



## A New Subject for a New Age.

As you may be aware we have been looking at specific curricular areas in the past few years as part of our School Self Evaluation process. In our first year we looked at literacy and from that grew our Guided Reading program. Last year we decided to focus on problem solving in maths. This year, while these two initiatives are ongoing, we have decided to focus on wellbeing. While continuing to provide a robust academic curriculum it is important not to lose sight of what we promise on our school vision statement.

*"In our school we value the uniqueness and importance of every human being. We recognise the rights of our children to equal access to all opportunities in our own school, our community and in society as a whole. We will strive to have all our children realise their full potential in a happy caring environment. We will endeavour to develop a sense of responsibility and adaptability for a changing world. We will work towards cultivating a positive self-worth and respect for the importance of each individual and each community. We will promote a co-operative spirit and good, independent work habits."*

**Empathy, resilience, self knowledge, maturity, independence, justice,**

Let's put these qualities on the agenda in preparing our pupils to take their places in 21st century society. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to empower our children and ensure that each child is the very best version of themselves!

Children today are growing up in a very fast paced

world. It is difficult for them to escape the news on big screens in public places, in the car on the way to and from school, even on their smart phones.

***Empathy,  
resilience,  
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and justice.***

Anxiety is becoming a problem for more and more children. Less time spent in unstructured play activities means that our children are losing out on opportunities to develop their social skills and skills to resolve their little conflicts. We have made a start on looking after the emotional wellbeing of our pupils through the introduction of a number of initiatives. We have

introduced many programmes with a view to increasing our children's wellbeing. Aistear, Paws B (mindfulness), Friends for Life, Rainbows, Internet Safety and Anti Bullying programmes. Some work done, but always more to do.

In order to help us provide the very best we can for our children we would love to hear from you, the parents. Very shortly we will be



sending you a questionnaire.

Please take a few moments to fill it in and return, so we are sure that we are on track with a shared vision for our children. The children will be surveyed too so that the views of all members of the school community are heard.



### Be the Best of Whatever You Are!

If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,  
Be a scrub in the valley – but be  
The best little scrub by the side of the rill;  
Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a bush be a bit of the grass,  
And some highway happier make;  
If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass –  
But the liveliest bass in the lake!

We can't all be captains, we've got to be crew,  
There's something for all of us here.  
There's big work to do, and there's lesser to do,  
And the task you must do is the near.

If you can't be a highway then just be a trail,  
If you can't be the sun be a star;  
It isn't by size that you win or you fail –  
Be the best of whatever you are!

## Concert News

It's that time of the year again and the excitement is reaching fever pitch ! The stage is up, lines are being earned and attics and wardrobes have been raided up and down the parish. Everyone in the senior section is beavering away to make the show a success. Magic, intrigue and much, much more awaits as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. The Concert will run over two nights and a Matinee. We are very grateful to the Parents Association for all the support with the ticket allocation and manning the doors for the duration of the Concert. Our special thanks to all our teachers, SNA's and ancillary staff who give up their time on a voluntary basis to make the show such a success. As usual, children are not required to attend school until 10 am the morning after their performance but supervision is provided for children arriving before this time. A note will be issued giving more precise times. We look forward to entertaining you.



## Raffle Prizes

A raffle is held each night of the concert and we depend greatly on the generosity of parents for raffle prizes. If you can help us out it would be greatly appreciated. Prizes can be handed into the office.



## Club Draw

The Board of Management wishes to thank all our parents for the wonderful support and to remind everyone that it's not too late to return your card, we need all the support possible we can get. The first draw for the year will be held at the end of November



## Hugh Lane Gallery - Conor Scott

Our class won best first class in Dublin. For our class prize, we got to go to the Hugh Lane Gallery in Parnell Square. We got the Dart into Connolly station and saw the Spire on the way to the gallery. We saw Francis Bacon's studio, Sean Scully's art work, a Renoir painting and lots of other paintings. We got ice cream when we got back to the school. We had a great day.



## Stage Builders

A huge thanks to Richard & Gabriel for preparing the stage, to teachers Mr Molloy, Mr Curran and to the parents and their children who came out on Monday night to help build the stage, Padraig Furlong, Sean Guiden, Anne Tighe, Simon Toland, Peter & Harry Small, Ray Farrell, David and Andrew Stenson, Brian and Ben Murnane. It was up in gig time, thanks a million.



## Junior Choir sings at Malahide Santa Parade

The Junior Choir did the school proud on Sunday last when they took part in the Santa Parade in the village. Dressed in their colourful Christmas gear, they sang their hearts out. Thanks very much for coming down to sing, you were brilliant!

