**Scoil Phádraig Naofa**

Newsletter April 2019

**Green School Glory**

Receiving our 7th Green Flag for work on Global Citizenship was a tremendous achievement for the school, the Green School Committee and their mentor Ms Concannon. Over the course of the last 2 years the Committee has worked on promoting the culture of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle while also developing an awareness of different cultures and practices around the world. Remember the small things make a big difference – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

**Sacraments**

Our 6th class pupils will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Eamonn Walsh this Friday the 12th of April. We wish all families a spiritual and enjoyable day. Our 2nd class pupils received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in March and are now preparing for First Holy Communion which takes place on Sunday the 12th of May at 12pm.



**VEX Engineering**

Mr Dunne’s 5th Class pupils recently came 2nd in the regional qualifying section of the VEX Engineering project in Carlow I. T. The project involved planning, building and programming a robot to carry out movement tasks. Over a number of months the pupils researched and worked diligently on their model.

**Positive Discipline System**

Munster won the PDS for March and enjoyed Bingo. Ulster, as this month’s winners went on an Easter Egg Hunt.

**All Ireland Quiz Final**

Congratulations to our U-11 All Ireland Quiz team, Ryan Darling, Vlad Oprean, Daniel O’ Sullivan and Isabella Oillier on their successful year which culminated in them reaching the finals in the RDS on Sunday 7th April. They finished in 10th position, which is a phenomenal achievement considering over 3000 schools entered.

**Internet Safety**

Pupils from 3rd to 6th will be attending a talk on Internet Safety given by Zeeko on the 13th/14th of May. There will be a talk for parents on **Tuesday 14th of May at 7pm** in our school. Parents from all classes are encouraged to attend.

**Parents Council**

Thanks to our Parents Council who organised Bingo and helped out at our Book Fair recently. We look forward to the Easter raffle on Friday.

**Seachtain Na Gaeilge **

Seachtain na Gaeilge was fun filled and action packed again this year. Dancing, singing, board games through Irish and treasure hunts were just some of the activities that took place to celebrate our language and culture.

**Debating News**

After some hectic weeks of practice and arguing, our school debating team were eventually defeated in the Shield Semi- Final by St Bridget’s from Kildare. Over the course of the competition the pupils debated on topics such as recycling and global warming. This was our schools first time to be involved in debating. Great credit must go to all the students who got involved and their mentor Ms King. We look forward to next year and the motions it will bring.

**Extra Curricular Activities**

1st and 2nd classes thoroughly enjoyed 5 weeks of Drama classes with Charlie Hughes.

3rd and 4th classes enjoyed 6 weeks of Zumba dancing.

4th class pupils participated in after school Lego Club.

Some 5th and 6th class pupils are currently receiving guitar lessons with David Whelan.

After school Art Club for 2nd and 3rd class pupils has now finished.

Our 5th and 6th class pupils will be starting cooking classes in May. We look forward to sampling their recipes.

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**Sports**

After a great Kennelly Cup campaign our school’s Senior Boys Football team are now training for the Cumann na mBunscol tournament which will be commencing after Easter.

Our girl’s team have already been in action. They lost by the narrowest of margins to Crookstown and Moone. Their final game will take place soon. Our Gregory Cup will also be starting after Easter for our Girls.

Camogie continues on Thursdays for our Senior Girls and under the guidance of Ms. Connolly and Ms. Murphy numbers attending continue to increase.

5th class pupils will be starting basketball training on Wednesdays after school with Ms Brennan and Mr. Dunney.

**Cycle Training**

Our students who cycle to school received cycling training for 4 weeks. The lessons aimed to up skill the cyclists and ensure they knew how to keep themselves safe. Please ensure your son/daughter’s bike is road worthy and that they always wear a helmet.

**JEP**

Ms. McDonnell’s 6th Class are currently participating in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. The JEP project promotes business and entrepreneurial thinking in young students, requiring them to research and design a product for market Their product is an activity book for pupils called ‘Busy Bee and Me’. They have successfully sold around 200 copies of their product. They will be showcasing their product in the RDS on the 20th of May. We wish them the best of luck and commend them for their work to-date.

Aistear

Our junior infants have been extremely busy working on the Aistear themes of ‘People who help us’ and ‘Spring and the Farm’. The aim of Aistear is to help every child grow and develop as a competent and confident learner. Our classes have had visits from Doctor Rowan, Garda Séan O’Mahony and Nurse Hickey. They have also visited Athy Fire Station and Caragh Farm in Kildare. We would like to sincerely thank those who gave up their time to talk to our pupils and help along their educational journey.

**Remedial Building Works**

Scoil Phádraig Naofa wishes to thank all parents and guardians for their patience and co-operation during this process. We have not yet received any definite confirmation or commitments from the Department of Education and Skills regarding the timeframe or the nature of the work to be carried out. Once we receive further information our parent body will be duly informed.

The staff of Scoil Phádraig Naofa would like to wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Safe Easter. 

Reminders

* Easter Holidays-School closes on Friday 12th April. Children will go home at the following times: **SNU, Junior and Senior Infants @12pm, 1st-6th classes 12.30pm**
* School reopens on **Monday 29th April for a full day**.
* If you **must** collect your child early any day please refrain from doing so during their break times: **Infants-3rd classes-10.45am-11am, 12.45pm-1.15pm**

**4th-6th Classes- 11.05am-11.20am, 1.20pm-1.50pm**