Break 28th October to 1st November Inclusive

Please be reminded that the school will be closed for mid-term break from Monday October 28th to Friday 1st November inclusive. I hope everyone enjoys the break. I have been asked by the Gardai to remind parents and children of the danger of fireworks and similar materials over this holiday period. Our children who wish to dress up for Halloween can do so on Friday 25th Oct. School closes at 2.50pm on this date.

WELCOME TO

# HALLOWEEN CAMP

GAMES , ARTS, CRAFTS AND  
S.T.E.M. ACTIVITIES

29th,  
30th  
October

ST MARY'S  
CONVENT  
NATIONAL SCHOOL

10AM  
- 1PM

Please contact Mr. Casey on 0862242517 to book  
OR Register your child/children using the QR code!

30€ 1st child, 25€ any additional children!  
Places are limited so book early!



***Nath na Seachtaine:*** Is maith liom Oíche Shamhna nó Ní maith liom Oíche Shamhna

***Seanfhocal na Míosa:*** Ní neart go cur le chéile (Strength in togetherness)

## GREEN NEWS



### Green News

Our theme for this year is Food and Biodiversity. We will be concentrating on how growing and eating our own food impacts our personal health and affects local and global biodiversity.

We will be planting vegetables and herbs in our school garden and we will be learning about fair trade, food waste and related sustainable goals.



We had great news this week when we learned that Trim won the Communities in Bloom competition. Two of our pupils, Sarah and Mollie, met with the judges on the adjudication day during the summer and made an excellent presentation. They explained how St. Mary's is a green school and told them of our many initiatives.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Trim Tidy Towns Committee on their successful campaign. It is an honour to be associated with them.

### Waste Management

While it's not our primary theme this year, waste management is always current. Whether at home, at work or at school we can all play our part in disposing of our waste responsibly. Mywaste.ie have launched an initiative to highlight how simple individual actions can boost Ireland's recycling rate.

Shockingly, it has been calculated that two-thirds of what ends up in our general waste bins could have been recycled or composted! Here is a little interactive game you can try to see how knowledgeable you are about what can and cannot be recycled:

<https://bolddonut.itch.io/take-a-minute>

# SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

<b>TIME</b>	<b>TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>9.10-9.40</b>	<b>Rooms 23, 24 &amp; Room 35</b>	<b>Rooms 14 &amp; 15-Second Class</b>
<b>9.40-10.10</b>	<b>Room 9-First Class</b>	<b>Room 10-First Class</b>
<b>10.10-10.40</b>	<b>Room 12-First Class</b>	<b>Room 13-First Class</b>
<b>11.10-11.40</b>	<b>Room 16-Third Class</b>	<b>Room 27-Fifth Class</b>
<b>11.40-12.10</b>	<b>Room 19-Fourth Class</b>	<b>Room 20-Third Class</b>
<b>12.50-1.20</b>	<b>Room 26-Fifth Class</b>	<b>Room 18-Fourth Class</b>
<b>1.20- 2.20</b>	<b>Rooms 1, 2, 3 &amp; 4 Junior Infants (accompanied by their parents)</b>	<b>Rooms 5, 6, 7 &amp; 8 Senior Infants (accompanied by their parents)</b>
<b>2.20-2.50</b>	<b>Rooms 30 &amp; 31-Sixth Class</b>	<b>Pupils with money for books from any classes</b>
<b>2.50-3.50</b>	<i>Open to the public</i>	<i>Open to the public</i>

St. Mary's School Book Fair will take place in St Mary's school hall after the mid-term break on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> of November.

The school runs the Book Fair, in conjunction with our local bookshop, Antonia's Bookstore. Antonia kindly donates 20% of her book sales back to the school in the form of books and resources for our classrooms and our School Library.

We are also running some competitions in school based on the theme 'The Salmon of Knowledge' to promote our Book Fair and to encourage more reading at school and at home. Prizes for winning entrants will be awarded during the Book Fair.

**Parents/guardians of children in Junior and Senior Infants need to collect their children from their classes, at their allocated times, and bring them to the Book Fair, if they wish them to attend.**

Check out Antonia's website below for a preview of some of the books available.

