

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

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SCOIL AN LINBH ÍOSA



WELCOME

Welcome to Scoil an Linbh Íosa's newsletter.

We are delighted to introduce this new way of sharing news, updates, and highlights from our school community. Our newsletter will be published every second month and will keep you informed about school activities, important dates and the many achievements of our pupils.

We hope you enjoy reading it!

KEY DATES

March

- 2nd-6th- Book Week
- 5th- Book Week Dress Up Day
- 9th-13th- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- 16th and 17th -Closed for St. Patrick's day
- 18th - Sixth Class Retreat
- 27th - Closed at 12
- 30th March-10th April: Easter Holidays

April

- 13th - School re-opens
- 20th -24th - Friendship Week
- 29th - Confirmation

MINI SCIENTIST

Congratulations to Sadie and Shona who represented the school in the grand final which took place in Technological University Dublin, Blanchardstown on Friday 13th of February. Their project was called "How to Make a Vegan Cookie".



PUPPETRY

Ms. Mangan's 4th and 5th class were very lucky to be chosen to do a shadow puppetry programme. We were the first class in Scoil an Linbh Íosa to do this. Sheena Malone was our teacher for this and she put a lot of work into it, and we really appreciated this opportunity. Every group had a different story to work on, based on Irish Myths and Legends from Kildare. Sheena organised the opportunity for the 4th and 5th classes to come and see our shadow puppetry screening in the Riverbank Newbridge. Thanks to Ms Rogers for choosing us. We loved the experience. Written by 4th and 5th Class pupils

Please watch 😊 <https://youtu.be/h4FgJubjTdc?si=R1nNV9Tgj3LkgPJG>



ACTIVE COMMITTEE

Hello everyone,

We wanted to give you an update on the work that we have been doing on the Active Committee. Before Christmas, we created a survey to find out what equipment the children would like to have at break times. Every child got the chance to vote. We used this information to buy some new equipment. Just last week we visited all the classes to show the new equipment and present about how to use the equipment properly and safely and our new zones on astro and yard. Equipment has just started and everything is going well!

We are also busy plotting some ideas for Active Week in June. We look forward to letting you know what we have planned in our next newsletter.

Stay Active,
The Active Committee!



QUIZ TEAM

A huge well done to our fantastic quiz team who represented the school so proudly at the Cumann na mBunscol Quiz in Ballymany. Bradley Hand, Isaac Cafferty, Cian Dunney and Jade Abela worked brilliantly as a team, showed great knowledge across a wide range of topics, and gave a superb account of themselves throughout.



BASKETBALL

Well done to our boys and girls basketball teams. Both performed really well in their leagues and represented the schools in semi-finals this month. They wore brand new kits for their semi-finals, kindly sponsored by Moran's Crash Repairs and MS Pay. A big thank you to both companies for your generous sponsorship. We are really grateful.



P.T.A.

Since September, the P.T.A. have been busy supporting our school community. Here is a list of some of their achievements to date with many more to come:

- Cakes sales
- Toy Show Raffle
- Grandparent's Day

With the kindly donated funds, the P.T.A. have been able to support new maths resources, a theatre trip, reading programmes and a play course for the teachers. The P.T.A. now have an instagram account too. We are always looking for new members. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 8pm. Please contact: PTA@prosperousns.ie



THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful PTA for sponsoring "The Power of Play" course for the whole staff in January. It was a very beneficial workshop. Another huge thank you to our amazing PTA for serving tea and coffee at Grandparent's Day, and to the parents who kindly baked – your support made the day even more enjoyable.

STEM COMMITTEE

The Stem committee is a new committee in our school. They have been busy planting trees in our greenhouse with Gerry and Renata. The next activity for the STEM committee is to count and record the plants we have on our school grounds. Then the committee will observe birds and other wildlife present in different areas of our school. Watch this space for more exciting biodiversity news.



G.A.A.

We are so lucky in SALÍ to have Paddy Madigan with us everyday teaching the children lots of new Gaelic

Football skills.

Paddy is giving up so much of his time to make sure classes are receiving coaching. These sessions are a big hit with the children and we are very grateful.

We are delighted to continue to foster strong links between our school and Caragh GAA.



CREATIVE CLUSTERS

Our school was delighted to be accepted onto the Creative Cluster Programme through Kildare Education Centre. This is a two-year programme with a strong focus on wellbeing for children in Third and Fourth Class. As part of the initiative, we invited three local primary schools to work alongside us: Allenwood, Derrinturn and Caragh. While focused on Third and Fourth Class, the programme promotes positive wellbeing and connections across the entire school community. Through our involvement in the Creative Cluster Programme, we have established a Wellbeing Committee called the Wellbeing Warriors. They play a key role in supporting and developing wellbeing initiatives within the school. The committee will provide more information on the activities and projects that have taken place so far, as well as those planned for the future.

