



# SCOIL BARRA NAOFA



## Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016

Class

Dear Parents of

### A Chairde

Welcome back to everyone after what I hope was a restful and enjoyable midterm break. With just 3 and half weeks to the Easter holidays it will be a busy month or so, with Healthy Eating Week, Proclamation Day, Seachtain na Gaeilge etc.

Please keep eye on your texts & emails for information regarding the school's objection to the proposed incinerator in Ringaskiddy. We will be inviting you to sign our objection in the coming days. If you did not receive the recent letter from the Board of Management regarding the proposed incinerator, please contact the office and will be happy to issue you with another copy. Please remember there are some academic studies about the potential health implications of an incinerator on those living and working in the area, available for reading through the office.

*Míle Buíochas,*

*Ciara Ní Bhuaigh & Foireann na Scoile*

### FRÁSAÍ NA SEACHTAINE

Seo leanas Frásaí na coisíse seo:

	Gach rang	Na méan ranganna	Na hArd ranganna
22ú Feabhra 2016	Breithlá Sona duit. Inniu mo bhreithlá. Cén aois thú? Tá mé ____ d'aois.	Tá sceitimíní áthais orm. Fuair mé bronntanas.	An mbeidh féasta / cóisir agat? Beidh / Ní bheidh.
29ú Feabhra 2016	An maith leat ____? Is maith liom. Ní maith liom.	Is breá liom. Is fuath liom.	Is fearr liom __ ná ____. Is aoibhinn liom.

## REMINDER – SCHOOL CLOSURE

The school will be closed this Friday 26th February 2016, as the school will be used as a polling station for the general election. Enjoy another long weekend!

## FIRST CONFESSION

Second Class will make the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 2nd March at 7pm sharp. Children should wear their school uniforms on the night. More details will be sent home by Ms. Clifford that week! We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with them.

## FOOD ALLERGIES / MEDICATIONS ETC.

The school is currently reviewing our Health & Safety Policy, which includes administration of medicines etc. As previously asked, please be sure to inform the school immediately of any condition that your child may have, which requires medication, or special requirements.



An increasing number of children in our school have severe food allergies. As you are all aware, the school operates a strict 'No Nut' policy, as there are children with severe nut allergies. Any accidental exposure can result in these children going in to anaphylactic shock, requiring an Epi-Pen to be administered. Even if there are no such allergies in your child's class, we would urge you to **please respect the 'No Nut' policy when packing your child's lunch**, as pupils from other classrooms often visit or are there if their teacher is absent

As well as nut allergies, some children in the school also have egg allergies, intolerance to wheat, dairy and gluten and are on specific diets to cater for these needs. With these medical and dietary needs in mind, the school will no longer be in a position to distribute cakes or foods sent in from home to the class on occasions such as birthdays. While appreciating the sentiment and generosity of the gesture - wanting to share the celebration with your child's classmates - it is impossible to ensure that all dietary needs are catered for and that no one is excluded or accidentally receives a food type they should not, so **we would appreciate if cakes and such treats were NOT SENT IN for sharing on birthdays or similar occasions**. Thank You for your co-operation with all of the above.

## APPOINTMENTS: MEETING WITH TEACHERS

As our partners in your child's education, the school is always willing to meet with any parent with concerns or questions. Should have a concern or issue that you would like to discuss, remember your first step should be to contact the class teacher (as per the school policy).

**The best way to do this is to make an appointment**, by ringing our secretary, Claire, in the office (8.40a.m. to 1.40p.m). Making an appointment and planning a meeting, rather than hoping for an unscheduled or impromptu meeting at the beginning or the end of the school day, is an excellent way of ensuring great communication between home and school. Teachers are often engaged in planning or meetings before

or after school, and so **an appointment is vital** to ensure that the teacher is available and that the meeting is effective.

