

SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

Newsletter #12

26th February 2019

A Chairde,

The next fortnight will be a particularly busy one for us all here in Scoil Barra Naofa, as 5th & 6th celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday 11th March and our 2nd Class make their First Confession on Thursday 7th March . There is a lot of information contained in this newsletter – please read through it all carefully! Best of luck to all of our pupils taking part in these ceremonies – we hope they all enjoy their special day!

Mise le meas,

Ciara Ní Bhuaiagh & Foireann na Scoile

UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday	27 th February	7:30pm Supporting Children’s Mental Health PA organised Seminar for Parents
Sunday	3 rd March	3pm Credit Union Quiz (Rochestown Park)
Thursday	7 th March	7:30pm First Confession (2 nd Class)
Monday	11 th March 2019	10:30am Confirmation: 5 th & 6 th Class
Mon-Fri	11ú – 22ú Márta 2019	Coicís na Gaeilge
Friday & Mon	15 th & 18 th March 2019	School Closure (St. Patrick’s Weekend)
Thursday	21 st March 2019	Lismore Mobile Science Unit (All Classes)
Monday	1 st April 2019	Global Citizenship Workshop (Green Schools)
Monday	8 th April 2019	Junior Guzzler Science Workshop (Snrs-2 nd)
Tuesday	9 th April 2019	Senior Science SEAI Workshop (3 rd -6 th)
Wednesday	10 th April 2019	NCBI Clothing Collection
Friday	12 th April 2019	School Closes at 12midday for Easter

HURLING/ CAMOGIE 4TH-6TH

Training lunchtime this Thursday at big lunch with Mr. Walsh in Monkstown Park.

CONFIRMATION

TIMES: On **Monday 11th of March**, 5th & 6th Class will be confirmed at **10:30am**. The ceremony will take over an hour and with class photographs etc to be organised and taken afterwards - all going well, everything should be finished by 12midday.

BEFORE CEREMONY: 5th & 6th Class will congregate in their CLASSROOM with their teachers from **10:15am SHARP**, where they will collect their robes. Their teachers will escort them to the church before the ceremony, where they will process in with the Bishop (which Bishop will be confirming our pupils is yet to be confirmed). Seats at the front of the church will be reserved for confirmation candidates.

ROBES: Robes will be available for collection from their OWN CLASSROOM that morning. Please ensure that your child is in the classroom in plenty of time (10.15am) in order to be on time for the Confirmation Ceremony. AFTER the Confirmation Ceremony robes should be **returned to their CLASSROOM where they should be placed on the CORRECT hanger**, (with the child's name on it). Please ensure that your child does not simply discard their robe as it is essential that we can mark off which robes have been returned. Thank you for your co-operation with this!

SPONSORS: Seating will also be reserved at the front of the church (in the rows directly behind the candidates) for sponsors. Staff will be insitu before the ceremony to guide sponsors to the correct seat.

ALLOCATED SEATING FOR FAMILIES: Following the recent survey of families, the Parents' Association is facilitating the allocation of **some** seating for families at the ceremony, in a similar manner to how it is done at the Communion Ceremony

Every family will be allocated & guaranteed **half a pew** (approx seating for 3-4 people). This will help all families, especially those with concerns about seating for elderly / sick / pregnant relatives, as they can be catered for in these seats. It should also help with time management for families on the morning of the Confirmation, as with some seating guaranteed there should be no need for extremely early arrivals at the Church. Family names will be placed on the edge of the pews. For families with more than 3-4 guests attending (sponsors will have their own seating), the remainder of the guests will find seating, on a first come first served basis, in the remaining 'general' pews.

A draw will be held in the school before the Confirmation with representatives the PA present to decided the order of the allocation of the seats. This will be circulated to parents.

BOOKLETS: Each family will receive booklets for the ceremony on Friday 8th. ONE should be given to the sponsor, as they will be seated separately. The other(s) should remain with the family. Confirmation candidates will not need a booklet and should not have any other accessories with them in their seats. No additional booklets will be provided on the day.

TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS etc. We would ask that families not take photos or videos throughout the ceremony as it can be hugely distracting to the pupils being confirmed. A professional photographer and videographer will be capturing the ceremony on the day. **(See Below)**. As with all school events, please also keep in mind when taking photographs of your child with other children, the importance of having parental permission from the other parents to do so and please also be **EXTREMELY CAREFUL** when posting photos on social media, especially if children other than your own are in the photograph.

SIBLINGS: Any child who has a sibling being confirmed will be marked present on the school roll, as they are attending a school event. They do not need to go to their class in the morning, unless you wish them to! If a sibling is in 3rd & 4th Class they may choose between sitting with their family and joining the choir.

CHOIR: 3rd & 4th Classes will be in attendance at the ceremony as a choir. Seating will be reserved for the choir to the side of the Church (by the Confessional Box). Both of these classes **should wear their full school uniform** on Monday 11th, and be in school at normal school times – 8:50am. They will return to the school afterwards.

TUESDAY 12th March (5th & 6th): Confirmation candidates can wear their confirmation clothes to school on Tuesday 12th March, if they wish. 5th & 6th Class may be collected at **10:45am** on that day, and signed out by their parent (or another adult, once that adult has parental consent to do so). If a Confirmation candidate is not signed out, they will remain in school until 2:30pm as normal. Thank you for co-operation with this.

PHOTOGRAPHS: A note has been sent home from Christine McCarthy, which should be returned ASAP. Christine will contact those booking individual photos by phone & will discuss payment for same with you. If you need to contact Christine her number is 021-4895872.

If you wish to order a copy of the CLASS PHOTO this must be paid for in advance (€15). Thank You!

DVD: Orders for copies of the DVD of the Confirmation Ceremony can be made in advance of the ceremony by sending **€20 in an envelope with your child's name & marked Confirmation DVD**, to the class teacher, before Thursday. Thank you!

Finally we hope that the sun will shine down on our 5th & 6th Claseses on this most special day. Thank you to Fr. Seán, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Walsh, Claudia, Mary, Audrey, Jacqui and Jen and all who helped in so many ways in preparing them so well. We hope that everyone enjoys the day!

ALL OTHER CLASSES – MONDAY 11TH & TUESDAY 12TH

On the day of the Confirmation, the school will open as normal at 8:50am for all classes Junior Infants to 4th Class and will remain open until 2:30pm as normal (or 1:30pm for Infant classes).

Any child (other than sibling of confirmation candidates) who is not in school will be marked absent on the school roll. Any child who needs to leave before their normal finishing time, will need to be signed out, through the office, following the normal school procedures.

School will be open and close at the usual times on both Monday & Tuesday.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

A seminar on '**Supporting parents to support their children's mental health and wellbeing**' will take place in Scoil Barra Naofa (hall) THIS Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 7:30pm. It has been organised by the PA.

This programme supports parents to encourage and promote positive mental health and wellbeing in their children. The programme also explores how the building of resilience in children helps them to manage and cope with the day to day stresses of life as they occur. Parents who attend this session will:

- Explore the factors that influence mental health and wellbeing in their child
- Learn how to build and nurture resilience within their own child
- Be given tips on how best to support their child's positive mental health and wellbeing.

It is such an important issue for families in our school community, with many parents reporting increasing anxiety and stress levels in their children. Looking forward to seeing you there.

ALADDIN CONNECT

There has been FANTASTIC feedback from parents in relation to Aladdin Connect which many parents signed up to since our last newsletter. We hope many more parents will sign up in the coming weeks.

Some reminders:

- **REGISTRATION CODE:** One link per parent was issued on Tuesday 12th February. If you cannot find your link, just contact the office and we can re-issue it.
- **NO EMAIL ADDRESS:** If a parent has not provided us with an email address, they have not been issued a code. If they would like to sign up to Aladdin Connect, simply contact the office with an email address and we can issue a code.
- **Download APP:** Many parents have signed up to Connect but have not yet downloaded the app. If you have a smart phone, we would urge parents to consider downloading the Aladdin app. It is extremely user friendly and a lot of the features of Connect are easily accessible to you. Feedback has been very positive about the app. You will also receive 'texts' through the app (once phone number is validated & notifications turned on), which is a cost saving measure for the school.
- **If you have downloaded the app,** don't forget to validate your phone number and ensure notifications are turned on – so that you do not miss out on messages from the school.
- **Sharing Contact Details:** If you choose, you may share your contact details with other parents of children in the same class as your child. Be reassured that this information will not be shared unless you choose to share it.