WELLBEING WARRIORS

We have been busy having lots of fun with our school, and our Creative Cluster schools. We have worked together to plan and deliver activities that support pupil wellbeing and strengthen connections between the schools.

Wet Felting

Members of the Wellbeing Committees visited each other's schools to learn a new creative skill – wet felting. Following these visits, the committees returned to their own schools and taught the wet felting process to the children in our school, sharing their learning and creativity with others.

Penpals

Each child involved in the programme has been paired with a pen pal from one of the other participating schools. Students have written numerous letters to one another throughout the year and exchanged Christmas cards, helping to build friendships and positive connections beyond their own school.

Celebration Day

To celebrate the completion of Year One of the programme, all participating students will come together in May for a Wellbeing Celebration Day. This will be a fun and engaging day, with students taking part in activities such as yoga, collaborative art, drumming, play, as well as other wellbeing-focused workshops.



GIRL'S FOOTBALL

We are very proud of our U11 girls' football team, who won the Cumann na mBunscol Final in October. The girls were excellent throughout the competition and were deserving winners. They received their medals at a school assembly in December, where Darragh Swords, Caragh and Kildare Senior footballer, kindly presented the medals.

LEGO SPIKE

A sincere thank you to Emma Walsh, teacher from Derrinturn National School, who recently visited our school to facilitate Lego Spike sessions with both of our sixth classes. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained so much from the hands-on, interactive learning. We really appreciate Emma taking the time to share her expertise with us.

MODULAR UNIT

The school expects to take delivery of a prefab (or modular unit) before September. It will be situated between the car park and the yard and it will accommodate a 21st mainstream classroom. The Board of Management

PENPAL INITIATIVE

Our sixth class students have recently been paired with two first year classes from St. Farnan's PPS as part of a penpal initiative to help support the transition to secondary school. Sixth class students wrote letters to the first years, asking questions they may have about life in secondary school. The first year students are in the process of replying, offering advice, reassurance and sharing their own experiences. This initiative is helping to ease any worries or stresses our sixth class pupils may have as they look ahead to this exciting next step. Both the sixth and first years are also going to come together for a joint activity before the end of the school year, which we are really looking forward to.

STUDENT COUNCIL

St. Farnan's Visit

On the 15th of December 2025, we were invited over to St. Farnan's Post Primary School to talk about our student council election process. We made a presentation & each member spoke about a different part of the process. There were students & teachers from St. Farnan's present. We answered any questions they had. We were treated to pizza for lunch. We really enjoyed the visit, and it was a brilliant opportunity to develop our relationship with St. Farnan's.

Suggestion Boxes

Each class in our school gets a suggestion box. The suggestion boxes are a very good way to make the school a better place for everybody. We collect the suggestion boxes on the third Thursday of every month. There have been some very good ideas in the boxes so far such as Ice-cream Day, Parents' Day, a School Disco and lots more. This is a great way for the students to put their ideas forward.

Grandparent's Day

On Wednesday January 28th we had the honour of welcoming the Grandparents into our school. A few weeks before Grandparents' Day we started practicing our speeches. We went into the hall at 11am and some of us served buns while other members did the speech. Then along with 5th class, some of us brought the Grandparents to visit the classes. It was a wonderful day for everyone involved.

Food Tasting

On the 12th of December we were asked to taste new Lunch Bag meals. We had to score the food on a scale of one to ten. For example, the chicken pesto pasta dish we scored an 8 out of 10 and this is now available for children nationwide to select and enjoy. We really loved the opportunity to do this.



GREEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We are currently in our second year working on the theme Global Citizenship Travel. We are encouraging everyone to be kind to each other and the planet.

Travel Survey

The committee conducted a travel survey, with our Travel Officer, Paula Carroll. We found some alarming results, such as the pedestrian lights at the church only stay green for 6 seconds, the majority of drivers passing our school are driving faster than the recommended 30km speed limit for a school area, and many drivers are dropping off their children in the middle of the road. Please park safely and remember to turn off your engine. Engine idling (leaving your car running while parked) is harmful to our environment as well as our young lungs.

Big Travel Challenge

Thank you to everyone, adults and children, who participated in The Big Travel Challenge 3rd - 13th February. We are checking the scores and are keeping our fingers crossed for a good result. Last year our school was the County Winner for this challenge. The morning of our Walking Bus was another very wet day, but you still made an amazing effort to participate - we really appreciate all your support.

Nationality Day

Thursday, 26th February will see Scoil an Linbh Íosa celebrate its first Nationality Day. We want to foster unity and learn about the 34 wonderful nationalities that make up our school. Every class is completing a project on one of these countries, which will be displayed around the school. During assembly, we will learn how to greet each other in different languages, see the flags, wear the flag colours or our traditional dress and sing "It's a Small World". We are looking forward to our mini disco with music from around the world.

Remember STAY GREEN

