



## **SCOIL BARRA NAOFA**

### **Newsletter - 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

A Chairde,

I hope you all enjoyed the wonderful weather over the weekend – hopefully there is more to come, especially given the many exciting activities planned in the school – both indoors and outdoors!

*Mise le meas,*

*Ciara Ní Bhuaigh agus Foireann na Scoile*

### **UPCOMING DATES**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> April                            | 5 <sup>th</sup> Class – Rugby Blitz                               |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April                              | MONEY TRAIL WEIGH IN!!!   |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May                              | Biodiversity Green Flag Presentation                              |
| <b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup> May &amp; Mon 7<sup>th</sup> May</b> | <b>School Closure (Extended Bank Holiday Weekend)</b>             |
| Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | 10:30am First Communion (2 <sup>nd</sup> Class)                   |
| Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | Junior Infants – Vaccinations (HSE)                               |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> May                                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class GAA Blitz (Shamrocks GAA) |
| <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>                          | <b>School Closure – Referendum</b>                                |
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June                                | Cork City Sports  |
| <b>Mon 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; Tues 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>   | <b>School Closure (Extended Bank Holiday Weekend)</b>             |

**Return to school after the summer holidays on \*\*FRIDAY 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2018\*\***

## REMINDER OF SCHOOL TOUR DATES:

|   |                        |                             |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Junior & Senior Infants                 | Rumley's Farm          | Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> June |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class | Crafty Hands & Mario's | Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> June  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class                   | Eco Adventures, Aghada | Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> June  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Class | Eco Adventures, Aghada | Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Class                   | Walking Tour of Cork   | Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Class                   | Ballyhass Lakes        | Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> June   |
|   | Walking Tour of Cork   | Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> June |

## **SCHOOL TOURS & OTHER PAYMENTS**

Term 3 is a very busy time for pupils, teachers and families alike. We are conscious that it can be a demanding time also for families, financially speaking. In order to assist those budgeting for the term, we have tried to spread collections across the term. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Inion Uí Bhuaiagh in the office.

**TOURS:** Thank you to those families who have already sent in their SCHOOL TOUR envelopes. Remember that the signed permission slip(s) and payment(s) in the relevant envelope should be returned to the class teacher by **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.** As always you are welcome to make payment by bank transfer – but ensure you state TOUR & your child's name in the narrative so it can be correctly accounted for.

**BOOK RENTAL:** Book lists will be issued in mid-May and should be returned by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**SWIMMING** (Next year's 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Classes): Payments for swimming lessons for the 2018/19 school year are collected in June, as swimming classes commence almost immediately upon our return to school in September. The note in relation to this will be distributed in early June.

**CLASS EXPENSES:** Many thanks to those families who have forwarded Class Expenses payments this year. It is very much appreciated. We hope that your children have benefitted and continue to benefit from the range of activities and resources that these payments help us provide to our pupils. For those with payments outstanding we would very much appreciate if you could forward these as soon as possible. We are very much indebted to those families who also choose to support the school by making a voluntary contribution. Míle Buíochas ó chroí.

## **GREEN FLAG**

**FANTASTIC NEWS! We have been awarded our 5<sup>th</sup> Green Flag for Biodiversity!!!**

The flag will be collected by representatives of our Green School Committee at a presentation next Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. We hope to raise it and celebrate its award with the entire school community towards the end of May – we will keep you posted!

Thank you to every member of the school community for all of their hard work, which has helped us achieve this! Particular thanks to Ms. Flannery for co-ordinating the Green School committee over the past two years, along with Ms Dwyer, Mrs O' Dea, Martin and all of the pupils & parents who have been on the committee last year and this! Well done!! Comghairdeachas!

## **FIRST COMMUNION – BAPTISMAL CANDLES**

We would be very grateful if those pupils making their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion could please bring in their **Baptismal Candle to school over the next two weeks – before Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**. Please ensure that your child's name is on the candle holder / box (if you have one) and also on the base of the candle itself (a sticker or initials will do).