- Ms Curry & Ms White



## School Calendar 2015/2016

Senior School Concert:	Mon & Tue, Dec 14 & 15
Christmas Holidays:	Tues Dec 22
	Re-open Wed Jan 6
February Mid-Term:	Thurs Feb 18 & Fri Feb 19
St. Patrick's Day:	Thurs Mar 17
Easter:	Fri Mar 18
	Re-open Mon April 4
Public Holiday	Mon May 2
May Break:	Tues May 3 - Fri May 6
June Bank holiday:	Mon June 6
Summer Holidays:	Thurs June 30

## First Communion Dates

### 2nd Classes - Enrolment Masses

Ms Fogarty & Ms Ryan Sun Oct 11

Ms Clinch & Ms Keogh Sun Oct 18

Class Masses Week Commencing Jan 25

### First Penance Thurs Feb 25

Ms Clinch & Ms Keogh 6.30pm

Ms Fogarty & Ms Ryan 7.30pm

### First Holy Communion Sat May 28

Ms Fogarty & Ms Ryan 10am

Ms Keogh & Ms Clinch 12 noon.

## Confirmation Dates

Ceremony of light - Tues, Feb 2 - 7.30

Sacrament of Confirmation: 11.00

Ms Tisdall, Mr Byrne and Mr Morris - Wed, Mar 9

Mr Molloy, Ms McBride - Thu, Mar 10

[View full school on-line Calendar here](#)

## Helping Hands

Please support our Helping Hands Appeal with non perishable foods and Christmas treats like selection boxes and tinned sweets. For every food donation a hand will be added to the tree. Children watch as we try to reach the star.



## Healthy Lunchboxes

We had a great launch to our healthy lunchbox policy in October with children learning about good food choices. We are all drinking more water now, so all in all we are proud of a good start. The important thing is to keep the momentum going. Rather than preach to the children and police the lunchboxes we aim to educate them to make good choices for themselves. There was a great array of fruit and vegetables in the lunchboxes with many children reporting that they enjoyed trying new foods. The good news is that this is spilling over into the homes with children taking more of an interest in shopping for nutritious foods. The highlight of the week for all was of course Fruity Friday. Thank you to our wonderful Parent's Association for all of the hard work in making this a smooth operation. Please click here for the [Healthy Lunchbox Policy](#). It is important to continue to encourage and support our children around food so please keep the momentum going. Click here for Policy



## Therapy Dogs - Ms Dunne's Senior Infant Class

We had a visit from the Irish therapy dogs. Mike, a Papillion, came to our class with Brenda and his owner Angela. He is a special dog that visits schools, hospitals



and nursing homes. We all got to pet him and say hello. He is four years old and he loves to play and go for long walks. We really enjoyed our visitor to our class

## The Day Sam Maguire Came to visit!

- Rocio Pulpon E3

Wed last was a really exciting day in Grove Road when Sam Maguire came on an official visit to our school. Dean Rock, one of the Dublin footballers, brought the cup to the school. We went to the hall for a special assembly. Some children got to ask him questions and we were allowed wear a Dublin top in that day. It was great to see the cup and everyone was proud of the Dublin team.



## Next Year's Infants

If your child is due to start Junior Infants in Sept 2016, you should call to the office collect an application form. Last day for application is Friday Jan 29th.



## The Giving Tree

The children have decided to do this instead of supporting the shoebox appeal. This year they wish to continue to help children closer to home. Each tag lists a type of person and an age group. There are 9 types of tags in total (Boys and Girls aged 0-3 years, 4-7 years, 8-12 years, teens plus Adults). Families can buy a suitable gift or voucher, or send in unwanted new present and leave it unwrapped with the tag on it under the tree.



## Demons Challenge

Congratulations to the following sixth class pupils who scored 100% in a fiendish spelling demons challenge:

Peter Byrne, David Farrell, Pádraig Monaghan, Cillian O'Toole, Shauna Byrne, Éabha Farrell,

Ava Foran, Anna Shaw, (all Ms McBride) Yasmin McCabe, Ella Johnston.



## Basketball

Following a hectic schedule both the boys and girls senior basketball teams have completed their pool games. The girls top their pool and the boys were 2nd. This means both teams qualify for the finals to be held in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght on December 10th. The boys will face St Mary's NS Haddington Road at 10am, while the girls will play Griffeen Valley Educate Together NS Lucan at 11.30am. We may bring up to 100 spectators and we hope to have the usual strong Ollies supporters along with us. We will arrange for a bus to bring the spectators and the cost will probably be around 6 - 8 euro per child including admission to the NBA. We are very proud of the players and wish them every success in the final.



