

**MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

Number 5

22nd January 2020

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all of the families and staff in our school community. We are looking forward to a happy, healthy and successful 2020 for all. Thank you to all of the teachers and staff for the wonderful preparation and work on the big events in the lead up to Christmas. Well done to all of the boys on their participation and for making these events so enjoyable.



Reminder: Enrolments for September 2020

If you have not already enrolled your son, or if you are aware of a neighbour who has not already done so, it is important to submit an enrolment application as soon as possible. The closing date for enrolments is 31st January for the coming year. Our Enrolment Policy and Enrolment Form can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the website www.maynoothbns.ie

Operation Transformation

5KM Walk every Thursday @ 7pm from 16th January – 27th February 2020 from Maynooth GAA Club. Register each evening at the clubhouse or online (<https://member.clubforce.com/maynoothgaa5k>) before each walk.



Literacy Week

Last week was designated Literacy Week in our school. The focus of the week was on reading for pleasure, talking about books and storytelling. Some boys brought in their favourite books to share with their class. Junior classes were treated to storytelling by Oíche Owl (Maynooth Library mascot) and by our own Book Fairy. Mr. Kirwan brought in some of his favourite picture books to share with junior infant classes.

The first classes were visited by Aga Grandowicz, an illustrator, who involved the boys in a collaborative collage based on her book about Irish wildlife.

The renowned storyteller, Niall de Búrca entertained the fifth classes and one 4th class on Thursday. On Friday, 2nd, 3rd and 6th classes enjoyed a session full of wonderful stories and drama from Wayne O' Connor (illustrator and storyteller).

Many classes paid a visit to Maynooth Library and were welcomed by the very helpful staff of the library. We are very grateful to the library staff for their support in organising this week.

As a follow up to a wonderful week, it might be an ideal opportunity to bring your son along to Maynooth library. Continue to promote reading for pleasure at home.

Thanks to Ms O'Connor and the Literacy Committee for organising the week's events.



HSE Information

The HSE have been in touch with the school publicising their new 'Under the Weather Website' – www.undertheweather.ie which might be of benefit to parents for information on managing common illnesses.

Confirmation 2020: Volunteers needed!!!

The PTA are looking for volunteers from 5th Class parents to help at the traditional reception for boys and their families in the school hall following the Confirmation ceremony on Thursday 27th February 2020. Please text Keith on (087) 2401883 and/or email mbns.pta@gmail.com.

Coffee Morning / Cake Sale

A coffee morning has been organised by the friends and neighbours of Denise Brady to raise funds for her stem cell treatment for multiple sclerosis. The details are as follows:-

Venue: Maynooth Parish Pastoral Centre (beside Church)

Date: Sunday 26th January 2020

Time: 9.30am till 2.15pm.



All proceeds will go directly to Denise to help fund her Stem Cell Treatment in Russia. Please support.

Late arrivals to school after 10.30am

If for any reason your son is arriving to school after 10.30am, you must report to the school office where he will be recorded on the class roll. This applies in all circumstances and includes where the teacher has been notified of the late arrival in advance.



Credit Union Quiz

On Friday 31st January, two teams will be making the journey to Toughers, Naas, to represent the school in the Naas District Credit Union Primary Schools Table Quiz Competition. They have been busy brushing up on and studying their general knowledge with the help and direction of Mr. Creevey and Ms. Drislane. We wish them the best of luck on Friday night and hope that the right questions come up!



Under 11 Team

Finn Whyte
Neil Reynolds
Ruben Curran
Tiernan Hackett

Under 13 Team

Paul Hourigan
Kirill Korostelev
Liam McDonald
Michael Kelleher



Tin Whistle

Tin Whistle lessons will be running every Tuesday in Room 2 (Ms. Drislane's Classroom) with Ms. Lillis and Ms. Drislane. Enquiries can be made directly with either teacher.

Lego Club

Lego classes will be running every Monday and Thursday in Room 2 (Ms. Drislane's Classroom) with Ms. Lyons and Ms. Drislane. Enquiries can be made directly with either teacher.



Catholic Schools Week 2020

Catholic Schools Week 2020 will be celebrated from Sunday 26th January to Sunday 2nd February 2020 on the theme 'Living in Harmony with God's Creation'. We will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Activities will mark & celebrate the ethos of the school throughout the week.

GAA Handball News

Boys from 3rd, 4th and 5th class have been getting involved in a new sport to the school over the last few months. Before Christmas Joseph Comiskey, Eoin Hever, Ryan Schuller, Tommy Minnock, Sam Flavin and Fiachra Martin completed a four week programme of coaching sessions with Mr Terry and Mark Butler from Maynooth GAA Club. The progress the boys showed over the four weeks was exceptional and some fine handball was played in the ball alley in Maynooth GAA Club. This term Conor Ashe, Conor Mescal, Finn Whyte, Matthew Johnston, Patrick Mocanu and Leo O'Sullivan from 5th Class have begun the lessons and are already showing great potential. Hopefully, this is the beginning of a fine tradition of handball in Maynooth BNS.

Relief Cleaner for Occasional Substitute Cover

We are looking for a relief cleaner to cover occasional absences. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, CV's can be dropped to the school office for the attention of Mr. Kirwan.

Support our Secretaries: Industrial Action

On Friday 10th January, secretaries across the country engaged in a one day strike followed by a work to rule. The industrial action is part of ongoing attempts to secure better terms and conditions and eliminate the existing two-tier system. Hopefully, in the next few weeks and months we will see equality and fairness for our school secretaries.



Smart Watches

We have noticed a number of pupils sporting smart watches recently. Some smart watches are capable of record images and possibly audio. Under no circumstances are smart watches with recording (picture/video/audio) capabilities permitted in the school.

Smart watches that act as pedometers may have a positive effect in encouraging pupil activity however, they can also serve as a distraction to pupils during class time. We are going to monitor this aspect of wearable technology over the next two months and look at the positives and negatives of the presence of such devices in school.

Dates for your Diary

Ceremony of Light (6th Classes)	4 th February 7.30 p.m.
Confirmation	27 th February 11.00 a.m.
First Confession (2nd Classes)	10 th March 13.30 p.m.
Mid-term break	20 th and 21 st February, 2020
School Holiday	16 th March
Public Holiday	17 th March
First Holy Communion	23 rd May – 11.00 a.m.