



St. Luke's Easter Newsletter 2023

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Pupils

We have had a very busy few weeks in the run up to Easter. It has been full of fun and interesting activities for the children. I wish to thank the pupils and the staff for all of the hard work in creating all of these wonderful events during World Book day, Seachtain na Gaeilge, St Patrick's Day, Basketball, Athletics, Active Schools, Golf, Swimming, Tennis, Drama, Tin Whistle, Quiz night, Chess, Creative Schools and so much more!!

There has been a fantastic buzz around the place.

In terms of policy work we have updated our Child Safeguarding, Anti-bullying and RSE policies. We hope to draw up a new mobile phone policy in the coming weeks.

We wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Easter time. Thank you for your continued help and support.

Warm regards,

Ms. Bourke.

Important Dates

Friday March 31st: Easter Holidays.

Dismissal Junior Infants/Senior Infants 11:50am/ 1st - 6th classes 12pm

Monday April 17th: School re-opens

Monday May 1st: Bank Holiday school closed one day

June 5th - 9th: School closed one week

June 30th: Summer Holidays. Dismissal Junior Infants/Senior Infants 11:50am/ 1st - 6th classes 12pm

Bake Sale

Sixth classes and their teachers are organising a Bake Sale on March 31st in the PE hall. We have been told lots of cakes, muffins and buns will be made for the fundraiser. All proceeds will go towards a school tour they have planned.



After School Clubs

We have a number of clubs and activities that take place after school during the week such as basketball, chess, drama, GAA, homework, tin whistle and soccer. Please look at the noticeboard for more information on each located in the foyer in front of the office for more details.

Free Schoolbooks for all Primary School Pupils from September 2023

In recognition of the cost of preparing children and young people for the return to primary school each September Minister for Education Norma Foley T.D. has announced funding to provide free schoolbooks, including workbooks and copybooks, from September 2023. This scheme will eliminate the cost to parents of providing these resources. Funding is being provided directly to primary schools and special schools by the Department to implement the scheme and schools will now have responsibility for providing schoolbooks, workbooks and copybooks to all children and young people at the start of the school year.

All schoolbooks will remain the property of the school so that books can be reused in future years. Schoolbooks will be provided on loan to children for the duration of the 2023/24 school year and must be returned to school at the end of the school year. Parents are requested to remind their children to take care of their books and keep them in good condition during the year. It is not permitted to write on textbooks. There may be some related classroom resources that are not covered by the scheme. Additional details (if any) on what items parents will need to supply for the return to school in September 2023 will be communicated to parents by the school in due course.

First Confession

Well done to the children in second class who had their First Confession this month. The children were so well-prepared by their teachers and they entered wholeheartedly into this special sacrament. Many thanks to Monsignor Eoin and Fr. Adrian and to the parents/guardians and other family members who came along on the evening. We are all looking forward to sharing your First Holy Communion day with you in May.



Green Schools and Biodiversity

We are currently in our second year of our Biodiversity flag. We recently completed a second Biodiversity survey, well done to all the children who participated in the survey. There are much improved results this year compared to last years' survey results. The Green Schools committee has been busy this term working on our flag, composting, planting for spring and helping to keep the area around our school litter free which is an on-going battle especially the road leading up to the school. Please remember to put any rubbish in a bin or try and keep our school area clean. We look forward to our action week at the end of May.

Picker Pals

Students from Ms Geraghty's First Class have been taking part in the Picker Pals Programme. They have been going out into their locality with their families and picking up rubbish in the local area. It is great to see children taking action and learning about how to take care of their environment.



Draíocht Theatre.

A production of Bake! a one-man show took place for junior and senior infants in February in the school hall. Performer and writer Paul Curley made it a very exciting experience for all the children to see live theatre in their school! Those that got to see all loved the show. It was made possible by Draíocht Blanchardstown Theatre Artist in Residence Scheme.



Seachtain na Gaeilge— Bhí a lán Craic Againn!

Bhí an-spraoi againn sa scoil ar tseachtain na Gaeilge. Bhí a lán rudaí deasa ar siúl sa scoil agus bhain na páistí an taitneamh astu. Bhí a lán Gaeilge cloiste thar timpeall na scoile agus bhí na páistí ag labhairt Gaeilge chomh minic agus is féidir. Maith sibh a chailíní agus a bhuachaillí!

We had great fun in school for Seachtain na Gaeilge. Lots of Irish was heard around the school as the children spoke as much Irish as they could. Well done boys and girls! A special word of thanks to all the children who performed for us at the ceolchoirm (concert) on Wednesday and the céilí (dance) on Thursday and all those involved organising both of these events.





Road Safety Authority

Barry Anderson was in with Junior and Senior Infants this term to discuss key road safety messages so that they can learn the basics of how to stay safe while using the road.

Heritage in Schools

Dale Treadwell from Heritage in Schools visited our school on March 16th. Dale is the author of a series of children's wildlife books and a former children's television presenter. The children from 5th and 6th had the opportunity to learn about the natural environment and the naming of trees surrounding our school.



Swimming

This term 3rd classes have started swimming for a six-week term at the National Aquatics Centre. Teachers are delighted with how well they are doing so far. Not only are children learning/improving their swimming abilities, they are also getting a great opportunity to build on their social skills and independence.



Soccer

The boys from 5th and 6th classes are currently taking part in a number of competitions. The boys soccer team won against Sacred Heart of Jesus NS Huntstown 5-3 in their first game in the West Dublin Division 1. We then lost to Scoil Thomais of Castleknock in the 2nd round before competing in a 5 aside tournament last Monday the 20th. We have a few games left before the end of term.



Active Schools

Our school is continuing its efforts working towards obtaining the flag this year. All the children in St Luke's took part in the Active Schools 4 week Run around Ireland Challenge from January to February.



GAA

Matches for girls and boy's teams will be taking place after Easter. They are due to be on Wednesdays around 12.30/1pm if parents would like to come and watch in Tyrrelstown Park.