

Confirmation

Congratulation to the boys in 6th Class who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Monsignor Paul Callan today in St. Mary's Church. It was Msgr. Callan's first visit to Maynooth for Confirmation and his pleasant manner and friendly smile helped to put the boys at ease on this important occasion in their lives.



Well done to everybody who participated in this beautiful, reverant ceremony – to the boys who were confirmed, to their sponsors and families and especially to the choir who provided such beautiful music with their teachers – Mrs. Dunne, Ms. Dineen, Mr. Davis and Mr. McGrath.

Thank you also to:

- All of the 5th Class parents who provided baking and other refreshments, which were served to the very appreciative boys and their families in the school hall after the Confirmation ceremony
- The PTA members and volunteers who came to cater the refreshments and look after us so well



Míle Buíochas to both groups – your thoughtfulness meant that the boys and their families had an opportunity to relax and refresh together, before going on to their family celebrations.



Seachtain na Gaeilge 13th – 16th March 2017

Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge againn 12ú– 16ú de Márta, 2017.

Beidh béim ar spaoi agus sonas le labhairt na Gaeilge. During Seachtain na Gaeilge.

We have organised a variety of activities from across the classes. Everyone will be encouraged to make an effort to 'Bí ag labhairt Gaeilge'. The activities include dramaíocht Gaeilge, cic fada/puc fada, Tráth na gCeist, Deich @ deich agus Céilí. Tá an áthas orainn fáilte a cur roimh an banna ceol Iar Bhunscoil Mhá Nuad. Beidh said ag teacht ar cuairt dúinn le linn an tionól. There will be prizes for "An Gaeilgeoir is Fearr" and for an duine gléasta is fear (best dressed) as well as for the Tráth na gCeist, Cic Fada and Puc Fada competitions.

Lá Glas

Thursday 16th March is **Lá Glas**, where the boys may dispense with their uniforms and dress up in green to celebrate (a day in advance) our National Day. A **€2 contribution** (per family) towards school funds is requested for the pleasure of not wearing a uniform on the day.



St. Patrick's Day

Not that you need to be reminded....but the school will be closed on that day. (School finishes at the normal time(s) on Thursday 16th).

Hatch Programme

As we draw closer to Easter, we eagerly await the arrival of our hatcheries (incubators) into the Junior and Senior Infant classrooms. Watch this space.



MIST – Senior Infants



If you have a son in Senior Infants and he mentions something about a test this week – don't be alarmed. This week the annual **Middle Infant Screening Test** is being carried out. This isn't a 'performance' test, as such, but helps us to identify children who are having difficulty in some area. If you have concerns about individual children, we will be in touch with their parents.

Machines and Mechanisms Workshop

On Monday the 6th of March, Rob and Niamh from 'Learnit' company came into our classroom. We were building catapults out of lego. We were working in pairs. Every pair got a box of lego and we had to follow instructions on how to build a catapult. Once the catapult was built, we tested out different pivot points by using a rubber band as the load. We had to see how much effort we needed for different pivot points. At the end we had a fun task where we had to launch the rubber bands into a bucket. I liked this workshop because we got to learn while using lego. It was fun and all the catapults worked.

Aaron, Ms Sims' 2nd class



FAI Primary 5 Aside



On Tuesday the 7th March last, 24 boys from 6th Class represented the school in the Large Boys' Schools section of the FAI Primary 5 Aside Competition in Kilcullen. Our three teams were drawn in three separate groups against schools from Maynooth, Naas, Newbridge, Kill, Celbridge and Rathangan. All the boys who took part showed great skill, determination and courage in their matches in very wet and blustery conditions at times. Our A team won all their matches in their group and will now go on to

represent the school in the Kildare Finals in Kilcullen on the 28th March next. All the boys should be extremely proud of their fantastic efforts and achievements and their coaches, Mr. Creevey and Mr. McGeady, would like to thank them for their excellent attitude and behaviour on the day. Well done boys!

Squad Members: Jack Egan, Cillian Geraghty, Tom Grehan, Patrick Mahoney, Hugh Doddy, Conor Walsh, Stephen Odiashi, Eoin Wallace, Constantin Melega, Cathal Crowley, Andrew Morrissey-Lanigan, Daniel Farrell, Ryan Gillen, Leon Mitchell, Eniola Odumade, Stephen Kerrison, Conall Meehan, Ameer Ali-Hassan, Rían Thorp, Ridhwan Mollah, Jean Libert, Liam Loftus, Ryan Crinion, Frankie Durkan.

Olympic Handball

The senior Olympic Handball teams have trained every Tuesday during lunchtime in our school hall in preparation for this year's local tournament. We entered two 5th class teams and two 6th class teams this year.

The 5th class tournament took place on the 1st of March at Confey GAA Club. Our team gained experience on the full size court and put skills they learned during training into practice. They learned to follow the referees hand signals correctly and the importance of pace. They discussed strategy in between matches, gaining an understanding of feints and passes. The team learned to work together to move the play forward using direct passing over dribbling. As they played they displayed great skill on the court and won all of their matches. They will undoubtedly be a strong team when competing amongst a greater number of teams next year.



The 6th class tournament took place on the 3rd of March. Our boys were confident in their ability and displayed advanced skills for their age group. They passed the ball accurately using a variety of methods and maintained possession. They worked defence strategies and lead attacks with great pace. They learned how to lead the goalkeeper in one direction and shoot in the other. They worked the ball to the centre of the opponent's semi-circle goal line and used a variety of shooting skills. They even showed off some jump shot skills! They proceeded to win all matches played and the referees were amazed by their level of skill and number of goals!



During both tournaments the boys represented the school very well and their behaviour was exemplary. Well done to all of the boys who committed to the training and were enthusiastic during all sessions. A special thank you to this year's captains – Patrick Gligor, Matthew Diamond (5th), Eoin Wallace and Cillian Geraghty (6th). I really enjoyed working with you all. Your teamwork and dedication has made me a very happy coach! Congratulations on your success boys and I hope you continue to develop your talent in Olympic Handball. Ms. Kelly ☺

