

St. Laurence's National School



Easter Newsletter 2022



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 all your continued support and encouragement.

School Events Updates

Confirmation: On Friday 8th March and Saturday 02nd March 2022 our Sixth Class pupils were confirmed. It was a lovely day and we are very proud of the boys and girls.

Thanks to Ms. Fahey, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Maher who prepared the classes. Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Jones for conducting an excellent choir, Mr. Maher who accompanied the choir and to all the staff who played a part.

First Communion: The boys and girls in Second Class made their First Confession (*Sacrament of Reconciliation*) on Tuesday 22nd February in preparation for their **First Holy Communion** on Saturday, 21st May 2022.

Seachtain na Gaeilge: Everyone in the school celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge. There was a parade around the school with some impromptu Irish dancing in the senior building the classes took part in toraíocht taisce (treasure hunt), Tráth na gCeist, Teanga Cluichí (Language games) Siúlóid Dúlra (nature walk). Molaim na páistí go léir as ucht a gcuid iarrachtaí.



Green School: Over the past few months the children have been working hard to earn our Global Citizenship- Energy flag. Led by the elected Green School's Committee we have managed to reduce our energy consumption through

initiatives like Feet First Friday and Waste Free Wednesday. Throughout the year children have been empowered to become active Global Citizens themselves and we are very proud of them. We remind ourselves regularly *Ní neart go cur le chéile!*

World Book Day We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday, March 3rd. A lot of fun activities took place in the classroom to mark the special occasion. Some classes designed their own book covers and bookmarks while others completed book reviews.

A 'Mystery Book' competition was held in both buildings. Children had to guess the title and the author of the book from the excerpt read aloud by our wonderful volunteers, Jamie and Nathan!

A parade of our wonderful World Book Day costumes took place in both buildings.

We held our very first St. Laurence's N.S. Spelling Bee competition on World Book Day. We held 2 finals – one in the junior building and one in the senior building. Both finals were very exciting and very tense for those involved and for the audience too!

Well done to Matthew, Alessio, Brody, Sara and Annabelle from 1st and 2nd class. They did an amazing job of spelling some very tricky words. Congratulations to Sara who achieved 2nd place and congratulations to Anabelle who was crowned the overall winner of the Spelling Bee Final in the Junior building.

Well done to Craig, Emma, Zack, Tomas, Dylan, Jonathan, Ava, Stephen and Patricija from 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th class. They did a wonderful job in spelling some very difficult words. Congratulations to Craig who achieved 2nd place and congratulations to Patricija who was crowned the overall winner of the Spelling Bee Final in the senior building.

Keep learning your spellings everyone – the Spelling Bee will return next year!!!

Science Week: Science week took place From March 21st to 25th this year. The week was full of fun activities and all the children took part in science scavenger hunts and science trails in the classroom and around the school. STEM challenges and experiments were also carried out by the teachers in the classes.

The Rediscovery Centre paid a visit to both 4th classes and carried out 2 hands-on workshops with the children, 'Plastic problems' and 'Transport for the Future'. Some of the projects the children are participating in are still on-going.

To end a great week the children in the senior school took part in and 'Alphabetical Science Table Quiz'.

Science Blast: Well done to both 4th classes and their teachers receiving their ESB Science Blast Awards from an external judge at the end of March. The children had to come up with a 'testable' question, carry out an experiment to test it and draw up their conclusions. Both classes received great feedback on all their hard work.

Internet Safety Day: "Safer Internet Day 2022 took place on Tuesday, February 8th. On this day we discussed ways your child can be safe online. We also held a Safer Internet Day Competition where all classes were asked to create a Safer Internet Day poster or art competition. The entries were brilliant, and the winners were very well deserved.

Gaelic Coaching: Congratulations to the boys and girls from fifth and sixth class who took part in the school's Gaelic football teams. Both teams trained and played very well throughout the competition. The girl's team got a great win against Swords Educate Together and the boys team finished strongly with a win against St.David's. Well done everyone! Thanks to Mr.Maher, Ms Jones, Ms.Carpenter and Ms O'Callaghan for all their hard work with the teams.

All classes continue to receive Gaelic coaching courtesy of Mark from Na Dubh Ghall.

Tennis: The boys and girls from 1st to 6th class enjoyed tennis coaching since Christmas. Thanks to *Trackside Tennis Club* and especially Daniel.

"Daly Exercise": The boys and girls enjoyed in the junior and senior school enjoyed a 4-week exercise to music programme with 'Daly Exercise'.

Photos from all our school activities this term can be seen on our school website www.stlaurencesbaldoyle.org

Fundraising

As our usual fundraising events with the Parents Committee remain curtailed because of Covid19. We would just like to say thank you to everyone who has contributed to our non-uniform day collections on Aladdin. The collections from January through to April have raised €1,934 This money goes toward all the activities the Parents Committee organize throughout the school year for the children.

Voluntary Contributions are vital in the running of the school. This year's total was €14,670. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. These funds go toward the upkeep of the school.

Student Teachers

- We say '**Slán agus Beannacht**' to our student teachers and wish them well in their careers.
- We also thank all our past pupils who returned on work experience as part of their transition year.

Please Note

School Closes for the Easter holidays at
12:00 noon on Friday 08th April

School will reopen at **09:00am on Monday 25th April**

Dates for your diary

- First Holy Communion: - **Saturday, 21st May 2022**
- Open day for parents of our new Junior Infants starting in September 2022 is **Thursday 19th May**

We wish you all a very Happy Easter.



Yours sincerely,
Clare Finnerty
(Principal Teacher)