Features of Connect which parents find useful:

- Ability to amend contact details, emergency contact names and numbers etc.
- Receive Noticeboard Messages from Class Teacher / School
- Permanent access to your child's Annual School reports
- Access to your child's attendance and ability to input reason for absence.
- Access to a calendar of upcoming school / class events
- Access to your child's homework (Junior & Senior Infants only at the moment)
- Access to your child's standardised test results (May 2019 onwards)
- Access to ePayments page and see history of payments made
- Booking of Parent Teacher Meeting (November 2019)

The school would **STRONGLY recommend that at least one parent has signed up for Aladdin Connect before May 2019**, as School Reports will be issued via Aladdin Connect in June 2019 and we will be using Aladdin Connect to schedule Parent Teacher Meetings in Oct/Nov 2019.

2ND CLASS – FIRST CONFESSION

Pupils of 2nd Class will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Thursday 7th March at 7:30pm in Sacred Heart Church, Monkstown. Pupils should wear their full uniform on the night. Pupils will be seated together with Ms. Mulrooney. Families can sit in the pews across from or behind pupils. Thank you to Ms. Mulrooney, Mary and Fr. Seán for preparing the pupils so well. Go n-éirí libh.

CREDIT UNION QUIZ TEAM

Best of luck to our Under 11 Quiz Team - Lucy Heffernan, Scarlett Peterson, Rita Mae Brown and Cian Barry who will be representing the school and Douglas Credit Union in the Cork Chapter Credit Union Quiz this weekend on March 3rd in Rochestown Park Hotel! Maith sibh & go n-éirí libh!

EASON SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

Good luck to Killian Peterson (Sixth Class) who will participate in the first round of the Eason Spelling Bee Competition on Wednesday 13th March in CB. Go n-éirí an bóthar leat, Killian!

CORK CITY SPORTS

The draw for the Cork City Sports takes place in March. The eldest in First- Sixth Classes have all been given two tickets to sell. It is important to support this draw so that we can send competitors to Cork City Sports in June. Tickets (sold or unsold) must be returned to your child's class teacher before Tuesday next 5th March. Go raibh maith agaibh!

SKIPPING WORKSHOP

We had a fantastic skipping workshop last Wednesday with Lee from Skip-Hop. All classes took part in workshops throughout the day, learning a selection of moves, including crossovers, double unders, partner skipping and long rope skipping. The day finished with a whole school demonstration performed by individual children chosen from each workshop. There was some very impressive performances and we look forward to lots more skipping in the yard during the coming weeks!

PA – CHINA CUPS ETC.

The PA are looking for donations of any china tea-cups, saucers & side plates that may no longer be needed in homes. They do not need to be matching, or in full sets – so if anyone has any ends of sets or spare china, which they no longer need, the PA would be delighted to receive donations of these. Thank You!

ABSENCES

It is very important that if your child is absent that you send in a **WRITTEN note of explanation** (in the homework journal or other) to the class teacher on your child's return. A phone call is not necessary. **Parents can also use their Aladdin Connect account to input the reason for absence.**

Our 'rolla' system has been computerised for a number of years now and we are required by the DES to log the absence reason provided under one of the categories provided (E.g. Illness etc.) An absence, where a note is not provided, is entered as UNEXPLAINED. The school is legally required to report all absences of over 20 days in the school year to TULSA. The reasons for absences provided to the school are reported also – so in the case of genuine and explained absences through illness etc it is unlikely that the Education Welfare Officer would contact you.

As our roll books are a computerised system, a text message is **automatically generated** to parents when your child has accumulated 15 days of absences. While this is done automatically by the data system, it can be a useful point of information to parents, who may not realise the number of days accumulated. Another text is automatically generated when a child reaches 20 days absences within a school year.

Late arrivals & early withdrawals are now recorded on the Aladdin Connect system (from February 2019). Moving forward teachers and parents will be able to track how many hours of school has been missed by late arrival or early withdrawal.

