



SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

Newsletter #3

3rd October 2018

A Chairde,

I cannot believe how quickly September has flown past and that we are into October already! And what a month it has been on all fronts! Our new Junior Infants have settled in so quickly – we are so proud of them! Well done! At the senior end of the school our Sciath na Scol team have enjoyed immense success – making it into the FINAL of their ‘roinn’. We look forward to an exciting day out in the coming weeks! Last Friday at our whole school assembly we had a chance to reflect on our first month of 2018/19 and look forward towards the rest of the year, with even big and better plans!

Mise le meas,

Ciara Ní Bhuaigh agus Foireann na Scoile

Upcoming Dates

Mon-Fri	15 th -19 th Oct	Well Being Week
Wed	17 th Oct	7pm Open Night
Wed	24 th Oct	Clothing Collection
Fri	26 th October	Election (Expected School Closure)
Mon-Fri	29 th Oct – 2 nd Nov	October Midterm Break
Wed	31 st Oct	Closing Date Pre-Enrolment Forms for 2019
Friday	7 th December	School Closure
Friday	21 st Dec 2018	School closes for Christmas at 12 midday
Monday	14th January 2019	Additional Closure for Staff In-service

SCIATH NA SCOL – TRAINING

Training will be held today, Tuesday 2nd Oct, for 4th-6th Class players, after school 2:40-3:30pm in Passage West GAA Club, with Mr. Walsh. Children and families to arrange own transportation.

SCIATH NA SCOL – FINAL!!

Last Thursday Scoil Barra Naofa played Gaelscoil Cobh and Walterstown, in a Sciath na Scol match in Passage GAA. Two great victories ensured qualification to a **Sciath na Scol final** against Bandon Boys School either last week before midterm or the first two weeks after midterm. Well done!! We will let you know as soon as we have a date!!

Thanks to Mr. Walsh, Mr. Murphy, Claudia and Eoghan Walsh for organising and helping across the month of September. Thanks to Eoghan Barry and Passage West GAA for the use of their facilities last Thursday and having the pitches ready for us. Looking forward to an exciting final!!

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS SEPTEMBER 2018

Congratulations to the winners of September's Principal's Awards! Maith sibh!

- **Emily O' Connell** (Rang 1) for going above and beyond to achieve her full potential, for being a kind, caring and helpful pupil to her classmates and teacher
- **Tommy Coakley** (Rang 1) for really improving his listening skills and for making extra efforts at home and in school to improve his writing.
- **Iseult O' Mullane** (Rang 2) for being a really brave girl who works well in class, always trying her best and for being so pleasant and kind
- **Conal O' Dubhghaill** (Rang 2) for showing good interest in his work, for co-operating in class and for trying really hard to remember to put his hand up.
- **David O' Connor** (Rang 3) for his enthusiasm and excellent contributions across all areas especially Gaeilge
- **Hanna O' Flynn** (Rang 3) for her helpfulness and kindness, for always giving 100% and for an all round excellent start to the year.
- **Romy Barry** (Rang 4) for always giving 100%, for great concentration agus iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt
- **David Murphy Brooker** (Rang 4) for trying his best, becoming more independent in his classwork and great effort with his homework, especially in Maths.
- **Oonagh Quane** (Rang 5) for her neatness, hard work and her kindness and excelling in everything this month
- **Hugo McGuire** (Rang 5) for his huge contribution to Fifth Class and for coming to school each day with a great desire to work accompanied with a great sense of humour.
- **Andrew O' Connor** (Rang 6) for his hard work and high level of motivation, his helpfulness, good manners and excellent behaviour
- **Deirbhile Quane** (Rang 6) for her commitment to her study, her mature attitude and approach to school life, her behaviour and her co-operation in class.



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all who attended the recent PA AGM in the school. It was wonderful to hear about the great work of the 2017/18 Committee. Our thanks to Kathryn Jones for two wonderful years as Chairperson and to the many other members of the committee who stepped down after a number of years.