## Science Week

### And now for the weather.....

In early November, all our Third class pupils got a taste of what it is like to be a national weather forecaster ! One of our parents, Joanna Donnelly is a meteorologist with MET Eireann and she came in to share her expertise with our pupils. In an exciting hands-on workshop to mark national Science Week, Joanna showed our Third class pupils some of the key elements of measuring the weather



and predicting future weather patterns. The pupils got to see and use special equipment for measuring rainfall, wind and air temperature. Joanna showed them how all these measurements are used to produce the daily weather forecasts on RTE.

The pupils were very interested in all the equipment and to see how a professional meteorologist works. Our 3rd class pupils are now trying to figure out if they can get the current mild Winter temperatures to continue !

**Malahide United Player of the week Aidan**

Harding with his trophy Well done Aidan. Keep it up!!



## Irish Dancing

Mollie Elderfield, 4th Class, recently danced her Mean Grads in Feis Tyrrelstown. She got 2 first and a 2nd on the day !! "I was so happy", she says, " I love Irish Dancing". Well done Mollie, Riverdance is on the horizon. Keep up the practicing. aon, dó, trí and aon, dó, trí

## Exploring Our Scientific World

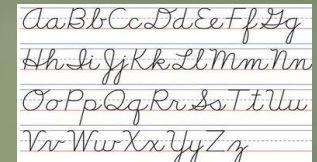
Pupils throughout the school have been busy investigating their environment over the past few weeks. Junior classes enjoyed exploring the school grounds with their buddies and enjoying the beautiful Autumn foliage. To mark national Science Week many of the classes carried out hands-on Science experiments. Topics covered included magnetism, electricity, forces, air pressure and the digestive system. We were delighted two of our parents conducted workshops during Science week. Joanna Donnelly and Dentist Margarete Duncan spoke to 1st Class about the importance of cleaning your teeth and healthy eating. Senior classes explored topical Science issues with the help of a special Irish Times Science supplement.

They also learned about famous Irish scientists. So from Junior Infants to Sixth we have many budding young scientists in the school ! Keep investigating !



## Cursive Writing

Congratulations to the following children whose cursive writing featured on our Board of Honour recently. Well done! Lara Scanlon, Ava Dolan, Will O Mathuna (all PC9), Hannah O'Keefe (PC8), Harry O'Brien, Emma Toland (PC7), Finn Doran. Zoe Quigley, Emma Schaefer (PC4), Cian Russell (PC10). Lydia Costello, Zack O'Leary-Fraad, Aoife Mitchell (PC1).



## Cycle Training

The sixth classes are currently taking part in a six week Road Safety and Cycling Training course. This course is part of our green school travel programme and takes place every year. It is partially funded by Fingal Co Co. Children have been braving the cold windy weather for an hour each week under the guidance of Sam the cycling instructor .Hopefully next June they will get an opportunity to put their skills to practise with our annual cycle to Malahide Castle. The aim of the course is to give the children the skills and confidence to cycle to school every day.



## WOW Day

Our next WOW day is Wed Dec 2. Parents should encourage children to walk all the way, park n stride, cycle/scoot or take public transport to school .Parents will be notified of times and venue of walking buses by email on Tues 1st Dec.





A new feature in our School News will carry the names of children from each class who have used their Gaeilge during the month. "Gaeilgeoir na Miosa" Award will be given to the pupil in each class who has worked very hard to use their Cúpla Focal during the month. Well done to the first 35 recipients of the Award

## Gaeilgeoir Na Miosa Mí Dheireadh Fómhair

### Naoínáin Sóisear

Ruby Colville  
Eve March  
Dylan Brien  
Oisin Ó Laighléis

### Rang a h-Aon

Jack Lynch  
Roibeard ÓDiomsaigh  
Lola Smyth  
Mia Nicholson

### Rang a Trí

Daniel Keogh  
Gracie Law  
Euan Dodds  
Rose Boyle

### Rang a Cúig

Elena Brady  
Matthew Hanley  
Cillian de Búrca  
Eamon Mac Nicholas

### Naoínáin Sinsear

Jack March  
Zoe Davis Ryan  
Conor Doyle  
Louise O'Brien

### Rang a Dó

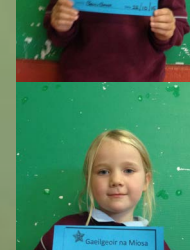
Aimee Fayle  
Muireann Quirke  
Róisín Dempsey  
Kiela Scott

### Rang a Ceathair

Hugh Johnson  
Aodán Mac Giollaighda  
Craig Byrne  
Cormac O' Riain

### Rang a Sé

Dan O'leary  
Saoirse Lynch  
Ella Johnson  
Cillian O'Toole  
Kayleigh Keane



Is liom Gaeilge



















