



SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

Newsletter #5

6th November 2018

A Chairde,

Welcome back after midterm break!! We hope you enjoyed it and are rested facing into the next few busy months.

We are all looking forward to meeting you this month for your child(ren)'s Parent / Teacher Meeting. Teachers will be arranging appointment times in the coming weeks – please see the below reminder.

Míle Buíochas,

Ciara Ní Bhuaigh & Foireann na Scoile

Upcoming Dates

Wed	7 th November	Photographs for 'Calendar'
Friday	9 th November	Concern Debating Competition 6 th
Wed & Thurs	21 st & 22 nd Nov	Parent / Teacher Meetings
Sunday	2 nd December	Save the date! Santa Sunday!!!!
Friday	7 th December	School Closure
Friday	21 st Dec 2018	School closes for Christmas at 12midday
Monday	7 th January	School re-opens for Term 2
Monday	14 th January 2019	Additional Closure for Staff In-service

PARENT TEACHER MEETING REMINDERS

- School will finish for 1st – 6th Classes at **2:15pm** on Wednesday 21st November for 2018 Parent Teacher Meetings
- School will finish for ALL classes at **12midday** on Thursday 22nd November for Parent Teacher Meetings.

If you have not already done so, please write a note (in school journal) to your child(ren)'s class teacher(s) indicating a preference, if you have any, for one of the above dates. Every effort will be made to accommodate you – but as I am sure you understand; the logistics & size of classes can make the timetabling process tricky. We appreciate your understanding and co-operation with this.

Some teachers may be able to offer additional times for appointments and we will let parents of those classes know if this is the case. Appointment cards will be sent out in the coming weeks.

SCIATH NA SCOL – FINAL!

Scoil Barra Naofa competed in the Urban Roinn B Final in Pairc Ui Rinn against Scoil Phadraig Naofa, Bandon. Bandon got the upper hand in the first half and led by 2-5 to 1-1 but S.B.N responded with all guns blazing in the second half and cut the deficit to a goal but as Scoil Barra Naofa searched for the equalizer Bandon scored another goal to win by 6 points. Final score 4-5 to 3-2 .

Great performances by the team who were led by our terrific captain Harry Clarke and vice-captain Andrew O'Connor. The never say die attitude was typified by Sabrina Moynihan, Liam O' Flynn, Cian Power, Cian Barry, Blake Fitzgerald, Finn Ryan and Conor Kennedy.

Congratulations and well done to each and every player. We are very proud of you all!!

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association's role is to work together to create a positive parental involvement in the school. The good news is that all parents of students in SBN school are members of the Parent's Association! The Parent's Association has an email address if you wish to contact the committee, please feel free to contact us on:

pa@scoilbarranaofa.ie

Many thanks to everyone who supported our recent Halloween spooky movie night - a great evening was had by all and helped us raise just over €300 for the school.

Save the Date:

Our 'world famous' Santa Sunday will take place on **2nd December**...mark it in your family diary as one not to miss.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION: CALENDAR PROPS

Please excuse the short notice on this. The PA is preparing a School Calendar for the new year and the photographs will be shot this **coming Wednesday 7th November** - all proceeds will go towards fundraising for the school, more details to follow.

Our calendar will be tailor made to show all children representing their birth month. We would really appreciate if you could help us with some props to make this as colourful as possible - for example children born in:

- January: a woolly hat, scarf, coat, toy snowmen..
- February: item of red clothing, something with red hearts, Valentine themed etc
- March: St Patrick's Day accessories or clothing
- April: Umbrella, raincoat (April Showers!) yellow or Easter accessories.
- May: Bright coloured tops/t-shirts, sunglasses, hats etc
- June: Sun Hats, sports theme (tennis rackets, hurleys, football, basketball)
- July: bucket and spade, sunglasses
- August: GAA theme (any Cork, Ireland jersey or hat, scarf)
- September: Back to school items, crayons, pencils, schoolbags
- October: Anything Hallowe'en themed
- November: a woolly hat, scarf, coat
- December: Christmas themed accessories

We understand this is short notice so if you don't have these items or haven't had time to source them don't worry the Parents Association will ensure the props are provided for the children.