We welcome our 2018/19 Parents' Association Committee and wish them well in the year ahead: Gillian Carroll & Paula Granby (Joint-Chairpersons); Susan Linehan (Secretary); Joanne O' Connor (Treasurer), as well as Lisa Hanna, Brid McEvoy, Gillian Kirby, Amy Murphy, Ellen Murray, Marcella Whitty, Vanessa Granby, Catherine Barry, Agnieszka Zamorska.

Our continued thanks to the Parents' Nominees on Board of Management Sinead Flannery and Frank Lyons. Míle Buíochas to the many parents who volunteer their time on the Sub-Committees of Board of Management:

Book Rental Committee: Carla James, Sandra Moynihan, Emma White, Gail Sheil.

Library Committee: Yvonne Clarke and Elma Killeen.

Garden Committee: Aoife O' Mahony and Holly Skurr.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh agus go n-éirí go geal libh!

STUDENT COUNCIL 2018/19



Congratulations to the newly elected members of the student council – Sarah Finnegan and George Pritchard (6th), Daniel Garcia and Sybil O' Neill (5th), Sam Daly and Keira Price (4th), Louis O' Neill and Niamh Crowne (3rd), Conal Ó Dubhghaill and Adya Bruen (2nd). Thank you to Ms. Marshall for continuing to work with the Student Council this year.

The Student Council are organising a Fancy Dress and Crazy Hair Fundraiser on Thursday 25th October 2018. Pupils may dress up in costume or have crazy hair styles and are asked to bring a donation for The Rapunzel Foundation. This charity works to improve the lives of children and adults living with hair loss, including children who have lost their hair because of cancer treatments. Thank you in advance for supporting such a worthy cause!

GREEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE 2018/19

Best of luck to our newly elected Green School Committee for 2018/19: Liam O' Flynn and Eve Gardiner (6th), Blake Fitzgerald and Lauren Coughlan (5th), Christopher Lennon and Lauren Dinan (4th), David O' Connor and Roxy Parkes (3rd) along with staff members Ms. Flannery, Mr. Walsh and Mrs. Donnelly.

Our next (6th!) Green Flag will be for Global Citizenship: Litter and Waste and we will start working towards it, along with maintaining our five Green Flags this year!

HEALTH PROMOTION SQUAD 2018/19

Our newly elected Health Promotion Squad met yesterday for the first time and started brainstorming and planning for “**Well Being Week**” which will be held 15th of October.

Committee members for 2018/19 are: Beth Barry and Penny Foy (2nd); Rachel Gardiner, Sophia White and Corey Browne (3rd), Daragh Killeen and Romy Barry (4th), Rita Mae Browne and Conor Kennedy (5th), Laoise Moynihan and Liam O Flynn (6th). Two pupils from 2nd class will be elected this week.

We hope that “Well Being Week” will be a very beneficial and enjoyable experience for the whole school community. The HPS Squad have many activities planned for the week, including mindfulness, breathing exercises, kindness awards, art and poster competitions to name a few. We will be focusing our SPHE lessons on ‘Minding your Mind’ and also using the ISPC “Headbomz” programme to help facilitate this. The main message coming from the programme is “Talking Makes us Stronger”. We look forward to a fun filled week.



THOUGHT OF THE DAY: RESPECT

Last week at assembly we spoke about the 3 Rs, which summarise all that is important about our school rules.

The first of these Rs is RESPECT. We always encourage and teach all of our pupils from a young age to respect themselves, their classmates and adults inside and outside school, with their words and their actions. We aim to teach them how to respect differences in each other and treat themselves and others with kindness.

MR. BOLAND'S BENCH

Friday 21st September was a special day in the school as we celebrated a thanksgiving Mass for the life of former Principal of Scoil Barra Naofa, Ciarán Boland. Ms. Flannery gave a touching tribute to Ciarán in the opening address, outlining his wonderful contribution to the school over the years. Staff members along with Ciarán's grandchildren took part in the Offertory Procession and children from Second to Sixth formed the choir. Afterwards the Boland family returned to the school to view the new reading space and 'Mr. Boland's Bench' which has been specially designed in a grassy corner of the upper yard.

