



## **SCOIL BARRA NAOFA**

### **Newsletter 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**

A Cháirde,

Welcome to our February Newsletter. We've had a really busy February so far. It really was a month of Celebrations. We celebrated Pancake Tuesday, where the children enjoyed some pancakes in school. Míle Buíochas to Mary for all her hard work!

We also celebrated St. Brigid's Day when some of our pupils made St. Brigid's Crosses, listened to stories about her magic cloak and sang 'We sing a Song to Brigid' from our Grow in Love programme. This year we celebrated St. Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday, where 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> class received ashes from Fr. Dave. We learned about the start of lent along with making Valentine's Cards.

Preparations are underway for our local history day this Friday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of March. Classes are busy putting the final touches on their history projects, and rehearsals have started for our singing performances. Thank you to the parents who have offered to help with teas and coffees. If anyone else is available, please reply to my notice on Aladdin.

Our school choir is going from strength to strength, and we are looking forward to their performance also on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March. They are delighted to have been accepted to sing at the Cork International Choral Festival in the Cork City Library on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. A huge Míle Buíochas to Ms Hayes and Jacqui Scriven for all their hard work.

3D Printing – Ms O' Sullivan is organising a trip to Strykr for the pupils in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class who are taking part in her 3D printing workshops.

Orla Ní Shé & Foireann na Scoile

## **Upcoming Dates**

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> of March World Book Day (Dress up Day)

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of March: SBN History Day

Grandparents Day (4<sup>th</sup> Class Only) Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> of March

Lá Glás Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of March

Extended bank holiday March 16<sup>th</sup>

St Patrick's Day Public Holiday March 17<sup>th</sup>

Easter Holidays closing 12 midday Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Holidays reopening Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April

## **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Táimid ag tnúth go mór le Seachtain na Gaeilge (1ú Márta- 17ú Márta) beidh Tráth na gCéist ar siúl ag na hardranganna. Beidh gach rang ag foghlaim cluichí clois agus rince traidisiúnta. Beidh ranganna ceol traidisiúnta ar siúl freisin. Beidh an 'La Glás' ar siúl ar an 13ú Márta.

## **Sport**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> class boys participated in the Carrighdhoun Indoor Football Blitz in Riverstick, and our 4<sup>th</sup> class pupils thoroughly enjoyed their hurling blitz on Pairc Uí Chaoimh's 4G pitch on Tuesday. They were treated to a tour of the stadium afterwards. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes are continuing to enjoy their hurling sessions with Dylan Barrett each Thursday and are really developing their skills in advance of the Sciath na Scol competition. We will be starting our matches shortly.

We have entered a boys and girls team into the Munster Primary Tennis Competition this year. The competition begins next week as our girls' team travels to Crosshaven to play Templebreedy NS. Both teams will be in action the following week V Summercove NS (girls) and Whitechurch NS (boys). We wish them the very best of luck!

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class will begin their TAG Rugby sessions with Vincent next week.

## **Student Council**

Last week, the whole school participated in teaching the teacher. In each class, the teacher picked up to four pairs to teach the whole class about something they enjoy. For example, in 6th class, they did table tennis, NFL GAA and soccer. Each lesson started with a PowerPoint to explain the rules, and each pair got an hour to teach the class. All of the class really enjoyed the lessons and learned a lot. We are all appreciative that we got the opportunity to participate in learning new skills and hobbies. ~ Nina Farrell and Eamon Whitty.

## **6<sup>th</sup> class book sale:**

On Thursday, 12th February, Sixth Class held a book swap fundraiser in school. It gave children a chance to refresh their home libraries while encouraging a love of reading and the reuse of books. With the money they raised, they put €125 on 6th class outing, . €200 on hoodies for 6th class and €370 remainder on new IT equipment for the school

## **Friendship February**

Last month, we celebrated Friendship February. We focused on a sense of harmony and friendships while making new friends, including everyone, supporting one another and celebrating one another. We made an extra effort during the month with Random Acts of Kindness, speaking kind words and being kind to ourselves also. Being mindful and staying in the moment, and the link between a healthy mind and a healthy body and vice versa, with healthy eating and exercise, was also a focus throughout the month.

We celebrated with Pick Me Up Week and a Red Day for Valentine's to highlight the importance of kindness to yourself and others. This year, with all the wonderful well-being activities we do, we hope to earn an Amber Flag in recognition of our hard work. We held a very successful fundraiser on the 26th with the theme 'Be Yourself, everyone else is already taken'. We are so grateful for all the donations we received for Pieta house and helping us get one step closer to achieving our Amber Flag.

Thank you to Ms Treharne and our new well-being committee below for all their wonderful ideas and effort this month to promote well-being and positivity.

Ollie & Elsa , Abi and Hannah, Effy & Casey , Farrah & Robert , Alex & Kate

## **Attendance**

We are currently in the process of developing an Attendance Strategy. Our Education Welfare Officer is Eileen Mc Sweeney. Under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 Educational Welfare Officers (EWOs) of the Child and Family Agency work with young people and their families who are experiencing difficulty with school attendance. The role of an EWO is to work with parents, children/young people and schools to support attendance at school.

Schools must keep a register of the students attending the school. They must also maintain attendance records for all students and inform the Child and Family Agency's educational welfare services if a child is absent for more than 20 days in a school year. We take the rolla at 9.50am each morning.

The principal must also inform the Child and Family Agency's educational welfare services if, they think a student has an attendance problem. This may be because the student is not coming to school or has been suspended.

We also encourage parents to ensure that their children arrive at or before 8.50 am each morning.

We will be administering the Drumcondra Literacy and Numeracy tests in May. If your child is on holidays on the day of the test, they will not be administered the test upon their return to school as it is very time consuming for the SET teachers to administer and it takes away from their time with SEN pupils. If your child is sick on the day of the test, we will accommodate them being administered the test.

## **History Day – Friday, March 6th**

We are looking forward to celebrating our History Day in SBN this Friday.

Pupils in each class will present their local history projects in their classrooms between 11:00am and 12:00pm. If you are attending, please visit your own child's classroom first.

From 12:00 midday, each class will perform songs in the halla, along with our school choir. Teas and coffees will be available from 12:30pm.

Pupils are asked to wear their full school uniform.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Shamrocks Boys Academy**

Learn new skills, make new friends in a Fun and Safe environment.

Shamrocks Academy (Nursery) starts up again for 2026 in February and continues throughout the year.

Every Friday night at the indoor Sports Hall in the Marine College in Ringaskiddy.

All Scoil Barra Naofa boys especially welcome.

Contact: Pa Andrews – 0861914926

The girls football train on Tuesdays at 6.30pm

**Passage West Gaa** – please see flyer attached