

MAYNOOTH BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Number 5

18th November, 2014



Parent Teacher Meetings

Meetings with class teachers will take place in your son's classroom. Likewise, Resource Teachers will be located in their rooms for meetings with parents.

Names and locations will be clearly displayed inside the front door.

At the annual parent teacher meeting, an appointment is scheduled for every pupil in each class. On a given afternoon, there are appointments for approximately 15 other parents so **it is essential that everybody sticks to the allotted 10 minute meeting.** If you wish to have a longer discussion with your son's teacher, you will need to arrange a further appointment – the meeting on the day cannot be extended, as it would unreasonably delay everybody else.

Therefore, if you find yourself waiting for your meeting beyond your allotted time, please knock on the classroom door.

Christmas Cards

If you have ordered sets of Christmas Cards designed by your son, be sure to check his school bag this evening, as they were distributed at school today.

A big thank you to Julia Hensey, Co-ordinator and her team of volunteers who organised the distribution of templates and then sample cards, collated orders (and counted money) and distributed the sets today. It was all done efficiently and unobtrusively. Now all you have to do is write your card!

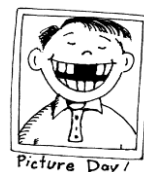


Choir

The Three Tenors will be performing in St. Mary's Church on Saturday 6th December, 2014. The Boys and Girls Choir will be performing that night also. Tickets are €25.00 and can be purchased from the Parish Office or the Bookshop.

Class Photographs

All class photographs are on display in the Junior Corridor to the left as you enter the front door. Order forms were previously sent home and should be returned with money by Tuesday 25th November, 2014.



Cake Sale

We will be holding our Annual Cake Sale on Friday 5th December, 2014. Strangely enough, this has proven to be an extremely popular event with the boys! We hope you will consider doing some baking for this important school fundraiser.

Olympic Handball

On Monday the 10th of November some of the Olympic handballers were picked to represent the school in an Olympic handball tournament in Confey GAA. All the players arrived at Confey GAA at about 11 o'clock. We ate a portion of our lunch and we did a light warm-up to get used to playing with each other.

The hall opened. We were all set to play the Gaelscoil in our opening game. We knew some of their players. We were winning 3-0 and dominating until we conceded 2 goals in quick



succession. We scored once more and it could have been 5-2 but Timmy Cotorobai had an amazing goal disallowed in the dying moments. It was a relief to get a first win under our belts. It ended 4-2. This time we were up against Lucan East. We took confidence from our first win and started quickly with Benjamin Dumitru scoring early on. We brought on David Qualter and he scored straightaway, with Lucan scoring shortly after. Late on Conor Walsh put the game to bed and we won 3-1.

We waited one match and it was time to face Confey A team. Ms. Kelly was desperate to come out on top since we were beaten by Confey last year. The tension was high. Conor Walsh put the ball in the back of the net, putting us in the lead. Confey responded with a quick equalizer right away. Michael Richardson performed heroics to keep us in the match. In the final period of the game Benjamin Dumitru scored a vital goal to win the game 2-1.

We had a two game break and then we played Confey B team in our last game. We didn't start too well for the standards we'd set already, but Benjamin scored twice and the other sub David Qualter sealed the 3-0 victory and we had won the tournament without losing or drawing a match!!!!!! For our victory Ms. Kelly rewarded us with 50c bags from Euro Saver!

Squad; Morgan Dunne, Jack Crawley, David Qualter, Michael Richardson, Benjamin Dumitru, Timmy Cotorobai, Conor Walsh, Paul Fitzgerald, Adam Jordan, Michael Smyth, Tom Kelly & Mikey Dunphy. *By: Morgan Dunne, David Qualter & Jack Crawley.*



Halloween Dress Up Winners

Junior Infants	Ms. Sims
Junior Infants	Ms. O'Mahony
Junior Infants	Ms. Fleury
Senior Infants	Ms. Patten
Senior Infants	Ms. Flynn
Senior Infants	Ms. Dunning
First Class	Ms. Rafter
First Class	Ms. Toolan
Second Class	Mr. Fenton
Second Class	Ms. Murphy
Third Class	Ms. McMahon
Third Class	Mr. Downes
Fourth Class	Mr. Davis
Fourth Class	Ms. McMahon
Fifth Class	Ms. Meehan
Fifth Class	Mr. Murphy
Sixth Class	Mr. McGeady
Sixth Class	Mr. Creevey
Sixth Class	Ms. Kelly

1st Place

Callum Lanigan
Seán Travers
Fiachra Martin
Matteo Travers
Harry Jefferies
Joseph O'Connor
Dylan Holmes
Andrew Reynolds
Ronan Martin
Daibhi Reynolds
A. J. Bryne
Saimonas Gauronskis
Dawid Sumera
James Ashe
Michael McEvoy
Fiachra Brennan
Michael Richardson
Adam Jordan
Cian Doyle

2nd Place

Aidan McCann
Yoav Klein
Ben Nicholls
Luke Murray
Evan Reddy
Padraic Gallen
Igor Spaczynski
Cillian Price
David O'Brien
Alfred Nicholl
Dillon Reddy
Tristan Guterrez
Stephen Kerrison
Jack Gilligan
Bradley Jenkins
Aidan Duffy
Michael O'Neill
Paul Fitzgerald
Scott McEvoy



Cross Country

On the Thursday before the Halloween break, two teams of cross country runners attended a 1km race event at Kilcock GAA. A wide number of schools from the North Kildare area were in attendance and as a result the competition was intense.