Our thanks to Monkstown Tennis Club for donating the artificial grass for this to the school. We are very grateful to the parents who helped move and transport the heavy grass last June, and to Brid McEvoy & Aoife O' Mahony for their ideas and organisation with this. Many thanks also to the members of teaching and ancillary staff who helped lay it out after school. Finally, mile buíochas to Vivian and Lorna for their hard work adding the important finishing touches.

Together the entire school community has helped to create this wonderful bright space, dedicated to the memory of Mr. Boland, that pupils will enjoy for many years to come. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



PAYMENTS



All parents should have received an information letter (and email) last week regarding the new ePayment system that will be rolled out this month.

Going forward, when money is due for Class Expenses, Voluntary Contributions, School Tours or any school activity that is relevant to your children (for amounts over €5), you will receive a text/email message containing your payment access link. Please do not forward this text/email or share this access link as this link is unique for your family only. The link will bring you to a parent payment page which will contain all payments requested for all siblings in a family. There is only one link per family ensuring you have the option to pay all amounts due for all your children in one transaction. Once you have completed your payment, you will be issued with a reference number. You will also receive an email receipt which will contain details of the transaction and reference number. Please quote this reference number in any queries you may have as regards this payment with the school.

We hope that you will find the Aladdin ePayments facility useful and that it is a very successful system for all. Jen our school secretary, or myself will welcome any feedback or questions you may have.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY ANNUAL REVIEW

To: The Staff, Parents & Wider School Community of Scoil Barra Naofa,

The Board of Management of Scoil Barra Naofa, wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's anti-bullying policy and its implementation was completed at the Board meeting of 1st October 2018.
- This review was conducted in accordance with the checklist set out in Appendix 4 of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. (Appendix 2 of the Anti Bullying Policy of SBN)

Signed *Don McAleese*

01/10/2018

Chairperson, BOM

Signed *Ciara Ní Bhuaigh* 01/10/2018

Principal

ENROLMENTS

A reminder that the closing date for Pre-Enrolments for the 2019/2020 school year is **31st October 2018**. Please ensure that forms for any younger siblings are in by this date. Please contact Jen in the office if you wish to confirm.

A reminder that our OPEN NIGHT will take place on Wednesday 17th October at 7pm. All parents and prospective parents are welcome!



PHOTOGRAPHS

Thank you to our school photographer, Christine McCarthy, for volunteering her time last week to take our beginning of year Class Group Photographs.

Christine will return to the school on the week of 8th October, to take individual photographs of our new Junior Infants. These will be made available for purchase by parents. There will be an opportunity for Junior Infants to be photographed with their siblings also.

If any parents of children in other classes would like to purchase photographs of the child (or children) individually or in a sibling group, please contact the office to let us know, or email oifig@scoilbarranaofa.ie and these will be arranged with Christine through the office. We will let you know what day they will be scheduled for. Thank You.

DR. ART'S VISIT

Art Kelleher returned to school today to give us an update on his trip to Tanzania. Art compiled a very interesting and informative slide show on the work he carried out as part of the Surgeon Noonan aid mission. All of the classes got to hear and see the presentation and ask questions.

Art was very keen to return to his Alma Mater Scoil Barra Naofa and show the children how the funds they raised last year had really helped the local population. Míle Buíochas Art!

HEADLICE

Cases of Head Lice have been detected and reported in many classes across the past few days . **Please ensure that you check your child's hair tonight and that you treat if necessary.** Please seek advice regarding treatments from your local pharmacists or see the advice of the HSE sent by email yesterday.

It is imperative that we are pro-active in trying to eliminate lice from our classrooms and prevent outbreaks. All households should be vigilant in checking and treating all children.

Reminder - **'Hair Up' Policy**: We appreciate the support of those families who have ensured that long hair is tied up coming to school. Plaits & buns can be effective hair styles (prevents lice transfer by hair flicking). Bandannas and hair bands also can help (but not swapped!).

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation.

