

MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

No. 7

11th January, 2012

Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome everybody back to school. We hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and are looking forward to this new term.



Leaving During School Day

With immediate effect, any pupil leaving class during the school day must be officially signed out at the office. When this is done, a Permission Slip will be issued which must then be given to the class teacher before a pupil can be released from his class. This measure is being implemented in the interest of Child Safety.



Carol Singing



Well done to the boys from 2nd and 3rd classes who took part in the carol singing at Manor Mills on 19th & 20th December.

They raised an amazing €1,010 for the local branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This money will be used to support local families in need. Special thanks to the large number of school staff who helped the boys rehearse their repertoire, provided musical accompaniment and collected each day.

Farewell

On Thursday 22nd December, the staff and students bade farewell to three long-serving teachers in the school. The pupils and staff marked the last day in school of Ms. Brosnan, Ms. McEvoy and Ms. Buckley at an assembly in the playground. After setting the tone with some festive singing, each was presented with a bouquet of flowers and the entire school sang them an adaptation of a well-known Abba song - 'Thank You for the *Teaching...*'. With a combined total of 93 years teaching in our school, these three wonderful teachers will be missed.



We would like to welcome three new members of staff who have joined us. Ms. Carty will be taking over from Ms. Buckley in Senior Infants, while Ms. Alonso and Ms. O'Donnell will join our Resource team. We hope they will be very happy at Maynooth BNS.

Credit Union Art Competition Winners



Each year, Maynooth Credit Union organises a poster competition across the four primary schools in the parish. It is always very popular with the boys and this year's competition, with the theme "Ireland Through My Eyes", was no exception. We are delighted to confirm that our pupils scooped 3 of the nine prizes. The successful boys were:



8-10 Years

1st Michael O'Neill

Ms. Gunn's 3rd Class

11-13 Years

1st Matthew Maloney

Ms. Meehan's 6th Class

2nd Daniel Ridge

Mr. Fenton's 6th Class

Well done to the pupils who participated and who produced such wonderful pictures for this competition.

New Mobile Phone for Christmas?

If you received a new mobile phone for Christmas, please remember to forward your new number to the office so that we may update our files.



New School Choir

We are delighted to announce that we are starting a new school choir.

Ms. Grainne Dunne hopes to teach the choir a wide repertoire of fun and enjoyable songs, as well as the more conventional ones for significant school occasions.

Choir will take place on Monday afternoons between 3 & 4pm and is open to pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th classes. The first session will take place this Monday, 16th January and we hope to see a lot of the boys there.

Board of Management

The New Board of Management had its first official meeting on 12th December 2011. Among the items discussed were:

Child Protection – Child Protection Policy to be reviewed at next Board meeting.

Finance – Hilary Qualter elected as Treasurer

School Premises – Requests for use of were considered

Charitable Fundraising – Agreed to support Maynooth St. Vincent de Paul (Carol Singing) and Maynooth Lions Club (non –perishable food appeal)

Staffing – Upcoming Retirements and New appointments approved

Roll Call

The rolls are called in each classroom at 9.45am. The numbers are then collected centrally and entered into the school's book. This is a DES requirement. Once a pupil is marked absent, the Roll Book cannot be changed. Therefore a pupil who arrives late cannot have his attendance record amended.

Note: If you son has a planned appointment, such as a medical/dental appointment in the morning and will be coming to school afterwards, please notify the teacher in writing in advance, and his attendance can be recorded.

The Coin Trail Challenge

Student Challenge: To find and collect as many euro currency coins as you can, between now and February 8th. Pick up loose coins from around the house, or off the footpath. Put away small change from your pocket money. Collect coins whenever you can – but avoid wallets and purses! And, remember, the value of the coin doesn't matter – it's the length that counts.



Bring your jar of coins into your class by Wednesday, February 8th. On Friday, February 10th, each class will bring their collective Coin Stash to the PE hall. They will lay each coin out on the floor in a line, and see how far their class Coin Trail can stretch. The class with the longest trail **WINS**, so start collecting your coins (anything from 1c up to €2 coins allowed).

The Prize: *A Class Party and Homework Pass.* Good luck, and may the best class win.

Pedestrian Entrances

The two designated pedestrian entrances to the school are:

- From the Moyglare Road (at the ramp), near the Parish Office
- From other directions – at the corner, near the traffic lights on the Kilcock Road/Mill Street junction

There are a couple of small gates at the railings beside the bus bay area which open directly onto the playground. The Board of Management has decided to close these to improve child protection and safety. This will be implemented in the very near future.

Credit Union Table Quiz

The Annual Credit Union Table Quiz will take place in the school hall on Friday 3rd February at 7.30 p.m. There will be 2 sections in the quiz. Under 11 and Under 13. We will be arranging and organising teams within the school. It is always an enjoyable night for the boys, and the Credit Union are excellent hosts!

After School Activities

Enrolments for After School Activities will take place on **Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th January from 9.10- 9.20am in the P.E. Hall; class teachers cannot accept applications**. The application form below must be **in an envelope** and the appropriate fee enclosed. The envelope must have marked on it: *Pupil's Name, Class & Teacher, The Activity* and the *Amount Enclosed*. For administration purposes, applications cannot be accepted unless in this format. All classes will run for 6 weeks. Places are limited and will be on a first come, first served basis. Cheques should be made payable to Maynooth BNS.

6th Class After School Sports Club

Every Thursday 3-4 p.m. commencing Thursday 26th January.

3rd Class After School Sports Club

Every Monday 3-4 p.m. commencing Monday 23rd January.

4th and 5th Class After School Sports Club

Every Tuesday 3-4 p.m. commencing Tuesday 24th January.

Guitar Classes (1st – 6th Class)

There is one more catch up lesson for Improvers this Thursday 12th and for Beginners next Monday 16th January. Guitar lessons will recommence on Monday 23rd January (Beginners) and Thursday 26th January (Improvers). *There are limited places for new beginners so it will be strictly on a first come, first served basis.*

Homework Club- Mon – Thu (2nd – 6th Class)

Homework Club will re-commence on Monday 16th January. Boys already attending homework club will be given a separate registration form by Ms. Meehan. Any new boys wishing to start homework club can collect a registration form from the office. Cost is €60 for 6 weeks.

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I wish my son to partake in (please tick)

Monday 3 rd Class After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday 4 th /5 th Class After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 6 th Class After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monday Guitar Classes (Beginners)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday Guitar Classes (Improvers)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>

Child's Name _____ Class _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Amount Enclosed € _____

Mobile No. to text if a session has to be cancelled _____