



# SCOIL BARRA NAOFA

## Newsletter #4

8<sup>th</sup> October 2018

A Chairde,

This is our final newsletter before our midterm break. The school closes for midterm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of October at 2:30pm and will re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of November at 8:50am. I hope you all enjoy your Halloween break.

Before midterm we have many exciting events lined up, not least our Sciath na Scol Team in the final in Páirc Uí Rinn. We look forward to a wonderful day out. SBN Abú!

We are also busy preparing for and looking forward to the SBN Open Night on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming you on the night.

*Mise le meas,*

*Ger O Brien agus Foireann na Scoile*

## Upcoming Dates

Fri	11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Jersey Day in aid of Goal
Fri	11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mini 7s Football, Carrigtwohill GAA
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Maths Week
Tues	15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class Girls' GAA Blitz – Shanbally
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>7-8pm Open Night, Principal's Address @ 8</b>
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>First Communion Enrolment Mass 11.30</b>
Tues	22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	<b>10am Sciath na Scol Final; Páirc Uí Rinn</b>
Mon-Fri	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	October Midterm Break
Thurs	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Closing Date Pre-Enrolment Forms for 2019
Wed & Thurs	20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Parent / Teacher Meetings
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Additional Closure for Staff In-service</b>
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019	School closes for Christmas at 12 midday

## **UPCOMING GAA FIXTURES**

Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> the INTO Mini 7s will take place in Carrigtwohill GAA. Those involved will be dropped to and from the venue by parents. Mr Walsh will oversee the matches in Carrigtwohill. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children and we wish them the best of luck.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> in Crosshaven: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class Girls' GAA Blitz. Time tbc and bus is €3 per child. If this is postponed due to weather we will let parents know and an alternative date will be arranged.

## **SCIATH NA SCOL – FINAL!!**

We have confirmation that our Sciath na Scol Final will take place on **Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am in Páirc Uí Rinn**. The children of Scoil Barra Naofa will take on Cork Educate Together on the day and we are all very excited about the match!

Parents / Grandparents and supporters etc. are welcome to attend. The cost of entry per adult is €5, per child is €2, and per family is €10 (2adults and 2 children) and tickets can be purchased at the gate on the day.

The school will bring pupils from **2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> as a group as supporters** on the day. The team and the supporters will travel by bus to Páirc Uí Rinn, departing at approx 9am. Please ensure that all children are in school in plenty time this morning as we must walk to the Sandquay to ascend the bus. All children may wear their school tracksuit on the day and please ensure children have coats, hat, scarves etc. They may get wet walking to and from the bus so please be prepared!

Pupils from 2<sup>nd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> will remain under the supervision of the teachers and SBN at all times in Páirc Uí Rinn. Parents are more than welcome to come and support the team, however, children should sit with their class in order to allow teachers to supervise fully. The Board of Management will cover the cost of entry tickets for the school's group of supporters on entry to Páirc Uí Rinn.

**We are asking for a €5 contribution per child towards the bus to Páirc Uí Rinn for from 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Class.** This will be added to the online ePayments system today (Tuesday) and parents can pay using debit/credit card through this system. (If you have other payments on the system which you are not ready to pay yet, simply 'untick' those and only pay for the bus, if you wish).

**A permission slip MUST be completed for each child** attending (whether playing or supporting). Permission slips will be available on Aladdin in the coming days.

We look forward to a great game! We are so proud of all of our players. Go n-éirí go geal libh!! **SBN Abú!**

## **PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Thank you to our incoming Parent's Association. The AGM of the Parent's Association took place on September 25<sup>th</sup> and our new Parent's Association members were nominated on the night. Chair for the year ahead is Paula Clifford. The Parent's Association is an intrinsic part of school life and contribute greatly to the student's enjoyment and experiences. Preparation and planning is already underway for Santa Sunday with a suggested date of Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>. We look forward to working together this year.

Many thanks to our outgoing Parent's Association members also. The time and effort given by these members is very much appreciated by the staff and pupils of SBN as well as the general parent body. Without volunteers such as the Parent's Association we couldn't possibly run and fund the extras and special events during the year as well as the extra educational events such as the upcoming Green Schools Conference.

Míle Buíochas Ó Chroí

## **UPCOMING BOARD OF MANAGEMENT NOMINATIONS**

At the recent Parent's Association AGM the Chairperson of the Board of Management explained the role of the board and the role of the parent's nominees. The term of the current board is coming to an end and we will be seeking a male and female parent nominee for the new term (2019 – 2023). We will hold a nomination evening in November, date to be confirmed, in the school halla.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL 2019/2020**

Well Done to our Student Council members on their election. The council is made up of children from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes and is overseen by Ms Kelly and Ms Donnelly. The Student Council have organised Jersey Day on Friday October 11<sup>th</sup>. Children may wear a jersey of their choice with their school trackpants. Children are asked to donate 1 to 2 euro in aid of the charity Goal.

Student Council are also busy organising the Halloween Fancy Dress which will take place on Friday October 25<sup>th</sup>. Children may dress up in Halloween costumes on this day, should they wish to do so, and prizes will be given for best dressed.