RECYCLED CLOTHING COLLECTION

There will be a fundraiser recycled clothing collection in aid of Scoil Barra Naofa, Monkstown on Wednesday 24th October at 9 am. Clothes can be dropped off to Scoil Barra Naofa library



- Tuesday 23rd October 2:30pm – 4pm
- Wednesday 24th October 8am – 9am

Unfortunately due to lack of storage we cannot accept clothing donations before that time.

- All donations should be in tied bags!!!
- Items accepted includes: Men's, women's & children's clothing, household textiles i.e curtains, towels (dry only), soft toys, shoes, handbags, belts etc.
- STRICTLY NOT accepted: Dirty or wet clothing, mats, carpets, duvets, pillows, books. **Please do not bring DUVETS or PILLOWS as they are not accepted and the school then must pay to dispose of these ourselves in the dump!!**

While we always appreciate everyone's support with our clothing collections, a lot of duvets and pillows were brought to the school for the last collection in June and it cost the school money to dump these afterwards. So we would appeal to everyone to donate only items listed above as accepted. Thank you for your support!



NATIONAL CHESS MONTH

If there are any parents or grandparents who would be willing to share their 'Chess Expertise' in November with some pupils in the school, please contact the office to discuss further. Thank You!

FOOTBALL DONATIONS - SUPERVALU

Our thanks to Liam Ryan and Jason O' Callaghan of Ryan Supervalu Club for their recent donation of kids Super Valu footballs to the school. Mile Buíochas! They will be invaluable as we prepare for the upcoming Sciath na Scol final!

Sincere thanks also to Passage West GAA, especially Eoin Barry, for arranging this donation to the school equipment! Míle Buíochas.

'OUR BIG LITTLE CHOIR'

'Our Big Little Choir' is resuming after the summer break. Starting this **Thursday evening, 4th October from 5-6pm at the Gill Room** (under Little Acorns's pre school below Sacred Heart Church, Monkstown).

All children and young people from **first class up** are welcome. This choir is free and good fun! We have music from all genre's on the agenda. So, if your child enjoys singing, music and would like to be part of a musical team we would love to see them.

Regards, Debbie, Deirdre, Sinead and Evelyn



DOUGLAS CREDIT UNION

Douglas Credit Union Scheme will continue **every Thursday from 12:45pm-1:15pm in the school hall**. Pupils are encouraged to develop the habit of saving small amounts regularly.

We would recommended that children bring **coins** (50c to €2), perhaps from their own pocket money to help them build up this habit. From a security point of view also, as money will be kept in the children's school bags during the day, we would not encourage notes or large amounts of money.

If you wish for your child to sign up, and they have not done so already, forms are available in the office.

SHAMROCK'S FUNDRAISER TABLE QUIZ

A Table Quiz in aid of funding the GAA coach for Primary Schools organised by Sharmocks GAA will take place on Friday 5th October at 8pm in Shamrock Bar. A team of four will cost €40 to enter. There will be a raffle and refreshments.

SHAMROCK BOYS' ACADAMEY

Restarted last Friday in Shanbally from 6:15pm to 7:30pm. Continues every Friday outdoors until November when it will move indoors. Looking forward to seeing Monkstown NS pupils playing Gaelic Games in a fun environment!

PASSAGE WEST GAA

**Passage West
Fun Packed GAA Training
Under 6 & 7 Boys and Girls
All Welcome**

Studies have shown that GAA can help ...

- ✓ *Improve Health*
- ✓ *Develop self-esteem and confidence*
- ✓ *Improve discipline*
- ✓ *Increase social skills*
- ✓ *Strengthen Perseverance*
- ✓ *Improve academic success*

Fun

Fun

Fun

Fun

Training Times for September

Under 6 Boys and Girls	Contact: Adrian Whyte 086-2272979	Hurling - Sundays 10:30 Football - Fridays 7:00
Under 7 Boys	Contact: Conor Quigley 087-2777959	Hurling - Sundays 11:30 Football - Fridays 6:30
Under 7 Girls	Contact: Dave Maxwell 087-9879604	Camogie - Fridays 5.30
Under 7 Girls	Contact: Karen Allen	Football - Mondays 4.45