Up first was our under 11 team. A number of our runners sprinted into an early lead and it was great to see so many black jerseys near the front of the pack. Even more satisfying was to see that not only did these runners maintain the blistering pace for the entire kilometre, a number of our runners that had started more steadily had also managed to join them in the leading positions. As a result we had a number of runners in the top ten, with Fionnan Brady and Eoin Richards managing to take

the top two spots in convincing fashion. These two individual performances, added to the other high finishing positions garnered led to victory in the team prize for under 11 boys.

The under 13 race was a highly competitive affair. While our presence near the front of the field was not as evident as in the under 11 race, it soon became clear that a number of our runners were steadily making progress through the large crowd of competitors. As the race neared its end, our lads finished very strongly and managed to claw back a number of positions throughout the field. With a blistering sprint in the last two hundred metres, Conor Murphy managed to move from fifth place into second place. Behind him, throughout the field a number of our runners advanced and made us contenders for another team prize. Following a long wait, it was announced that these efforts had been rewarded with a second team prize of the day. Following the celebrations, all eighteen runners were awarded with medals for their wonderful performances. Many thanks to all of the boys for their determination and application during the races. Also, thanks to the many parents/supporters that drove the boys to and from Kilcock and shouted themselves hoarse during the race. This was a really enjoyable and rewarding day for the lads and we are very proud of all of them.

Under 11: Fionnan Brady, Eoin Richards, Thomas Richards, Tom Kelly, Victor Stepanov, Sean O'Dwyer, Jack Hourigan, Conor Bradley, Adedamola Adadiran.

Under 13: Conor Murphy, Ben Dumitru, Sean Burke O'Neill, Cathal O'Donovan, Michael O'Neill, James Sutton, Daniel McAvinue, Adam Byrne, Michael Richardson



Arts Programme

We have almost come to the end of the Autumn Programme of organised activities, with just 2 more scheduled items – Friday 21st: Dinosaur Show in the Library for Ms. Rafter's 1st class and Monday 24th/Tuesday 25th: 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes will have Musical Heritage Sessions. All classes will have had at least one organised activity, with some having had 2/3. This will be balanced out as other opportunities arise during

the year. We hope the boys will have enjoyed and benefitted from this very extensive programme which was organised by Ms. Róisín Murphy. Go raibh maith agat Ms. Murphy.

Under 11 Hurling

On Wednesday October 22nd our U-11 hurlers travelled to Moorefield to play Naas in the Cumann na mBunscoil County Finals. Our boys had performed really strongly in getting to this stage and hopes were high that we could defend our title.

The game itself was a little tense affair played in difficult weaker conditions. Scores were at a premium in the match and both defences held the upperhand. We did make a good start with Cian O'Neill scoring a great goal. From there to the end it was a very close game but unfortunately Naas just edged it by 2 points. Nonetheless our boys can be very proud of their heroic efforts and hopefully silverware will be soon coming the way of this very talented team.



Science Week

On 13th of November, 2014, our class went to NUI Maynooth for a workshop as part of Science Week. The workshop was given by Deirdre Kellaghan, a Scientist. We learned about the landing of the Philae Lander on Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. This comet is 500 billion kilometres away from Earth. The Lander was sent from the Rosetta Space Shuttle. She showed us a model of the Rosetta and the comet. This mission took 10 years to plan. Part of the Lander was made in

Maynooth College by Susan McKenna-Lawlor. Unfortunately, the landing didn't go according to plan. It failed to secure its position on the comet. But hopefully, the scientists collected enough

information to learn something about the comet. We really enjoyed this workshop, despite the bad weather. *Harvey McNevin and Quincy Macharia - Mr. Murphy's 5th Class.*

Rocket Launch

The rocket launch was postponed last week due to bad weather conditions. The new launch date is now Thursday 20th November at 11.15 p.m. so watch out for unidentified flying objects overhead!



Robot Soccer in NUIM Library

On Friday 14th November last, Ms. Meehan's 5th Class and the three 6th Classes were invited to the NUIM Library for a demonstration about Robot Soccer. We were introduced to a group of Computer Scientists and Engineers who have developed and programmed six NAO Robots for their RoboÉireann team using advanced computer code to play soccer. Each robot has a twenty minute battery life before needing to be recharged, with two cameras built into their heads to detect where the ball is and where the goalposts are on the soccer pitch. One robot costs approximately the same as an average priced car. Every year the RoboÉireann team competes in the RoboSoccer European Championships and World Cup against universities from all over Europe and the world. The boys and their teachers really enjoyed the demonstration as they got to see the robots play a match against each other and they were particularly impressed with the way the robots were able to lift themselves back up off the floor when they fell over or dived to save a shot.

Science Week at Maynooth University

Maynooth University is hosting a number of free activities during science Week. See full details at the link below:

https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Maynooth_University_SW_poster_2014_web.pdf

Mobile Phones Collection

We are again collecting used mobile phones towards acquiring equipment for the school. If you have any old phones and would like to support us, could you please send them in to your son's teacher or drop them off at the school office.