The student council are also busy planning for further upcoming events in the run up to Christmas.

## **PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS**

Parent teacher meetings will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of November. Your child(ren)'s teacher(s) will be in contact via the Aladdin Connect facility in the coming weeks to organise a time to meet. Parent Teacher Meetings are an opportunity to ask any questions or queries you may have as well as get feedback on your child's school work and school life in general.

Here at SBN we welcome and value parental involvement and support. From time to time you may need to speak to your child's class teacher outside of scheduled parent teacher slots. The procedure for this is set out in the Parental Involvement Policy.

We ask that all parents make an appointment via the office should you require such a meeting. We ask that you give a very brief outline of the issue to be discussed in order to allow a teacher prepare and be in a position to answer any queries. The class teacher is always the first port of call for any parent wishing to discuss their child. If a meeting is urgent express this when you ring the office and the class teacher will ring you back as soon as possible to organise a time to meet.

As well as education your children's happiness, health and safety are our priorities. Impromptu meetings in the halla or school corridors compromise morning supervision of pupils and do not allow teachers focus fully on either the pupils or the parent. Unscheduled and unplanned meetings do not allow sufficient time for teachers to prepare work or organise supervision. These types of disturbances can be very unsettling for children and can have a knock on effect for the rest of their day.

Urgent meetings are rare occurrences and we will do everything we can to meet as promptly as possible. Ideally that same morning once supervision has been organised and work organised.

Thank you for your understanding.

## **HEALTH PROMOTION NEWS**

Thursday Oct 10<sup>th</sup> is World Mental Health Day. We at Scoil Barra Naofa are highly invested in the health and wellbeing of our children and our staff. With this in mind we will begin the Weaving Wellbeing Program with classes 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> after mid-term break.

This program is focussed on helping our children;

“feel good and strong in body and in mind, have energy, get along with others, know our strengths and feel proud because we are doing our best. Coping with the little problems and disappointments of life. Enjoying life, being grateful for what we have and accepting ourselves just as we are”.

You will notice worksheets and communication/home school links sheets in your children’s homework after mid-term. Please use these prompts and activities as an opportunity to speak with your child about the Weaving Wellbeing Program as well as wellbeing in general. We want to encourage all children to keep an open mind, mind themselves and others and feel comfortable talking about their wellbeing.

A visiting teacher will give a talk to our staff on the Weaving Wellbeing Program next week and will lead some of the children in a guided mindfulness activity.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to highlight such an important and worthwhile topic. We appreciate your support in this area as we strive to look after the wellbeing of pupils and staff at SBN. Go raibh maith agaibh!

## **GREEN SCHOOLS COMMITTEE**

Our Green Schools Committee is up and running with children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes working with Ms Flannery, Vivian, Roger and our parent member Aoife Fleury.

Members of the committee, as well as 4<sup>th</sup> class, will attend a Green Schools Global Conference in Little Island on Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about climate change, climate action, responsible consumption and production and gender equality. Thank you to the Parent’s Association for helping cover the cost of the bus!

We spoke at assembly recently about such issues and discussed the teenager Greta Thunberg and her efforts to raise awareness of the need for climate action. Greta’s initial protest consisted of only a handful of volunteers, however, recently thousands of protests have taken place world wide and Greta herself spoke at the UN. The children realised that even the smallest of gestures of a single voice has endless potential once you believe in yourself!

The Green School Committee will organise a clothing collection after mid-term break. Further details to follow.

## **THOUGHT OF THE DAY: RESPONSIBILITY**



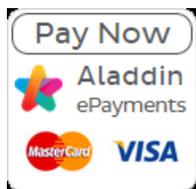
Here in SBN we endeavour for children to become more and more independent and to take increasing responsibility for many aspects of their lives.

Children can be responsible for their belongings – jumpers, bags, books etc. School staff often hear, “Mom forgot to give me my lunch” or “Dad forgot to put my swimming bag in the car”. We remind the children, especially as they become older – that **they** that are responsible for many of these things – not Mom or Dad!

We also encourage children to take responsibility for is their actions and behaviour. We encourage children to be kind and to treat others as they would like to be treated. If they make a mistake, we encourage them to take responsibility for their actions, to tell the truth about it, and to move on by learning from the mistake(s)

Taking responsibility for aspects of their own lives is an important skill that children should learn across their childhood. It may often be quicker and easier for us adults to “just do it for them” especially in a busy house or classroom, but it is the greatest gift that we can give them to become responsible, independent young people.

## **PAYMENTS**



during Term 1.

Our e-Payments system on Aladdin is up and running. Your child’s class expenses are detailed here. Thank you to those that have already paid these expenses. We appreciate your support in covering your children’s expenses and activities. We would very much appreciate if all parents could pay Instalment No1 of Class Expenses

We further appreciate the support of those families who have chosen to support the school by making voluntary contributions. Míle Buíochas ó chroí. 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 re-sent to you –do not hesitate to contact Jen in the office 021-4842159.