If for any reason you do not wish for your child to be included in the calendar, please contact the office on 021-4842159, before Wednesday.

With many thanks in advance, The Parents' Association

5TH CLASS ECONOMICS PROJECT

On Thursday 25th October Fifth Class students went to Rochestown Park Hotel to present their Economics project to an audience of over 200 people. The project's title was ' The Insurance Crisis in Ireland'. The children engaged in research and case studies for four weeks about the topic before making their final presentation. Their presentation was really informative and a huge success overall. Well done to all involved and a big thank you to Gary Hanrahan from Douglas Credit Union and Gary Wade from the Cork School of Economics for all their help.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD WINNERS - OCTOBER

Well done to the winners of October's Principal's Awards

- **Leah Kirby** (Rang 1): for being fantastic Gaeilgeoir in the class and for her beautiful kind and caring nature and her dedication during prayer time.
- **Charlie Warren** (Rang 1): for his dedication to his school work, his fantastic listening skills and his excellent manners and caring for others.
- **Tara Hayes** (Rang 2): for working well in class, listening and for sharing and playing nicely with everyone.
- **Harry Coole** (Rang 2): for making a special effort lately to listen and focus in class and for working to improve his concentration.
- **Freya Boylan** (Rang 3): for her wonderful smile and positive approach; for working hard on her spellings and for her consistent enthusiasm.
- **Tiernan Sheil** (Rang 3): for working hard on his organisational skills and for huge improvements with his home and school work.
- **Daragh Killeen** (Rang 4): for participating very well in class, for being co-operative and respectful and, for excellent Creative Writing.
- **Beth O Connell** (Rang 4): for always trying her very best in class, for beautiful handwriting and for very imaginative Creative Writing.
- **Elsie O' Flynn** (Rang 5): for being kind, hardworking, neat, caring, mannerly and for excelling in everything that she does.
- **Daniel Garcia** (Rang 5): for excelling in all areas of the 5th Class curriculum, for being extremely mannerly and being an excelled poet.
- **Milly Ryan** (Rang 6): For her diligence and hard work, her excellent behaviour and her co-operation and helpfulness in class.
- **Jamie Barnes Bullman** (Rang 6): For settling so well into Scoil Barra Naofa, for his enthusiasm, excellent manners and behaviour.

Well done to everyone!

GREEN SCHOOL – CLOTHING COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone in the community who supported our Clothing Collection Fundraiser before Hallowe'en. We collected 618kg of clothing, and this should raise approximately €200 for the School Development Fund! Míle Buíochas ó chroí.

6TH CLASS DEBATING COMPETITION

Best of luck to David McSweeney, Ellen Clarke & Eve Gardiner in their debate against St. Luke's N.S. this Friday 9th November 2018. Go n-éirí an t-ádh libh!

STUDENT COUNCIL 2018/19



Everyone looked amazingly scary and spooky at school on Wednesday, October 24th. Thank you all for the superb effort you put into your costumes and your crazy hair. Everyone looked amazing and was deserving of a prize. The Student Council judges had a tremendously difficult job picking winners in each of the classes, but the following pupils won the prize of a trophy and a Homework Pass.

- Junior Infants: Tom Cunningham
- Senior Infants: Keelin O' Herlihy
- First Class - Jack Cunningham
- Second Class - Finn Whitty
- Third Class - Faye Ryan
- Fourth Class - Darragh Killeen
- Fifth Class - Sabrina Moynihan
- Sixth Class - Laoise Moynihan

Congratulations to everyone. The Student Council also wishes to thank every family who donated. Thanks to your generosity, we raised **€500** for the Rapunzel Foundation.

