



## St. John of God G.N.S. February Newsletter 2018

### EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

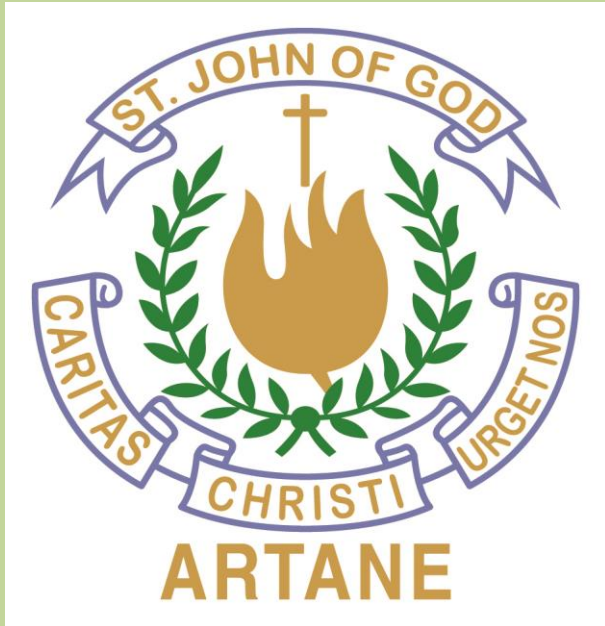
#### Funky Feet Friday

The Parents' Association are holding their annual **Funky Feet Friday this Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**. The day is a creative explosion of odd socks, odd shoes and general funky footedness☺ We will be asking for a **donation of €2 per child** on the day. We will be using the funds raised on Funky Feet Friday to offset the costs of another exciting event we have lined up for the children on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Irish Karate Champion Caradh O Donovan** will be in to train with each of the classes and discuss with the girls what it takes to become an elite athlete representing their country at international events. Caradh hopes to represent Ireland at the Tokyo Olympics in 2020 and the girls will have a chance to ask her questions and train with her. We are hoping the experience will be a motivational one that inspires the girls to reach for the stars and get into sport for life.

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

This week is Catholic Schools Week as you may know and we opened the week with a lovely prayer service led by 4<sup>th</sup> class. The children in 3<sup>rd</sup> class will be closing off the week by leading the school in a prayer service in honour of St. Brigid. The other main event running this week is **Grandparents' Day tomorrow, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February**. As an acknowledgement of the central role grandparents play in the lives of our girls, we are inviting all grandparents into the school for a prayer service in their honour led by 5<sup>th</sup> class, followed by a visit to the class of their grandchild. Here they can chat to the girls about what school was like when they were going, what games they liked to play etc. Grandparents are welcome from **11:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.** and can finish off their visit to the school with a lovely cup of tea and "debrief" in the Parents' Room. We look forward to extending a very warm welcome to all our grandparents tomorrow.

The **Sacrament of First Penance** will be held in St. John Vianney Church on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30p.m.** for the girls in second class.



#### Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to our February newsletter. We've had a flying start to the year and are ready to hit the ground running with some lovely upcoming events.

We are delighted to be involved with a joint initiative run by "Unplug" and funded by the Credit Union this **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**. The initiative is not anti-technology but aims to encourage people to have a healthier relationship with technology and their devices. It is to promote wellbeing and positive mental health awareness with young people and adults. We will be running a workshop with our 5<sup>th</sup> class and this will be followed by a **talk for teachers and parents at 12.00p.m. All parents are welcome to attend the talk.** It is free, won't take longer than an hour of your time and might just change your life for the better in some small way☺

## TAG RUGBY

We had a great start to our Tag Rugby sessions with Ray McCabe for the last two weeks and are looking forward to developing more rugby skills of the non-contact kind! There are no tackles in tag rugby. Each child wears a Velcro tag which when pulled constitutes a successful tackle. The girls really impressed Ray with their natural ability and enthusiasm and might show a newly-found interest in this year's Six Nations Tournament!

## CREDIT UNION QUIZ

The school is entering two teams into the annual **Credit Union Table Quiz** which takes place on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 6p.m. in Parnells GAA Club**. The girls from **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class** will battle it out in a test of their general knowledge against all the other schools in our locality. Come on the girls!!!

## DRAMA EXAMS

The girls in **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class** will do their drama exams on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. The exams are certified through the Dublin Academy of Drama and are a great way for the girls to develop their public speaking skills and create their own dramas.

## Full Attendance Assembly

Every month we honour the children in our school who have not missed a day of school that month. Our next whole school assembly for attendance will be on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** and all those with full attendance for February will be publicly acknowledged and receive a certificate. Those who haven't missed a day in 3 months get a special prize to mark that achievement.

## HSCL

Aisling will be starting **Maths for Fun with 1<sup>st</sup> Class** on **19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> February and 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> March**. If you would like to get involved and come in to your daughter's class to play some maths games with the girls we would love to have you along. Please contact Aisling on 0860439773.

## Flower Arranging

**A 5 week parents' class on flower arranging will be starting on 20<sup>th</sup> February. Aisling will be in touch with all the details of this class.**



Our interactive street scene for Road Safety

Aisling will also be running a parenting class starting on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February in St. Benedicts and St. Marys School. The Parents Plus Programme** explores strategies for coping with discipline problems in a positive way and will discuss ways to develop more positive relationships and to build praise into our interactions with our children. Transport to and from the classes can be organised. Please contact **Aisling on 0860439773** if you are interested in attending this wonderful course.

The next **family mass** will be held in St. John Vianney Church on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 11:30a.m.** All are welcome.

The next Parents' Association meeting will be **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 10:00a.m.** If anyone is interested in getting involved in the preparations for the **school's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May**, we would love to have extra input so please come along.

