



### Sponsored Walk/Family Fun Day – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

This year's Sponsored Walk/Family Fun Day takes place on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>, (weather permitting). The walk is an annual fundraiser that has in previous years raised valuable funds used to purchase equipment and resources for all the boys in the school. The free Family Fun Day which takes place immediately after the walk is by way of a thank you to everyone that has participated.



Sponsorships cards will be distributed via each class and every card is gratefully received back to the school, along with any amount of sponsorship money.

The card does not need to be full in order to be returned - all sponsorship donations are very welcome.



The walk takes place in the Maynooth University/St. Patrick's College, starting beside the old tennis courts in the south (old) campus at 1.30pm. Each year a 1km race for the 4th, 5th and 6th class boys is run, where a perpetual trophy is won by the combined efforts of a class to participate in the race.

The run is followed immediately by the walk around the college grounds and finishes up back at the school where the Family Fun Day runs until 4.30pm.



Entrance to the Family Fun Day is free for all boys in the school and their families after they have completed the walk. Bouncy castle, sumo wrestling, inflatable obstacle course and beat the teacher penalty shoot-out are amongst the activities laid on for the afternoon. There will also be a tuck shop and coffee shop open on the day.

The PTA are making a special appeal for help this year. They really need some Dads on hand to help to run the games. If you are available between 1.30 and 4.30 on Sunday April 19th please text your name and number to the PTA mobile phone 086 1550675. The more help, the more fun guaranteed for everybody involved.

### School Uniform Items

**Polo Shirt:** The Board of Management has taken a decision to drop the requirement of a "crested" polo shirt as part of the P.E. outfit. This change is intended to help reduce uniform costs for parents. In future, a plain light blue polo shirt is acceptable as part of the P.E. outfit.



**Label Everything:** We strongly recommend that you make sure your son's name is on all items of clothing. As the weather gets warmer, jumpers are frequently taken off ..... and lost due to being un-identifiable. A little effort now will save you the price of a new jumper.

**Footwear:** The official code for footwear is black/dark navy (From September it will be black only). Please ensure your son's footwear is in compliance.



### Administration Charges

We regularly receive requests for letters confirming attendance at the school. As the office can be extremely busy, please do not expect them to be issued immediately. A €2.00 administration fee will apply. You can expect a minimum of 2/3 days turn around. Requests for letters in support of Planning Applications require a search of records and will take a minimum of 5 days turn around. An administration fee of €10.00 will attach to these planning application letters.

## First Confession

Congratulations to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class boys who made their first confession on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March in St. Mary's Church. Thank you to Fr. Liam for leading the lovely ceremony and to Fr. Paul, Fr. Richard and Fr. Conrad who heard the boys First Confessions with him on the night.



## Infectious Illnesses

If your child contracts an infectious illness/virus etc., it is extremely important that you notify the school IMMEDIATELY, (either the school office, or class teacher). Even if he has passed the infectious stage, we still need to know, so that we can advise parents and members of staff to be on the watch out for symptoms of the infection.

*(Note: We do not reveal the identity of any child in relation to such notifications)*

Such notifiable infections include:

- Rubella (measles),
- Chicken pox,
- Slapped Cheek Disease,
- Chlamydia Psittaci (from lambs) etc.

Also, please remember to notify us if your son is diagnosed with INFLUENZA (THE FLU) as one of our pupils needs to take extra precautions if it is 'in the school'.

## WEEE Ireland Collection

**When:** SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH

**Where:** TESCO CAR PARK

**Time:** 10.00am to 4.00pm



WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) is anything that has a plug or a battery and is at the end of its useful life. Old and broken fridges, washing machines, computers etc., are examples of larger items, but don't forget the **little** guys! Remote controls, batteries, electric toothbrushes and light bulbs can also be recycled!

So give those sheds, garages and attics that long promised Spring Clean and get recycling!

**And it's all FREE of CHARGE.**



## Credit Union Quiz

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March two teams from the school competed in the Chapter Finals of the Credit Union Quiz Competition in Kilnamanagh, Co. Dublin. Both our U 11 and U 13 teams had won the local competition in order to qualify. The standard was extremely high on the day but nonetheless our boys did the school proud with their performance. Our U 11's were placed a very

creditable 5<sup>th</sup> and our U 13's finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, just 2 points off qualifying for the All Ireland Finals. Well done boys and to Mr. Fenton for preparing them for the event.

## Easter Camp

Just a quick reminder that the annual Easter Camp takes place in the school from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 10-2.30 pm. All pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class have received flyers for this camp. Places are strictly limited to 50 and are filling up fast! All Application Forms should be returned to Mr. Creevey – spare Application Forms are available from the Office.