HEALTH PROMOTION SQUAD: FRIENDSHIP WEEK

Friendship Week took place in SBN from 11/02/2019 to 15/02/2019. It was a wonderful week with many activities and lessons taking place around the theme of "Friendship". These included Art, poetry, creative writing, drama, music and story telling. Many classes took part in a secret buddy system. The children were given a secret buddy on the Monday and they were asked to look out for that person throughout the week. The names of the secret buddies were revealed on the Friday of Friendship Week.

A competition took place during the week to allow the children to use their creative talents to express the meaning of friendship on paper. Two winners were chosen from each class. The winners will be announced at the next assembly. The main message of the week was, "You have to be a friend, to have a friend!"

Thank you to the Health Promotion Squad, along with Ms. Mulrooney and Ms. Treharne for organising such a wonderful week.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY....

Our pupils are constantly learning about responsibility (It is one of our 3 Rs!!!). Here in school we encourage them to take responsibility for their belongings, for their words, for their actions & reactions ... and when things go wrong, which they can from time to time, we encourage them to take responsibility for their role in that also, so that we can all (pupils and staff alike) help and react appropriately, resolve a situation and move on positively. This week's quote is appropriate given World Book Day is fast approaching & is a good one for us all to remember ... we are all in the driving seat when it comes to our lives and the choices we make ... let's make them positive ones!!

You have **BRAINS** in your **HEAD**.
You have **FEET** in your **SHOES**.
You can **STEER** yourself any
DIRECTION you **CHOOSE**.
~Dr. Seuss

CRAFT CLUB

Craft Club is open to pupils from 2nd-6th Class. The next round of classes will commence this Wednesday 27th of February 2019, after school. There will be 6 weeks of classes and they will cost €35. (€5 per week plus €5 for materials). If you wish to enrol or re-enrol your child(ren) in Craft Club, forms are available from the office. (They will be distributed at Craft Club this week and next). **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!**

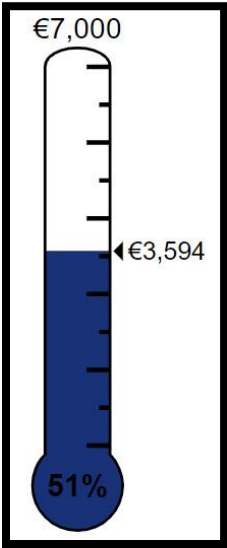
Payment can be made by cash/cheque or by requesting a payment link from the office! Thank you as always for your support. All proceeds go towards the school. Thank You to Bean Uí Bhuaigh also for giving so generously of her time!

RSE LESSONS

As part of our School RSE Plan, the 'sensitive' RSE lessons will be taught in the months of March & April, along with some of the more sensitive lessons in the Stay Safe Programme. **All parents should have received an email yesterday (Monday) to inform you in advance of what topics will be covered** at your child's class level and the email will include links so that you can view the lessons. Lessons are also available to view in the school library if you wish to make an appointment to view them.

If you have any questions in relation to any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher or the Principal.

FUNDRAISING NEWS



We were delighted to receive a €350 donation recently from DSG – Doyle Shipping Group / Passage West Dockyard recently. Míle Buíochas ó chroí!

This brings our current total raised for Classroom Renovation No 3 at €3594, which is 51% of our next €7,000 target.

Renovation of Classroom No 2 (2nd Class) is well underway, with painting having been completed over midterm break. The rest of the works are scheduled for over the Easter Holidays!

As always, thank you all for your support, and as ever if anyone has any leads or suggestions with regards to potential fundraising (specifically corporate donations), we would be thrilled to hear of these in the office.

FUNDRAISING: CLOTHING COLLECTION



SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday 10th April!

In case you are doing any spring cleaning over the next few months, please keep in mind that our next fundraising clothing collection will take place on Wednesday 10th April 2019. Our clothing collection will now be in aid of the National Council for the Blind Ireland, as well as for school fundraising.

The NCBI supports 224,000 people in Ireland who experience severe problems with their eye sight including blindness. The donations from the clothing drive will be sold in their 110 Charity Shops nationwide, and those that cannot be re-sold are recycled.