Please **do not worry, if you cannot find your child's candle**. Any white or cream pillar candle (roughly 15cm in height) can be sent in instead of a baptismal candle. Again, ensure name / initials are on candle. Thank you!

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Our Student council had a meeting last Thursday and many plans are afoot! Colours for the painting of the benches and flower beds in the top and middle yards were decided. Encouraging all pupils to read more is also a priority for the Student Council this term. The Student Council are also at the beginning stages of organising a charity fundraiser this term.. Watch this space....

## **HEAD LICE**

As you are aware, we are experiencing an increasing amount of incidents of head lice in our school. It is imperative that as a school we are pro-active in trying to eliminate lice from our classrooms and prevent further outbreaks. We need to ensure that each household is vigilant in checking and treating all children.

We appreciate the support of those families who have ensured that long hair is tied up coming to school. It is just one step, but in combination with others it should help. As mentioned previously – plaits & buns can be effective hair styles (prevents lice transfer by hair flicking). Bandanas and hair bands also can be helpful (but not swapped!)

The HSE has offered the advice below:

### **PROTOCOL FOR TREATING HEADLICE WHEN LOTIONS HAVE FAILED:**

Day 1:

1. Wash hair using ordinary shampoo.
2. Towel dry hair.
3. Apply conditioner liberally
4. Comb with ordinary comb
5. FINE comb
6. Rinse off conditioner.
7. Comb with ordinary comb.
8. FINE comb again.

NB – Repeat this EVERY SECOND DAY for the first 14 days.

When the 14 days are over begin again with DAY 1.

BUT, this time, you repeat on DAY 5, DAY 9 and DAY 13.

If live lice are found on day 9 or day 13, it is likely that this is a new infestation. Continue combing hair EVERY day until no live lice are found over 2 weeks.

FINE COMB ONCE A WEEK THEREAFTER USING CONDITIONER

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER:

- Lice cannot fly or hop. They are commonly transferred by hair flicking (hence our HAIR UP policy), or heads/hair being in close proximity.
- It has a life cycle of 35-40 days
- It procreates after 10 days & lays 6-8 eggs.
- It is therefore important to follow the incubation period of 1-8 day procedure outlined above.
- If you find head lice, please note that all bed linen, hats, scarves and coats (hoods in particular) should be washed at a high temperature.

***We hope this advice helps. Contact your local pharmacist / GP for more advice on products and treatments!***

## **HEAD BUMPS**

Many of you will have received phone calls in the past, informing you that your child has bumped their head. In the VAST majority of cases, thankfully, these are minor bumps and staff are NOT concerned, but wish merely to inform you, as it is the head, so that you can monitor for yourself when they are at home.

We are aware that a phone call from the school, informing you of an injury can cause concern or worry for parents. In order to try and address this, the school has decided to change our procedure.

- If your child has bumped their head, and it is minor and there is no immediate cause for concern, you will receive a **TEXT MESSAGE**. The purpose of this text message is merely to inform you, so that if there is any concern later at home, you will be aware of the minor incident in school. Staff will monitor in school. All head bumps are treated with an ice-pack. *You can of course ring the school at this point if you would like more information or are concerned.*
- If, after monitoring in school, staff become concerned or there is a deterioration – you will at that stage receive a follow up **PHONE CALL**. Staff will advise you at this point if they feel that your child should be collected, or what steps will be taken by the school.
- If your child has bumped their head, and there is immediate cause for concern, you will receive a **PHONE CALL**, informing you and advising you of the next steps to be taken by yourself and by the school. Staff will treat injuries, following our Accident & Injury Policy.

***We will begin this new procedure from tomorrow 25<sup>th</sup> April.***

Please ensure that we have **up to date mobile phone numbers on file** in the school so that we can contact you in case of emergency. It is also advisable to have some back up emergency contacts on file, in case you are unavailable.

## **2018/2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

If you are aware that your child(ren) will not be attending Scoil Barra Naofa next year, please be sure to contact Iníon Uí Bhuaigh to discuss this as soon as possible, if you have not already done so. Míle Buíochas.