## Galway Cycle

As you may already be aware, there are 5 members of staff taking part in the Maynooth to Galway Cycle next Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. This year the cycle is in aid of the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind and their Assistance Dogs Programme for Children



with Autism. We have a number of children in our school who have Assistance Dogs and there are also a number of families who have puppies in-training for this programme. For this reason, we would like to include the boys in our fundraising efforts and activities in promoting the cycle and this fantastic charity.

Next Wednesday the 25th March, we are having a 'Walk 'n' Roll' to school day, whereby the boys will be encouraged to walk or cycle to school. There will be some fun activities taking place during the day such as a Slow Bicycle Race for the boys from 3rd to 6th Class and also a Teachers' Race.

On Thursday 26th March, the Irish Guide Dogs will be visiting the school with their puppy-in-training class and the boys will get to see the puppies take part in a training demonstration on the Astro. They will also visit each class and give a short presentation about the charity and how the puppies are trained. Every boy will receive an Irish Guide Dogs Calendar and pencil on the day.

If families are in a position to make a donation towards the cycle, the pupils are encouraged to make a 2 euro contribution towards this wonderful charity. Any donations will be greatly appreciated!

***Ms. Dunning, Ms. Kirwan, Mr. McGeady, Ms. Toolan and Dominic.***

## Swimming Gala



Boys from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class represented the school in the annual Swimming Gala 2015 which was held at the College Swimming Pool recently. This was the fourth year in a row that the school has competed in the Gala. Our school team swam very well and gave it their all, but narrowly lost out and came in second place.

The highlight was the relay in which the boys gave an outstanding display right to the final relay. Well done lads, we are very proud of you! Fingers crossed for swimming team 2016.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Class**

#### ***Front Crawl***

Josh Moran  
Ross Lynch  
David Power  
James Kenny

#### ***Breast Stroke***

Jack Hourican  
Ciarán Flanagan  
Conor Whyte  
Ross Lynch

### **6<sup>th</sup> Class**

#### ***Front Crawl***

Paul Fitzgerald  
Sam O'Dwyer  
Sean Coogan  
Victor Stefanov

#### ***Breast Stroke***

Alex Gavin  
Adam Byrne  
Cillian Kearney  
Adrien Libert

#### ***Back Crawl***

Jack Hourican  
Josh Moran  
Conor Whyte  
Ciarán Flanagan

#### ***Relay***

Jack Hourican  
Josh Moran  
David Power  
James Kenny

#### ***Back Crawl***

Filip Terescak  
Josh Reddy  
Michael O'Neill  
Sean Costelloe

#### ***Relay***

Paul Fitzgerald  
Cillian Kearney  
Alex Gavin  
Sean Coogan

## Board of Management Report

The Board of Management is a representative body which is responsible for the management of the school. It is comprised of 8 members – 2 Patron's nominees, 2 parents' nominees, 2 staff nominees and 2 community nominees. These nominees, while bringing knowledge and experience from their own particular areas, do not 'represent' a particular group on the Board, which makes its decisions based on the rules on which schools operate and the best interest of the school community – children, parents and staff.

The Board has met 4 times so far during this school year – 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 26<sup>th</sup> January and 9<sup>th</sup> March. There are 2 further meetings scheduled – 27<sup>th</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> June. Some of the matters dealt with by the Board this year include:

- School Self Evaluation/School Improvement Plan.
- Child Protection.
- Enrolments.
- Health & Safety.
- Policy Review/Development.
- School Accounts/Finances.
- Croke Park Hours/Haddington Road Agreement.
- Pupil Activities.
- Staff Appointments.
- Staff Development.
- School Maintenance.
- School Uniform.
- PTA Matters.
- Community/Parish Links.
- Use/Hiring of School Premises/Facilities.

If there is any matter you wish to communicate to the Board, please write to the Chairperson of the Board of Management, c/o the school. For further information on the Board of Management see [www.maynoothbns.ie](http://www.maynoothbns.ie) under the "Our School" tab. The next Board Meeting will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

## Basketball Blitz

On Thursday last, the 19th March, a squad of 12 boys and their coach Ms. Toolan, set off for Kilcullen to participate in the Kildare Cumman Na mBunscol Basketball Blitz. The squad from 5th and 6th classes had trained very hard in the weeks leading up to the blitz. This was the first time the school had entered the competition. During the competition the boys displayed great skills and team work, with a superb three pointer scored by Jack Hensey when under great pressure in our final match. Although we did not go home with the gold, it was a great day out for the team and it has whetted their appetite for the school's own basketball league, which they are now enthusiastically looking forward to after the Easter holidays! Well done to the boys and special thanks to Ms. Toolan for all her work with them.



## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Lots of different events took place during the week, including the Puc Fada, Trá na gCeist, Banna Ceoil, Dramas 'as Gaeilge' etc. The week culminated with LÁ GLAS on Friday and there were lots of prizes awarded on the day, the highlight being *An Gaelgóir is Fearr* and *Gléasta is Fearr* for every class.