The teacher on duty in the hall each morning is also more than willing to pass on any message you might have to the class teacher at the beginning of a school day. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

## NEW DISPLAY AREA



For those of you who have had the opportunity to visit the school since midterm break, you will have noticed that the first phase in some planned upgrades has taken place. A new display area, along with significant storage has been built, near the double entrance doors upstairs. It is a fabulous unit, currently displaying the schools proud collection of trophies and in the future there will be opportunities to

display children's art or written work, medals, children's own trophies etc. The fantastic top quality units were built and fitted by Colin Ryan, father of Maya Ryan in 4th Class (The Olde Pine Stores, Passage West) and kindly sponsored by the Parents' Association. I'm sure you will agree when you see them that they are a wonderful addition to the school and our thanks to Colin and the Parents' Association for their work on the project. Keep your eyes peeled for future upgrades in the future! Brighter School, Brighter Future!



## HEALTHY EATING WEEK & SKIPATHON

This week is healthy eating week in Scoil Barra Naofa. Children will be engaged in various lessons and activities to emphasise the importance of eating healthily. Our Parents' Association will be bringing in healthy fruits and foods for children to sample and taste on Thursday! Mile Buiochas to all of the parents who donate their time so willingly.

There will also be prizes in each class for healthy lunches – these will be monitored all week and prizes will be presented at assembly on Thursday! So please make an extra special effort to ensure your child has a healthy tasty lunch box.

During the week, each class will take part in a Skipathon. There will be prizes for skipping – not necessarily for who can skip longest – but for most effort, different types of skipping etc! It should be a fun and active event for all!! As you know children have been asked to collect sponsorship for the Skipathon. **We would appreciated if all monies & cards were returned by this Thursday 25th February.** Please ensure that

your child's name is on the card, as well as the total amount collected, as there will be prizes in each class! All of the monies collected will be going towards school fundraising! Thank you as always for your support and we hope you are all out practising your skipping!!!



## **RENTAL OF SCHOOL BLAZERS FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

On the day of their Holy Communion boys should wear grey trousers, blue shirt, smart black shoes, school blazer and tie. Blazers and ties are available to rent for €30.

You will need to attend one of the following fittings with your son in the school library on either **Wednesday 2nd March at 2.30pm** or **Friday 4th March at 2.30pm**. Please bring payment (cash or cheque) on the day of the fitting cheques made payable to Scoil Barra Naofa.

The blazers will then be dry cleaned and distributed to you as soon as possible.

If you have any queries please contact **Tina on 086 8113110** or **Marlyne on 087 9034619**.

## **PROCLAMATION DAY**

Tuesday, March 15th is a very special day in Scoil Barra Naofa and indeed in all other schools throughout Ireland, Proclamation Day. To commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Rising, we will hold a special ceremony raising our new tricolour. Weather permitting this will be held outside in the car park at 9o'clock on that day. All parents who wish to attend are most welcome to do so.

To tie in with our Proclamation Day and Seachtain na Gaeilge, The Student Council are holding a Photography Competition entitled "What Ireland Means To Me". Every child at school who wishes to do so can bring in a photo that they have taken on or before the 11th of March. These photos will be displayed on noticeboards throughout the school and the winners will receive a Homework Pass and a Voucher for the school shop.

All classes are currently writing their own Proclamation and these will be combined and made into our School Proclamation which will be read out by a pupil at the Proclamation Ceremony. Hopefully they will get a better reception than Pdraigh Pearse.

## **BASKETBALL**



Well done to the pupils of Sixth Class and Fifth Class pupils who competed in a Basketball Bli tz in Neptune and the Parochial Hall, Gurranaברה on Tuesday week last. The girls played well and almost made it to the semi-finals. The boys got through to the semi-finals and were narrowly beaten by Blarney Street. Maith sibh! Our thanks to Ms. Marshall, Mr. Murphy and Ms. Flannery who accompanied the children.

