



### **Coin Challenge 2015**

A big thank you to all the boys who collected coins for the Coin Challenge. During the month of February they filled their “virtual” class Piggy Banks in the hopes of collecting the greatest weight of coins.

The top prize was a class trip to the Cinema. This went to Ms. Fleury’s Junior Infants who had the heaviest weight. The other big winner was Mr. Downes 3<sup>rd</sup> Class who collected the highest value coins. A huge “Thank You” from the **PTA** to all the helpers involved and to all of you who supported this event. (*Full details of all the winners can be found on the website*).

### **End of Year Reports**

This year, as part of ongoing improvements in communication with parents, we plan to send out all End of Year Reports by email. A big advantage of this improvement is that it will remove the necessity for you to send in stamped addressed envelopes. You do not need to do anything as this system will automatically implement in June. However, if you still wish to receive a copy of your son’s report in hard copy, please write and confirm this to us (plus your SAE will also be needed in early June).



### **Credit Union Quiz**

Great Success! 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in both U-11 and U-13 Competitions.

Well done to all the boys involved for their excellent behaviour and for competing so strongly again this year. The winning teams now go forward to the Chapter finals which will be held in Dublin in early March. Best of luck boys!! Thanks to Mr. Fenton for all the work he put in preparing the boys for the event.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> U-13**

Morgan Dunne  
Matthew Desmond  
Ciarán Browne  
Ciarán Flanagan

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> U-13**

Ryan Halcomb  
Adam Jordan  
Joe Raleigh  
Jack Hourigan

#### **1<sup>st</sup> U-11**

Daniel O’Meara  
Thomas Richards  
Tom Lanigan  
Cillian Geraghty

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> U-11**

Conor Bradley  
Tim Kelly  
Mikey Clarke  
David Wojcicki



### **Choir Peace Proms**

On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January the choir performed at the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland Peace Proms Concert in the RDS. The boys were part of a choir of almost 2000 children from all over the country which sang a repertoire of songs and actions which they had been preparing since last October. They were accompanied by soloists, dancers and a

live orchestra which was very impressive and a great night was had by all. It was a really worthwhile experience for the boys which will leave a lasting impression. Special thanks to Choir Director, Mrs. Grainne Dunne, whose enthusiasm made all this possible. Thanks also to Mr. Murphy and Ms. Flynn for accompanying the choir on the night.

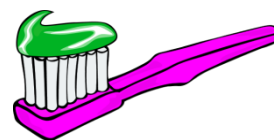
### **Literacy and Numeracy Strategy**

As you may be aware the report of the 2014 National Assessments of English Reading and Mathematics in Primary Schools were published recently. The assessments were prepared by the independent Educational Research Centre in Dublin. The study found that overall performance in reading and mathematics in second and sixth classes was significantly higher in these assessments than in the previous assessment carried out in

2009. The excellent progress achieved is such that targets set for 2020 in the National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy have already been met in 2014. This is a wonderful testament to the significant work done in the school and at home over the last few years. A well deserved pat on the back to all concerned.

### Oral Health

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February a Nurse called “Aoife” came to visit our school to tell us about dental treatment and how to keep our teeth clean and healthy. Aoife told us to brush up and down to get to the gums and to use a small/medium toothbrush with medium length bristles. Also we were told to use a pea sized amount of toothpaste.



She recommended Colgate toothpaste, that we should brush for 2 minutes twice a day and to make sure to brush the back of our teeth as well as the front! Aoife also told us that a child under 2 should not use toothpaste. When flossing you should be careful to ensure you don't make your gums bleed and that you shouldn't ignore gum disease. If you spit blood, it's a sign that you may have gum disease, so don't ignore it and go to your Dentist. We found the talk very informative and interesting. **By Zach Rosen and Cathal Flynn** 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Ms. McMahon.

### Spelling Bee

On Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February during Senior Assembly, the school held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Spelling Bee Competition for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. The boys in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were in the audience and really enjoyed the fun. Fifteen boys from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes reached the final. The standard was very high and, in the end, this year's Spelling Bee is David Power from Miss Meehan's 5<sup>th</sup> class. The 'winning' word was Leprechaun!! Other tricky words were 'Discretion, Legitimate, Exacerbate and Harlequin.' David will now represent the school in the Kildare finals. Best of luck David. Well done to all the boys for participating.



### Confirmation Refreshments



The Confirmation Ceremony will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015 at 11.00 a.m. in St. Mary's Church. The PTA are again organising catering after the ceremony. If you can help on the day or by providing some baking, please text (086) 1550675. If your child is in 5<sup>th</sup> class, you might particularly like to support as you will be the beneficiary next year. This hospitality greatly adds to the special occasion as it not only provides a little snack, but allows for families and the boys to meet up for a while, before they all go their separate ways for their own family celebrations. Cakes, etc. can be dropped to the P.E. Hall from 11.30

a.m. onwards on the day.

### IMPORTANT - First Aid

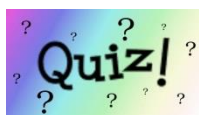
Keeping up to date records regarding medical conditions in children is always a priority, but sometimes a challenge. It is really important that you inform us if your child needs/is taking medication during the school day or needs to have medication available at school. If any of the following applies to your son, please notify the school in writing if your child is in any of the following categories.



- Needs to have medication in the school.
- Needs to take/have medication administered during the school day. (Administration of Medication Policy documents need to be completed).
- May require emergency medication/treatment. (As well as completion of Administration of Medication Policy documents, agreement on an additional emergency procedures notice is required).

**If you have any queries in relation to the above please telephone the office for clarification.**

### Galway Cycle Table Quiz



As you may be aware, there are 5 members of staff taking part in the Galway Cycle on 27<sup>th</sup> March next. This year it is in aid of the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind and their “Assistance Dogs Programme for Children with Autism”. They are holding a fundraising table quiz this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 p.m. in The Roost Bar, Maynooth. Entry fee is €10.00 per person with a maximum of 5 people per team. There will be a raffle with fantastic spot prizes with live music and a D.J. following the quiz. All are welcome.

## After School Activities

Enrolments for Session 4 of After School Activities will take place on **Friday 27th February, 2015** from 9.10 a.m. to 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.

### Guitar Classes (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class)



Beginners classes are every Monday 3-4 p.m. commencing **2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**. Pupils from previous term will remain in the same group.

Improvers classes are every Tuesday 3-4 p.m. commencing **3<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Class After School Sports Club

Every Monday commencing **2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Class After School Sports Club

Every Tuesday commencing **3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015**.



### Arts & Crafts (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class)

Every Tuesday commencing **3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015**.

(\*Classes will go ahead depending on numbers).

### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class After School Sports Club

Every Thursday commencing **5<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**.

### Homework Club

Homework Club is on Monday – Thursday (from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February to cover missed days due to Croke Park Hours). The next session begins on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015**.



✂-----

I wish my son to partake in (please tick)

Monday Guitar Classes (Beginners)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday Guitar Classes (Improvers)	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday Arts & Crafts	€35	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Class After School Sports Club	€30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homework Club (Mon – Thur)	€60	<input type="checkbox"/>

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_