

MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Number 8

9th January, 2013

Fáilte Romhat Ar Ais!

Welcome back to all our pupils and their families. We hope you enjoyed the holidays and we wish you all a healthy and happy 2013.

Open Day

The school will be holding an open day on Friday 8th February. This will give parents and other visitors an opportunity to visit the school and get an idea of what happens in the classrooms during the school day. We hope you will be able to visit us on the day. Further details will be made available over the next few weeks.



5th Class Intel Mini-Scientist Exhibition

During November the 5th class boys participated in the Annual Intel Mini Scientist Competition. Odhrán Brady, Mr. McGeady's 5th class, overcame stiff 'local' opposition to take 1st place with his project entitled "The Coolness of Gravity".



On 13th December, Odhrán took his project which investigated the use of gravity in providing an effective irrigation system to the National Finals, which were held in the Science Gallery at Trinity College. We are delighted to announce that Odhrán was Runner Up at the Grand Final. This was a tremendous achievement, which was well deserved for an excellent project.

Heartiest congratulations Odhrán.



Maynooth Credit Union Art Competition Winners

Recently, Maynooth Credit Union held its annual art competition among the Primary Schools in Maynooth. There were 3 categories – 7 yrs & under, 8-10, 11-13 years, with 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each. We are delighted to confirm that the boys achieved 6 out of the 9 awards as follows:



7 Yrs & Under	1 st	Arthur Gligor	2 nd	Ms. Gunn
	2 nd	Kaelin Hackett	1 st	Ms. Lyons
	3 rd	Paul O'Hora	2 nd	Ms. Gunn
8 – 10 Yrs	1 st	Michael O'Hora	5 th	Mr. McGeady
	2 nd	Kristofer Gray	5 th	Mr. McGeady
11 – 13 Yrs	3 rd	Matthew McBrearty	6 th	Ms. Meehan

A big thank you to Maynooth Credit Union for organising this competition and for their generous sponsorship of the prizes – selection boxes and ‘cash’!

Oliver Star

Congratulations to Tom Kelly, Mr. Downs’ 3rd Class, who has been performing in ‘Oliver’ at the Bord Gaís Theatre this Christmas. Tom is one of 24 Irish performers chosen from a panel of 320 who attended auditions for parts. The Musical Show finishes up this Saturday. “Break a leg Tom!”

Board of Management Agreed Report/Update

During the autumn term the Board met on three occasions – 21st October, 19th November and 17th December. During this period, Board members attended training sessions on:



Relevant Contract Tax
Child Protection
School Finance

A number of School Policies have been reviewed by the Board. These policies include Enrolment, Critical Incident, Homework, Substance Use, Mobile Phone and Internet Acceptable Use. The school’s Health & Safety Policy is also being re-drafted and will be completed shortly.

The Board reviewed the results of the standardised testing carried out in May on English and Maths and also discussed the implications of the School Self Evaluation initiative which commences during 2013.

School building maintenance is addressed by the Board on an on-going basis. Two particular projects have been undertaken by the Board during the autumn:

- The creation of a ‘quiet room’ which is a necessary facility.
- Toilet Development/Refurbishment. This includes the building of a small extension to accommodate a wheelchair Accessible toilet, refurbishment and development of male/female toilets (near Parish Office) and refurbishment of the Staff Toilets (which will be restricted to staff use when work is completed in approximately a week’s time).

The Board is currently reviewing all leasing arrangements for the hire of school facilities.

Safer Parking

In the very near future there will be significant developments in relation to safer parking in the vicinity of the school. A combined initiative to eradicate indiscriminate, selfish and dangerous parking practices, particularly in the lay-by area is being organised through the P.T.A, Board of Management, An Garda Síochána and Kildare County Council.

In the meantime:

- Please park legally when dropping/collecting your child to/from school.
- Have respect for the safety of pedestrians and other motorists.
- NEVER park in front of the school gates – these are Emergency Access routes.

Free English Language Classes for Parents

Kildare VEC Adult Education section have confirmed that they are willing to run FREE ENGLISH LANGUAGE classes for parents of children in our school, if there is sufficient demand. The classes would be held in the school, commencing at 9.20/9.30 a.m. to facilitate parents bringing children to school.

If you are interested in attending:

- send in your name and telephone number
or
- telephone the school office

By Friday 11th January

After School Activities

All activities are from 3p.m. – 4p.m.

Enrolments for After School Activities will take place on **Thursday 10th and Friday 11th January from 9.10-9.20 a.m. 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. Please complete attached registration form below.

3rd and 4th Class After School Sports Club

Every Tuesday commencing Tuesday 15th January 2013.



Spanish Classes

1st – 4th Class Every Thursday commencing Thursday 17th January 2013
5th & 6th Class Every Tuesday commencing Tuesday 15th January 2013

Homework Club (1st – 6th Class)

Every Monday to Thursday commencing Monday 14th January 2013



Arts & Crafts (1st – 6th Class)

Every Tuesday commencing Tuesday 15th January 2013

Guitar Classes (1st – 6th Class)

Beginners classes are every Monday commencing **Monday 21st** January, 2013.

Improvers classes are every Tuesday commencing Tuesday 15th January 2013.



N.B. There will be limited space for new beginners. Boys who were previously in the Beginners Class can now join the Tuesday Improvers Class. If you feel your son needs another Beginners Session, he can continue in the Beginners Group.

Please complete attached registration form below.

I wish my son to partake in (please tick)

Tuesday 3 rd /4 th Class After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Monday Guitar Classes (Beginners)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tuesday Guitar Classes (Improvers)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tuesday Arts & Crafts	€35	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Homework Club	€60	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tuesday Spanish Classes (5 th & 6 th Class)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Thursday Spanish Classes (1 st -4 th Class)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Child's Name _____ Class _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Amount Enclosed € _____