TRAFFIC

Following a number of complaints to the school regarding traffic and parking around the school, particularly in the mornings, the Board of Management are liaising with An Garda Síochána & Cork County Council in relation to this.

The Gardaí are formulating a traffic plan for around the school and will be advising us further in the coming days of this. The full traffic plan will be communicated with families once it is devised and **members of An Garda Síochána will be present some mornings to assist with it.**

We appreciate with the roadworks through Passage West & Monstown at the moment, there is a lot of disruption to families in the morning, but the SAFETY of everyone each morning and afternoon is the priority. So please be patient and please do not abandon vehicles without regard to others. We must all work together, and if every one extends courtesy and care to pedestrians, other drivers, local residents, it will make mornings and afternoons a safer place for us all.

A few points for us all to remember:

- As much as we would like it, we **cannot all be parked in the spot nearest the school**. It is often an idea to have pre-arranged a 'Park & Stride' option, a little further from the school with your children.

- The Church carpark is available to park in at these times. If the gates are closed when you arrive, they are probably unlocked and just need to be pushed open.
- Drivers should be aware of children (and parents) who have chosen to park in the church carpark and are crossing to the school. Unfortunately to date the County Council do not deem the junction suitable for an official Pedestrian Crossing, but in reality we are all aware that there are children and parents crossing at this point daily – so please slow down and take care.
- **PLEASE DO NOT PARK on the hill.** If you need to accompany your child to the halla – please consider parking in the church carpark or elsewhere. **This has happened on a NUMBER of occasions recently, where not one, but two cars have pulled up on the hill, completely blocking access.**
- **We CANNOT at any stage BLOCK or OBSTRUCT the road on the hill** outside the school, even for a brief time. If a resident has parked outside their home, cars should not park across from them. If there was an emergency in any home in the locality, or indeed in the school, emergency services would not be able to come up or go down the hill. While we appreciate the fact that the roads around the school are narrow to begin with, it is important that there is room for traffic to pass. Please do not block the access road into Syndeham Terrace also.
- It is an ‘unwritten’ practice amongst parents, which can prove useful, to drive up the hill by the school and down the hill by the Sacred Heart Church.
- **IT IS NOT permitted for any child to run or play in the school car park** as it is far too dangerous. Any adult or child who is waiting by the school gates, should stand to the side by the railings. **Please supervise any small children carefully.**
- Finally, it is preferable that anyone entering the school on foot do so using **the pedestrian gate (and steps)** from the hill. I appreciate that this is not always possible; however, it would be appreciated if it could be done whenever possible. Having less foot traffic coming through the vehicle entrance would further eliminate any potential dangers to pedestrians.

Thank you for your co-operation with all of the above. The health and safety of every member of the Scoil Barra Naofa community is of vital importance to the school and the Board of Management.

PAYMENTS



It has been wonderful in the office to hear such positive feedback from parents regarding the ease of the e-Payments system. We are delighted to hear that parents have found it quick and easy to use!

If at any stage you have a query about a payment, or how to use the system, please ring Jen in the office. Jen can also assist with over the phone payments by credit/debit card. If you would like the payment link or the breakdown of the expenses (emailed 04/10/2018), re-sent to you –do not hesitate to contact Jen in the office 021-4842159.

If you wish to make your payment by cash or cheque, please ensure that this is done through the office (in an envelope clearly marked with child/children's names and not through class teachers for cash security reasons!

Finally a gentle reminder that we would very much appreciate if “Instalment No 1” of the Class Expenses payment, and “Confirmation Expenses” for 5th & 6th Class, could be made during Term 1. We appreciate that Christmas can be an expensive time for families, so breaking the payment into further smaller instalments can be arranged. Just contact the office.

Once again thank you all for your support!

