

St. Laurence's National School

Easter Newsletter 2025



From all of Us at
St. Laurence's National School

Letter from St. Laurence's Board of Management

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of the second term and the Easter break could I thank everyone, staff, committees, pupils and especially you the parents/guardians for your continued support to our school this term. Your hard work and efforts are very much appreciated here at St Laurence's.

NEWS

Confirmation: On Friday 7th March 2025 our sixth class pupils were confirmed by Fr. Peter. It was a lovely day for the children and we are very proud of them all. Thanks to Mr. Maher, Ms. Fahey and Mr. Treanor who prepared the boys and girls. Thanks also to the boys and girls of 5th class who provided the excellent singing in the church and to all staff who played a part.

First Communion: The boys and girls in second class made their First Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation) on 10th February 2025 in preparation for their **First Holy Communion** on Saturday 17th May 2025. Congratulations everyone.

World Book Day



World Book Day: We celebrated World Book Day on March 6th. Children dressed up as book characters and read stories with their reading buddies. A fairy-tale and nursery rhyme quiz was held for the Infant classes while book quizzes took place from 1st - 6th.

Author Visit: Ms Jones's 1st class were thrilled to meet Irish author, Muireann Ní Chíobháin. Muireann read from her wonderful book, Murphy's Law. The children made lovely bookmarks and every child received a copy of her book to bring home with them!

Spelling Bee: We held our annual Spelling Bee competition in both buildings and huge congratulations to everyone who participated on the day. Well done to Charlie Headon (2nd class) who was crowned champion in the Junior building and to Lucia Marie Howley-Showing (6th class) who was crowned champion in the Senior building. Lucia represented our school in the North Dublin Spelling Bee final on March 26th and performed amazingly on the day. Well done to Kingsley Kirkwood who attended as a substitute and showed great support for Lucia.





One School, One Book:

St. Laurence's took part in the One School, One Book reading initiative on World Book Day. Every class from Junior Infants to 6th read the wonderful Dan Santat's, After the Fall.

Book Buffet:

The children of St. Laurence's were treated to a very delicious Book Buffet in the Junior building on April 8th.

Children partnered up with their reading buddies and chose from a menu of wonderful books to read. There were very hard working chefs on the day who served some lovely book reviews to all the hungry customers!



Junior Juries' Programme:

We are participating in the Junior Juries' programme organised by Children's Books Ireland. We are currently reading The Dictionary Story by Oliver Jeffers and classes are scoring the book out of 100. Full results to be announced in May! (Both 2nd classes were very lucky to have 2 volunteers from KPMG visit and read from Eoin Colfer's Beanie the Bansheenie as part of the programme.)

Science Day: On Friday 17th January the school participated in Science Day. The classes were timetabled to visit other classes to



view and participate in many different experiments and STEM challenges. In the afternoon many classes took part in nature trails and Scavenger hunts on the school grounds. The children also enjoyed an Alphabetical Science Quiz over the intercom

while the Junior classes engaged in a picture quiz. A great day was had by all!

Science Blast: On Wednesday 5th March, our three fourth classes attended Science Blast in the RDS to show off their class projects and hard work to other schools and some very interested judges.



- Ms. Carroll tried and tested 'Does the temperature of a football affect how far it travels?'
- Ms. Duggan explored osmosis with 'Which liquid expands a gummy bear the most?'
- Mr Gallagher's class worked together to find out 'Is our class football made of the best material possible?'

Well done 4th class who received very positive feedback from the judges. A fantastic day and experience for all!



Seachtain na Gaeilge: There was lots of excitement in the school during Seachtain na Gaeilge this year! We celebrated all things Gaeilge from 10th to the 14th March. Pupils took part in quizzes, nature walks, dancing and the

Ceolchoirm on Friday! Every class performed a song and we had some lovely Irish dancing performances too. The school windows were decorated in amazing green art and Gaeilge all week! Maith sibh go léir!



Student Council: Thanks to the student council who are working hard to help Ms. Finnerty draw up our new Cinealtás policy. This follows on from our staff training and will help us create a bully free school.

Grandparents Day: We celebrated Grandparents Day in January. Thanks again to all the grandparents who came into visit 1st class. It was a lovely morning for everyone.

Kindness Award: Well done to our most recent Kindness Award winners. Dayna Cahill in 5th class and Liam Pimenta Galiza De Freitas in senior infants. The kindness award is presented at assembly to a child the staff have noticed goes above and beyond to show kindness to their classmates and staff.



Green Schools Committee: This term we have been awarded the prize for our area in the Green Schools Big Travel Challenge! Well done to everyone who took part and keep up the hard work.



Tennis: The children from 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes have enjoyed tennis coaching with Trackside Tennis this term.



GAA: The boys and girls have enjoyed taking part in weekly GAA sessions with Ben from na Dubh Ghall.

“Daly Exercise”: The boys and girls in the Junior and Senior school enjoyed an exercise to music programme with Sean. Great fun was had by all.

Cycling and Road Safety: The children from 6th class have enjoyed a 6-week training course with the Irish Centre for Cycling. The children learned the rules of the road and how to cycle safely while also having fun and enjoying some exercise.



Soccer: Well done to both our girls and boys soccer teams. They have both played brilliantly and represented the school so well. The boys are now through to the quarter finals and we wish them the best of luck.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the senior school soccer league, well done to our overall winners USA. Thanks to Mr. Treanor and Mr. Maher for organising the league.

Our active school skipping challenge is going really well for all classes and everyone is enjoying learning about Europe and getting active at the same time!



After Easter there will be lots more sports taking place in the school, including Junior Soccer League, hurling, athletics to name a few.

FUNDRAISING



Anything but a bag day: This idea was planned, promoted, arranged and implemented by the Student Council. There were some very creative ideas from the children and lots of fun was had on the day. Each class voted for their class winner and the Student council awarded prizes. Well done to everyone involved.



Easter cake sale: Once again the cake sale was a great success and was enjoyed by all. A total of €1,118.83 as raised for the cake sale.

Easter raffle: Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the Easter raffle. A total of €3,962.25 was raised by the raffle.

Non-Uniform Day: Non-uniform day continues to take place on the first Friday of every month.

A huge thank you to the Parents Committee for all their effort on behalf of the school.

Photos from all of our school activities can be viewed on

- our school website www.stlaurencesbaldoyle.org
- our Instagram page [stlaurences_ns_baldoyle](https://www.instagram.com/stlaurences_ns_baldoyle)
- our Twitter page https://twitter.com/StLaurences_NS

Important dates for your diary

**School closes for Easter Holidays on
Friday 11th April at 12.00 noon**

**Please note: The Children will return to school at
9.00am on Monday, 28th April 2025**

We wish you all a very safe and Happy Easter

Clare Finnerty (Principal)