## **HOCKEY**

Hockey training for Sixth Class began on Friday week last with Rachel Foley and her companion Nicola, from U.C.C. The children learnt lots of new skills and had great fun playing a variety of games! We wish them well during the next few weeks.

## **CORK CITY SPORTS**

The draw to fundraise for the Cork City Sports takes place next month. The eldest in First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Classes have all been given two tickets to sell. It is important that we support this draw so that we can compete in the sports which will be held on June 1st. Tickets (sold or unsold) must be returned to your child's Class Teacher before Wednesday next 2nd March.

## **PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS - JANUARY**

Apologies to Muireann O'Mullane, 5th Class, who's name was accidentally left out of last months newsletter. Muireann won a Principal's Award in January for her kindness, eagerness to help, excellent behaviour & diligence! Maith thú, a Mhuireann!!!

## **LIBRARY**



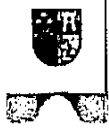
A huge thank you to the 18 parents who came on a cold and wintry evening to help in the school library. It was a huge task to label, stamp and categorise the books. Your hard work and enthusiasm that evening has resulted in the children being able to access the wonderful books easier. The library is an ongoing project and will evolve and change so your support is always welcome and appreciated. Thank you so much for helping.

## **G.A.A.**

We are delighted to welcome Tom O' Neill from Passage G.A.A. to Scoil Barra Naofa this week. He will be coming on a Monday and Tuesday from now until the end of the year and will coach all classes from Junior Infants to Sixth. Junior Infants, Senior Infants and Second Class will have their sessions on a Tuesday and all other classes will have their sessions on a Monday. Safety is of paramount importance, therefore, children must have gum shields for each class, otherwise they will not be able to participate. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **ALL IRELAND MINOR SCHOOLS GALA**

On Sunday, 7th February, Richard Mc Sweeney 6th Class competed in the All Ireland Minor schools gala in the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin representing Scoil Barra Naofa. It was an incredible experience for him as he was competing against the best from all 32 counties aged, 13, 12 & 11 years old. Richard, who is still only 11yrs old, is now ranked 23rd in Ireland which he is thrilled with.



# Early Bird Coffee Morning

*in aid of Scoil Barra Naofa, Monkstown!*

**Enjoy a cup of coffee and a catch  
up with friends before the  
Easter break!**

**16 March 2016  
9am-12midday**

**The Location:  
The Gill Room  
Underneath Little Acorns**



## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH GROUP – MONKSTOWN**

The first Sunday in every month, there will be a Children's Group at 11:30am in Sacred Heart Church, Monkstown. Children, of primary school age, at mass, are invited to go with the group just before the Gospel at mass. The group will be facilitated by a number of adults, where they will discuss the gospel and engage in age appropriate activities & discussions relating to that week's Mass. They will then return to mass before communion. If your child is very young, they should be accompanied by an adult, however if they are old enough they are welcome to come on their own as they will be supervised by the adults facilitating the session.

The next Children's Group will take place on Sunday March 6th. All are welcome!

## **SHAMROCKS GAA - HURLING AND FOOTBALL ACADEMY**

Training for boys every Friday in February & March, in the NMCI Ringaskiddy, 6.30pm to 7.30pm. We then move outdoors in April to our pitch in Shanbally.

All players and beginners from Scoil Barra Naofa are welcome. (Age 4 up)  
(Girls train every Tuesday and Thursday in the NMCI)



## **MONKSTOWN BAY SAILING CLUB**

**Applications now being taken for 2016 sailing course. Open to children age 7+. Forms and information available on the MBSC website. Any further information required contact Jane Hughes 0872118270**



## **Let'sGo Camps**

Douglas -Nemo Rangers GAA

Carrigaline-Community School



## **Easter Camp**

**29th March-1st April**

## **Summer Camps**

**Week 1: 11th-15th July**

**Week 2 : 18th-22nd July**

**Week 3 : 25th-29th July**

Book online at [www.lets-go.ie](http://www.lets-go.ie)