Clean Clothing, Linen, Curtains, Belts, Handbags and (pairs) of shoes can be donated, in tied large plastic bags. Unfortunately no cushions, duvets, pillows, socks, underwear or soiled rags can be accepted.

As always times will be made available the day before and the morning of the collection that bags can be dropped to the school – watch this space! Thank you for your support!

ENABLE IRELAND – ADULT TRANSPORTATION FUNDRAISING APPEAL

Some of you may be aware that I have a sister Olivia who has special needs. She attends the Enable Ireland adult services. Enable Ireland in Cork are currently fundraising for a new state of the art children's centre. While laudable & valuable the unfortunate consequence of this is that funding to Adult Services has frozen. This has resulted in the fleet of vans becoming unfit for purpose. Transport is a vital link to bring people to work and the lack of transport has resulted in people being stranded at home or having a much shorter working day. It has also cut down on social and community trips and interactions. One van costs €50,000 so we are trying to fundraiser for a new van. We have set up a "Go Fund Me" page for Olivia and her friend Tara. All contributions no matter how small are greatly appreciated. The link is [isgf.me/u/qxcv9b](https://gf.me/u/qxcv9b).
Míle Buíochas, Ms. Lisa Marshall

INTERNET SAFETY: MOMO CHALLENGE?

The school recently received the following advice from ZEEKO, who provided the school with internet safety seminars last year.

What is the "Momo Challenge"?

The "Momo challenge" has recently started to appear on social media platforms as a form of cyber-chain letter. Chain letters provide a great deal of shock, or trigger anxiety, which prompts the reader to share the stories/ information or obey the tasks that the chain letters contain. Gardai have issued a warning regarding this "suicide game". Within this game, there is woman that tells individuals to communicate with her via WhatsApp and other platforms. When contact is made, the woman reportedly asks individuals to perform dangerous tasks, including self-harm.

HOW CAN WE KEEP CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE - Tips for Teachers and Parents

ChatBudi: Ensure that your students/ children have a ChatBudi. This is someone over 18 years of age that a child trusts and feels comfortable talking about suspicious online activities.

Reassurance: Speak to your students/ children about online dangers and create awareness of the importance to chat about any worries or unusual behaviour that may be happening online.

Online Stranger Danger: Ensure that your students/ children only contact people online that they know in the real world.

Age Appropriateness: Ensure all internet connected devices are restricted to age suitable content.



DOUGLAS CREDIT UNION

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

NATIONAL PARENTS' COUNCIL REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

A NPC South Regional Assembly Event will be held in the **Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire, Cork** on **Saturday the 2nd of March 2019** from **11am to 4pm** (Tea/Coffee will be available from 10.30am).

NPC would like to invite parents of primary school children to attend this event looking at the issue of '**Technology in Education: Preparing Children for the Future**'.

This event is free of charge and all parents of children in primary school are welcome to attend. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

SHAMROCK BOYS' ACADAMEY

Shamrocks boys Academy continues every Friday night from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Marine College Ringaskiddy, Monkstown NS student welcome.

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

SHAMROCKS LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB

SHAMROCKS LADIES GAA



FOOTBALL CLUB



NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

NEW Members wanted for our growing club:

Age: 5-18+yrs

Winter Indoor Training:
Maritime College - Ringaskiddy

Times: 6.30pm-8.30pm

Tuesday U10/U12 6.30-7.30pm
U14 7.30-8.30pm

Thursday U6/U8 6.30-7.30pm
U16/Juniors 7.30-8.30pm

For more information
Contact: 087-2280425

Learning
New skills



Building
Confidence

PASSAGE AFC – SOCCER ACADEMY

Every Saturday – Maulbawn Astro Pitch

Boys & Girls

U9 (2010)	12.00-13.30	Contact Ronan Meagher	087-6458672
U8 (2011)	13.30-15.00	Contact Declan Carroll	086-6738819
U7 (2012)	15.00-16.00	Contact Colm Linehan	087-6755663
U6 (2013)	15.00-16.00	Contact Mike Flannery	087-1377770

LET'S GO SUMMER CAMPS

CARRIGALINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Easter Camp: 23rd-26th April Summer Camps:

8th-12 July

15th-19th July

22nd-26th July

More details on www.letsgo.ie or on 021-4877111.