**February 2020**

**School Newsletter**

**Dates for your Diary**

- **February 1st:** 6th class choir perform in the Peace Proms in the RDS.
- **Feb 11th & 25th:** Science workshop in UCD for the pupils in room 16.
- **Feb 20th & 21st:** School closed for midterm break.
- **February 25th:** Service of Light at 7:30pm in St. Matthew’s Church for 6th class girls.
- **March 6th:** 1st classes perform in the Córfeile in Tallaght.
- **March 11th:** Open Afternoon for all pupils (in particular incoming Early Start, Junior Infants and 3rd class) from 3—4:30pm.
- **March 1st—17th:** Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- **Fri 13th, Mon 16th, Tues 17th March:** School closed for St. Patrick’s Day.

**First Holy Communion / Confirmation**

Congratulations to the sixth class girls who celebrated their Service of Light on Tuesday 25th February. It was a lovely occasion. Confirmation will take place on **Thursday 26th March** in St. Matthew’s Church. We hope the girls and their families have a very special day.

First Holy Communion will take place on **Sunday 10th May**. The children and teachers are busy preparing for the sacrament. However, Fr. Piaras Maclochainn, is still waiting for some baptismal certificates to be sent in. If he does not have your daughter’s baptismal certificate, she will be unable to make her First Penance or Communion, so please send them in immediately.

**Places for Junior Infants / Early Start 2020**

Our school is in the fortunate position of having an Early Start unit (pre-school) located on our campus. Places for the Early Start morning and afternoon groups beginning September 2020 will be allocated in the coming weeks. Junior Infant places are filling up quickly. If you know anyone with a child who will be four before 1st September 2020, tell them to apply as soon as possible in order to ensure a place. All application forms are available from the secretaries’ office.

An Open Afternoon will be held on **Wednesday 11th March from 3pm—4:30pm** for all prospective new pupils. The 2nd class girls and their parents will be invited to visit the senior side of the school and the incoming Junior Infant pupils and Early Start pupils will also be special visitors on the day. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may be interested in attending.
**Child Protection Issues**

In order to ensure the safety of all children in our school, we would ask all parents to please be vigilant and to cooperate with school procedures. If for any reason you need to collect your child from school early, please write a note in your child's journal to inform his/her teacher of the arrangement. If something arises unexpectedly, please come to the main office and wait in the foyer and the secretary will assist you. If for any reason you are delayed collecting your child at home-time, your child will be brought to the main office and you can collect them from there.

Children love to be independent from an early age—can you please encourage your child to walk into the school along with their classmates in their line and down the corridor to their classroom on their own? Thanks for your cooperation with this matter.

The BoM will conduct the annual review of our school’s Child Safeguarding Statement in March.

**Parents’ Association**

All pupils in our school participated in 6 music workshops over six weeks in January and February delivered by a professional music teacher. The monies raised before Christmas by the Parents’ Association has gone towards paying for the cost of these music classes.

The Parents’ Association has organised a fundraiser called Paddy’s Pennies again this spring. It started on Monday 17th February and will run until March 12th. Children are encouraged to bring in any loose change they might have at home.

The committee is always on the lookout for new members to partake in any way possible. They meet in the Parents’ Room monthly and meetings generally last about a half hour. If you can spare some time in the mornings then why not pop in? If you would like to know when the next scheduled meeting is, please contact the HSCL coordinator Maeve McAdam for more information on 083-3233442.

**Grandparents’ Day**

Catholic Schools Week ran from 27th to 31st January. As part of the celebration Grandparents’ Afternoon took place over two afternoons on Thursday 30th & Friday 31st. Thanks to all the grandparents, who came to visit their grandchildren’s classrooms. The pupils really enjoyed your presence.

**St. Patrick’s Day**

The school will be closed on Friday 13th, Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March for St. Patrick’s Day. Seachtain na Gaeilge will take place in March. Déan iarracht do chuid Gaeilge a usaid!

Thanks to the money raised from our book fair in November the school was able to buy a set of thesauruses to help the senior girls find out more about the meaning of words encountered in their reading.

This photo shows Grandparents’ Day in Early Start!
Good News

Congratulations to Mr. Cormac O’Connor and his wife Claire on the recent birth of their son Ciarán. Congratulations to Ms. Sinead Hallinan and her husband Mick on the recent birth of their daughter Sophia.

Headlice

Please be vigilant and check your child’s hair regularly and treat if required. Remember all family members must be checked and bedclothes need to be boiled to kill any eggs. Headlice Tip—place a drop of tea-tree oil behind your child’s ear coming to school to deter headlice!

Fun Day for Early Start Pupils

The pupils from Early Start took part in a fun day recently held in the BLCO. The event was attended by all preschools in Dublin 10. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to mix with their peers and develop their coordination and movement skills.

Eimear has now finished her ten week placement in Early Start. We wish her all the best with her return to college.
Pupils of the Month for January

Congratulations to the pupils of the month for January, who received the award for a variety of reasons. Likewise congratulations to the children, who display wonderful friendship skills.