[https://antoniasbookstore.com/product-category/childrens-books/?in\\_stock=1](https://antoniasbookstore.com/product-category/childrens-books/?in_stock=1)

Many thanks for your continued support of our School Book Fair. We really appreciate it.

Mary O'Hare

School Book Fair Coordinator



# CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2024

It is that time of year again and the families in St Mary's are once again invited to join in the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, sharing Christmas with children who may not receive gifts otherwise.

Last year 144 beautiful shoeboxes from St Mary's were delivered to children in Transnistria and Romania who were all delighted to open up the beautiful gifts. Thank you!

Good things come in small parcels and there are few parcels shared that are as small as a shoebox. Through the Christmas Shoebox Appeal children in Africa and Eastern Europe can enjoy this special time of year. Children in St Mary's and in Ireland are so lucky to have such lovely things at home and at school. We have an opportunity to share some kindness with some other children who may not be as fortunate. They will be so grateful and excited to receive the gift. 🎁

The shoebox appeal is based on children/families filling a shoebox with **4 W's**-

- 🎁 something to **W**ear (hat, scarf, hairbands etc)
- 🎁 something to **W**rite with (crayons, pencils, notebooks etc)
- 🎁 something to **W**ash with (toothbrush, facecloth etc) and
- 🎁 something to **W**OW (teddy, small toy, sunglasses etc).

Follow the link to see how to fill a shoebox- <https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/how-to-fill-a-shoebox/>

The appeal also asks for a small donation of €5 to cover the transport cost of the gifts. This can be put into the box or paid online. It is a lovely way for children in our school to share with less fortunate children in another country. As previously, it is optional for the children of St Mary's to get involved with the Shoebox Appeal. Families or friends can pool together gifts to fill one box if they prefer.

Children will get a leaflet today with more information.

The shoeboxes will be collected from the school **after** the Halloween holidays. We will begin collecting them the week after Halloween holidays between 4th-8th Nov. Shoeboxes can be dropped into the school/Room 2.

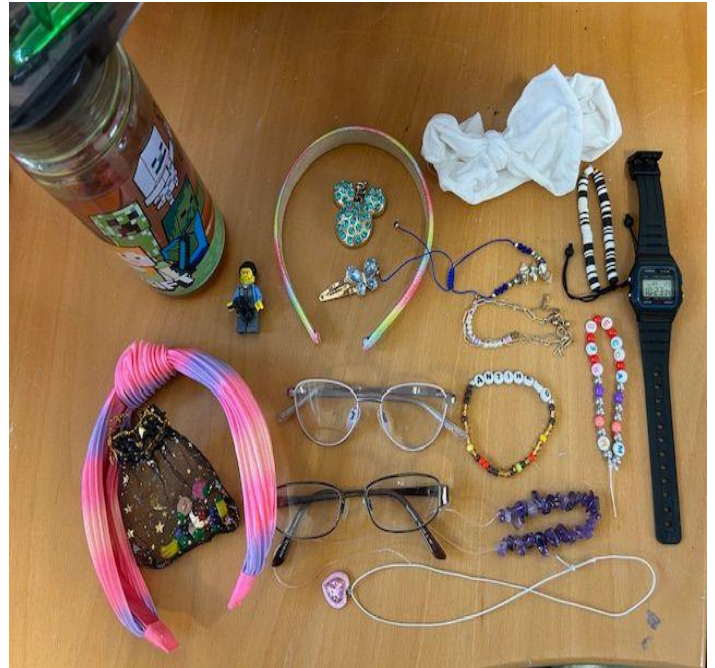
“Your shoebox might not change the world but it might just change the world for one boy or girl. “

Míle buíochas for always being so generous with these appeals for very worthy causes

Thank you for your kindness, Ms Dalton ★



# LOST AND FOUND



**Please note any unclaimed items will be donated to our local charity shops after the Halloween break.**

**We would like to remind parents to please label all jumpers, coats, etc.**



# BASKETBALL ACADEMY

SEYDINA COACHING



1 SESSION:  
€20  
6 SESSIONS:  
€90

**SATURDAY  
MORNINGS**  
AURA SPORTS HALL  
**TRIM**

10-11AM - AGES 8-11  
11-12PM - AGES 12-16



BOYS & GIRLS  
AGES 8-16

JOIN  
WHATSAPP  
GROUP:



AURA TRIM,  
C15 A258