## Buaiteoirí Seachtain na Gaeilge - Winners Seachtain na Gaeilge

		<b>Gaeilgeoir is fear</b>	<b>Gléasta is fearr</b>
JI	Ms. Fleury	Mícheál Hegarty	Steven Donnelly
JI	Ms. O'Mahoney	Benjamin Stoneham	James Carty
JI	Ms. Sims	Oisín Ó Giolláin	Aodhán Mac Cana
SI	Ms. Patten	Cíaran Verbruggen McGinn	Conor Mescal
SI	Ms. Flynn	Cillian Swift	Jesse Cabral
SI	Ms. Dunning	Anraí Furjanic	Ciarán Ó Fearghael
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Ms. Rafter	Searlas Ó Raghallaigh	Adam O'Dunne
1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Ms. Toolan	Craig Fagan	Martin Hill
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Mr. Fenton	Oluwatobi Baruwa	Noah MacGearailt
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Ms. Murphy	Oisín O'Donnell	Michael Chambers
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class	Mr. Downes	Paul Morrissey	Vishal Tutte
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class	Ms. McMahon	Cillian Ó Nuáin	Yonathan Revah
4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Mr. Davis	Conor Strickland	Ryan Gillen
4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Ms. McMahon	Ben Ó Dáibhís	Blaine de Hochtún
5 <sup>th</sup> Class	Ms. Meehan	David Power	Fionnán Brady
5 <sup>th</sup> Class	Mr. Murphy	Ruairí Coakley	Tom Kelly
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Mr. McGeedy	Lúcás Ó Murnáin	Conchúr Breathnach
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Ms. Kelly	Murcha Ó Doinn	Conchúr MacGearailt
6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Mr. Creevey	Séamus ÓMallúin	Ciarán Breathnach



### Confirmation

A big "congratulations" to all the boys in Sixth Class who made their Confirmation on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015. Bishop Field presided over a very beautiful ceremony. Thanks must go to the boys' teachers Ms. Kelly, Mr. Creevey and Mr. McGeedy who worked so hard in preparing the boys. Also, a huge thanks to the boys in the choir who sang

beautifully, led by Ms. Dunne and accompanied by Mr. Davis.

After the ceremony everybody returned to the school hall for very welcome refreshments which were very kindly provided by PTA volunteers. The tea/coffee etc. really 'hit the spot' and was very much appreciated. Go raibh maith agaibh.

### Mini 7's Football

Having won their regional qualifier two weeks ago, the Mini 7's football team travelled to Ballymany on Wednesday 18th March to contest the Kildare County Finals. The top 8 teams in the county were present and the competition was tough from the very beginning.

Maynooth BNS drew Athy in the quarter final. Games between the two schools have traditionally been very close and this one was no exception. Following sixteen frantic minutes of football the teams were tied at 0-3 apiece. This brought us into extra time and the possibility of a 'golden score' was on the cards. Thankfully this didn't transpire, as a well-worked team move was finished with a sweetly struck point from Fionnán Brady. This was the only score of the extra time period and was enough to get us into the semi-final versus Ballysax.

Unfortunately, in the semi-final Ballysax struck quickly and we conceded two goals in the first minute leaving us with an uphill climb. Huge efforts from all ten players brought us back within 3 points during the second half. However, having 'given everything' the boys just couldn't bridge the gap.

Conor O'Regan was outstanding in goals all day using clever kickouts and pulling off a number of smart saves. There was some tenacious defending by Morgan Dunne and Ciaran Flanagan. Tom Kelly, Cillian Kearney and Sean Costelloe worked tirelessly in midfield and the attacking quartet of Jack Murnane, Rory Byrden, Conor Whyte and Fionnán Brady were a constant threat to the opposition goal. Despite not winning the competition, the boys can be very proud of reaching the last four teams in the county. Well done lads! Míle buíochas to Mr. Creevey and Mr. McGeady for their coaching and training of the boys.

### **Attendance Trophy**

Since the end of January, there has been a Weekly Award for the class with the best attendance. The '*Wall of Fame*' so far is:

#### **Weekly Winners**

23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Mr. Creevey's	6 <sup>th</sup> Class
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Ms. McMahon's	4 <sup>th</sup> Class
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Mr. Murphy's	5 <sup>th</sup> Class
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Ms. Meehan's	5 <sup>th</sup> Class
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Ms. Rafter's	1 <sup>st</sup> Class
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Ms. Sims	Junior Infants
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Ms. Meehan's	5 <sup>th</sup> Class
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Ms. Murphy's	2 <sup>nd</sup> Class

### **Diary Dates**

Don't forget to check out the calendar on the School Website for up to date information on scheduled events in the school. See

[http://www.maynoothbns.ie/blogs/?page\\_id=1449](http://www.maynoothbns.ie/blogs/?page_id=1449)