CRAFT CLUB – NOV & DEC

Our next round of Craft club classes will take place on Wednesdays starting this Wednesday 7th November. There will be 5 classes before Christmas: Nov 7th, 14th & 28th, Dec 5th & 12th.

If you would to sign your child up for the next round of Craft Club and would like to pay online, using our new ePayment system - please do email or ring the office and we can issue you a link through our new ePayments system.

Two options will be available: **Cross stitch for 3rd Class & Embroidery/ Crossstitch for 4th-6th Classes**. Craft club costs €5 per week, plus €5 for materials (**€30 for the five weeks**). All funds raised go towards Scoil Barra Naofa school development fund.

Forms are available in the office and should be returned ASAP. Places are limited to please secure your child's place early to avoid disappointment. Míle Buíochas!

CLASSROOM RENOVATION

Over the last number of years, the school community has been fundraising for the 'School Development Fund'. The Board of Management, the Student Council, the PA, have all been proactive with fundraising events and securing private or corporate sponsorship. The library, offices, SEN rooms, reception area, staffroom/kitchen and school gardens have all benefitted from upgrades, thanks to the significant efforts of the school community.

The Board of Management have discussed the next step in the in the school's development – painting and renovating classrooms. A student's learning experience is heavily impacted by the classroom design around them. Our teachers already work hard to ensure that classrooms are inspiring, engaging places for our pupils to learn – and we hope to add further to this by painting the rooms, putting new flooring as necessary and reorganising fixtures and fittings. We want to maximise the potential of our rooms even further – and have bright, clean, spacious, flexible spaces, which inspire pupils and teachers alike.

Due to the scale of the project (with eight classrooms, the hall and corridors), financial restraints mean the project will be done over a number of years, as and when the 'School Development Fund' allows. However, in exciting news – the project has begun!!

The 1st Class classroom was earmarked for renovation over the Hallowe'en midterm, with the majority of the work taking place last week. Further minor works and finishing touches will be added in the coming weeks. The project should be fully completed this month and we look forward to showing it off to the entire school community at Santa Sunday on the 2nd of December. Please do make sure to pop into the 1st Classroom on that day, so you can see what has been achieved thanks to your time, efforts and contributions made to school fundraising.

A MASSIVE thank you is due to Vivian Prout, our school caretaker, who worked tirelessly last week on the project. He was ably assisted by Roger (our cleaner), Lorna and Shirley (our SECAD volunteers), our former caretaker Martin and other volunteers. They have been passionate about the project and their skill sets were instrumental in ensuring that tasks were completed on a tight budget. When six people are in the school for hours on a Sunday evening, to ensure it is ready for pupils for the next day, you know you are working with a dream team! So míle buíochas to Vivian and the team!

We hope that you all are as impressed as we are with the fruits of their labour and you can see the vision, which we will hopefully roll out to other classrooms, as and when finances allow. Go raibh maith agaibh!

IRON ON SCHOOL CRESTS

Following feedback from parents, the school has order a quantity of iron on crests, which are available to purchase through the office. The crests are availble in navy (to iron on to generic navy school jumpers/hoodies etc, and white (to iron on to generic white polo t-shirts). **The crests cost €3 each or 2 crests for €5.** Many thanks.

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.

SHAMROCK BOYS' ACADAMEY

Shamrocks Boys Academy 2018/2019

Continues every Friday in the Marine College in Ringaskiddy, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Looking forward to seeing Monkstown NS students playing Gaelic Games in a fun environment !

SHAMROCKS LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB

Looking for an indoor winter activity? Training moves indoors this week for our underage ladies on Thursday 6.30-7.30pm at the Maritime College, Ringaskiddy for all ages from age 5 up. Junior Ladies training from 7.30 -8.30pm - looking for mums to join us this season. No prior experience needed and new members are always welcome! Follow us on Facebook or Text 0872280425.

PASSAGE WEST GAA

Fun Packed GAA Training - Under 6 & 7 Boys and Girls -All Welcome

**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