



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

### EVENTS IN MARCH

#### World Book Day

**World Book Day** falls on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March** this year. We are organising a **Stationery and Book Fair on 1<sup>st</sup> March** to coincide with this. If you have any books in good condition to donate for the Fair please leave them in to the school. On the day the children can **dress up as a character** from a book and we do a whole school parade of characters in the school hall. There's lots of fun and excitement figuring out who is who on the day! Some other events we have planned to promote reading around this time include:

\***DEAR time** (Drop Everything And Read) for 10 minutes daily starting the week of 5<sup>th</sup> March.

\*Write a **book review** to be displayed in the library.

\***"My shelfie"** the children can take a photo of bookshelves and the most creative bookshelf wins!!

\***Paired reading** started 19<sup>th</sup> February and will run until 16<sup>th</sup> March and involves an adult reading aloud with their daughter every day for 10 minutes.

\***Design a book cover** competition.

\***1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class** will visit **Coolock library** for story telling with the librarian on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

\***Published author** will be in to do a **workshop** with the girls in **3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class** about their books and what writing as a career is like.

**Seachtain na Gaeilge will run this year from 1<sup>st</sup> March -17<sup>th</sup> March.** There will be an emphasis on speaking Irish as much and as often as possible during this time and we will organise cultural activities to promote Gaeilge and to promote a love of speaking our native language.



Dear Parents and Guardians,

#### SCHOOL CLOSURES

We have a very busy March ahead of us but would like to let you know of some important school closures during this month that you need to be aware of. **The school will be closed for the full day on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March** to allow all the staff to be trained in the new Child Protection Procedures. We have liaised with St. David's B.N.S. for this closure to minimise disruption for parents. Sherpa Kids are running a full day camp on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March to facilitate parents with childcare needs on this day. Please contact Kirsty on 0830337703 if this is something you need. **The school will also be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March** (Bank Holiday for St. Patrick's Day) and we will have a **half day on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March for the Easter Holidays.** Infants will be dismissed at 12:05 and the rest of the school at 12:15. The school will reopen after the Easter Holidays on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

## DRAMA EXAMS

The girls in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class will be doing their **drama exams** on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. As some of the performances are group based it is important to ensure your daughter attends on the day. Also, if you haven't paid the fee for the drama exam, please do so as soon as possible. It is €10 for 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> class and €12 for 6<sup>th</sup> class.

## ZEEKO INTERNET SAFETY WORKSHOPS

**Zeeko Internet Safety** will be working with 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** on all things pertaining to keeping our girls safe online. There will be a feedback session with the teachers after school on Tuesday too.

## HSCL

**Flower Arranging Classes** for parents are running **20<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> February** and **6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> March**. Some beautiful creations are being made and there is still time to get involved in this relaxing activity. Call Aisling on 086 0439773 if interested.

**Maths for Fun for 1<sup>st</sup> Class** will run **Mon 26<sup>th</sup> February** and **Monday 5<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**. This is a lovely way to be involved in your child's class, playing easy, fun maths games with the children. Again, contact Aisling if you'd like to come along and be a part of this.

## Parents' Association

\*The P.A. are busy knitting **Easter chicks** which will go on sale from **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. The chicks are always a big hit with the girls and like Home Store and More, when they're gone, they're gone, so be sure to get in early with the orders!

\*The P.A. have organised an evening talk on **transitioning to secondary school for parents of children in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class**. This talk will be really useful and helpful to parents trying to cope with this massive change and transition and takes place on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 p.m. in the hall**.

\***The next P.A. meeting will be this Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 8p.m.** The focus of the meeting will be to organise the school's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. We would welcome all help and newcomers are extremely welcome to attend.

**Scott Ziglinski** will be in to do a workshop on **Electricity with all classes on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Scott is an annual visitor to the school. The children adore his hands-on science workshops which are always practical, challenging and fun☺



Planting our own Spring Garden of flowers and veg

Ms. Buckley has been bringing **each class** out **planting flowers, vegetables, fruits and herbs** over the last two weeks. **"The Secret Garden"** is shaping up beautifully and provides the children with an opportunity to grow and nurture their plants from seeds to flower. If anyone wants to sneak a peak at our garden you're very welcome to drop in for a look.

We will hold our **full attendance assembly** to celebrate the girls who have had full attendance in March on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**.

**6<sup>th</sup> Class Confirmation** will take place on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March in St. John Vianney Church at 11:00a.m.** In preparation for this, the girls will have a **retreat** in the school on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. **Richard Gavin** will be onsite on Friday **9<sup>th</sup> March to take the girls' photos** after which we'll host our annual **Confirmation Fashion Show**☺

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March is also St. John of God Day** which coincides with **International Women's Day**. We will celebrate and mark both events on the day in the school.

The next **Family Mass** will take place on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March @ 11:30a.m.** in St. John Vianney Church, Ardlea Road.

**Le Meas,**  
**Aoife McNicholas**  
**Principal**