## **SUMMER UNIFORM & SHOE LACES**

Please remember that if your child cannot tie their own shoe laces, that Velcro straps are best for them in school – especially for our infant and younger classes. It can be a health & safety concern in the yards / PE lessons when laces repeatedly become undone.

We would encourage all those in the early stages of learning to tie laces to keep practising at home (and well done!!!) – but it is best that they wear Velcro straps in school while they fine tune their skills! Thank you for your support with this!

Summer Uniform (school shorts, school t-shirt and school hoodie / jumper) can be worn from May 1<sup>st</sup> – WEATHER PERMITTING!! It can still be cold at this time of year – so please consider carefully each morning, whether it is a day suitable for shorts or not!

## **SCRATCH PROGRAMME**

There was great excitement in Sixth Class last week as they began a Scratch programming course with a team from Pilz Ireland. Our thanks to Susan Horgan, Mum of Lily, who set up the programme for us. Míle buíochas!

## **NOTE FOR ABSENCES**

If your child is absent, IT IS ESSENTIAL that you send a note to the class teacher explaining the reason for absence, when your child returns to school. A phone call is not necessary – **but a note is required!**

1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Classes can use the relevant section in the journal. Infant classes should sent a note.

## **HEALTHY LUNCHES**

A reminder that we are a Health Promoting School & have a Healthy Eating Policy in place. **Friday** is our TREAT day, where pupils can bring **ONE SMALL TREAT** (not multiple or large treats) as part of their lunch. Pupils should not have treats on any other day. Thank you for your support with this.

## **TAG RUGBY BLITZ**

Rang 5 have been invited to participate in a Tag Rugby Blitz in P.B.C. Rugby Ground, Wilton, this Thursday 26th April 2018. They will travel by bus, leaving Monkstown at 9:45am and should be back in the school by 2pm. Parents should have received a permission slip last week. Please complete this and return to the class teacher, along with a €5 contribution towards the bus, if you have not done so already. We hope everyone will enjoy & benefit from the day!

## **1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> CLASS – GAA BLITZ**

Shamrock's GAA Club are organising a GAA Blitz for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classes of the parish schools on Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12-2pm. More information to follow.

## **4TH & 5TH CLASS – GAA BLITZ**

Passage West GAA club are organising a GAA Blitz for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Classes with Star of the Sea N.S. in late May. Date to be confirmed. More information to follow.

## **LENREC CLOTHING COLLECTION**

Lenrec Clothing Collection will take place on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> of May**. All proceeds raised will go towards school fundraising. Items should be brought to the school library before 9:00am on that morning. They can be dropped in also from 2:30pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May, as well as 8am-9pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May (as the school premises will be open for the Referendum).

Please donate all your clean unwanted clothes also bed linen, towels, curtains, shoes, bags, belts and soft toys. Wearable clothes will be recycled and re-used and other items will be recycled for items, such as, industrial wipes or soundproofing. NO HOUSEHOLD BRIC A BRAC.

Thank you as always for your support.

## **PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

### **Money Trail .....ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT!!!!**

All classes are encouraged to fill up their JAR with as much loose change as they can. All coins welcome. Jars will be in classes until this Thursday April 26th.

**The class with the fullest jar will win a HOMEWORK PASS for all.**

Many thanks to our Principal, Teachers and parents for working with us on this joint initiative. As well as raising funds for the school, let's encourage the children to have some fun on the way!

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## **SHAMROCKS GAA BOYS' ACADEMY**

Our Fun boys Academy has moved to Friday nights to our pitch in Shanbally

Boys born 2007 - 2013 on Friday evenings from 6.45pm to 7.45pm

All Monkstown NS students welcome.

We will be holding our Annual Schools Football Blitz on Wednesday May 23rd in Shanbally

## **PASSAGE WEST GAA**

GAA Training for Under 6 Boys and Girls

Passage West GAA Club

Sunday Mornings 10:30am – Weather Permitting