## **ENROLLMENTS & OPEN NIGHT**

The closing date for Pre-Enrolments for the 2020/2021 school year is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2019** which is during the midterm break! 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 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. All parents and prospective parents are welcome to browse the classrooms and view the wonderful activities taking place around the school. Teas, coffees and home-baking will be provided by the Parent's Association who will also be happy to talk to prospective parents on the night. The night will conclude with the Principal's Address at 8pm in the halla as well as a special guest speaker on the night!

All are welcome!

## **5TH CLASS ECONOMICS PROJECT**

5<sup>th</sup> Class have been working with Gary Hanrahan of Douglas Credit Union on their economics project over the past few weeks. Gary has visited the school on a weekly basis to work with the children. They have also been treated to a special visit from Tadhg Hickey of Cahoots Comedy Group. Tadhg spoke to the class on video making and demonstrated his skills for the boys and girls. Their economics project has also focussed on their local area. The children have learned many new skills these past weeks and are looking forward to presenting their projects to the parents on Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>. This year the projects will be presented in class during the school morning. Time tbc

Maith Sibh!

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photographs taken by Christine McCarthy last week, please drop any order forms to Jen in the office by Oct 14<sup>th</sup>. Photos will be delivered to the school after the midterm break. Thank You!

## **DOUGLAS CREDIT UNION**

Douglas Credit Union Scheme will continue **every Wednesday at 10am in the reception area**. Pupils are encouraged to develop the habit of saving small amounts regularly.



We would recommend that children bring **coins** (50c to €2), perhaps from their own pocket money to help them build up this habit. If you wish for your child to sign up, please bring Id & proof of address with your child's pps number on Wednesday morning at 10am.

## **AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Our after school activities are in full swing in Scoil Barra Naofa. As well as Homework Club we are pleased to offer the following activities;

Playball, Tae-Kwon-Do, Chess Club, Performer's Academy, Piano and Violin lessons.

There are places available for piano (Mondays and Wednesdays) and violin (Fridays). Should you be interested in these lessons please contact the teacher directly.

**Piano; Maeve Hunter, 0873386438**

**Violin; Sarah Barry, 0857123677.**

These are after school activities provided for by outside contractors. All contact and queries should be via your provider as they are best placed to answer any questions. All payments are via the provider and not the school office. Those attending after school activities, with the exception of Chess Club and Homework Club, should enter and exit via the lower doors next to the halla. The Board of Management of Scoil Barra Naofa does not accept liability for any accident or incident which takes place while attending after school activities.

## **MATHS WEEK 2019**

We will be running **Maths Week 2019 in Scoil Barra Naofa from Monday Oct 14<sup>th</sup>- Friday October 18<sup>th</sup>**. For this week there will be an extra focus, in each class, on fun, practical Maths activities. We encourage all parents to use this week to promote a positive attitude to Maths. It is a great chance for the family to play card games, do puzzles, see Maths in the world around us, maybe even break out the Rubix cube!! There are loads of ideas and puzzles available for all ages on [mathsweek.ie](http://mathsweek.ie) . Try some fun Maths games on [multiplication.com](http://multiplication.com) or [topmarks.co.uk](http://topmarks.co.uk). Above all, have fun!

## **MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB**

Monkstown Golf Club now open from 9:30 am serving Lavazza Coffee , Tea & Fresh Scones. Children's play area to keep your little ones entertained. Lunch served from 12. Why not avail of our Sunday lunch menu starting at only €19 for a 3-Course meal. Booking advised. All welcome.  
Please ring 021 4863914

## **SHAMROCK BOYS' ACADAMEY**

Thank you to Seán Andrews of Shamrocks and members of the club for visiting Scoil Barra Naofa last week. They brought a very special visitor with them on the day, the All Ireland Minor Cup!! Please see the lovely photographs on the school website.

There are 3 weeks remaining in the outdoor calendar at Shanbally. Training takes place at 6.15pm each Friday night. This is a fun and safe environment for your children to begin their journey in GAA. Maybe we have the next Seán Andrews in our midst!

## **SHAMROCKS GAA**

Shamrocks Ladies Football Club are currently recruiting players for all age groups and would love to welcome girls of all ages to join the club, build friendships and fitness through fun!

## **PASSAGE WEST GAA**

We welcome Eoghan Walsh and Michael O' Donovan from Passage West GAA as school coaches for the 2018/2019 school year. Our thanks to Passage West GAA for use of their grounds throughout the school year. Míle Buíochas Passage West GAA Club Juvenile Section were delighted to welcome back all of the boys & girls to training last week after the summer break.

Ronan Harrington was in last Friday doing GAA coaching with the various classes & he will be joined by Eoghan Walsh this Friday.

For Juniors & Seniors we hold GAA training on Friday nights in Star of the Sea hall from 6.15-7.30pm, both hurling & football. New girls & boys are always very welcome to join

## **PASSAGE SOCCER CLUB**

Passage Soccer Academy returns next Saturday 14th September. For boys and girls who have started in Junior Infants this year the time is 12.30pm to 1.30pm. For more information please contact the following :

U9's Declan Carroll on 0866738819

U8's Colm Linehan on 0876755663

U7/U6's Declan Carrol & Micheal Flannery 0866738819 & 0871377770