

Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa

Easter Newsletter - April 2023

Stick it to the Man!



WOW, just WOW to all the cast and crew on the absolutely incredible performances of our school musical 'School of Rock' in Draíocht Theatre! We are so proud of all involved! A truly mesmerising performance by an amazingly talented cast. A special thank you to all staff and parents involved over four magical days, which will live long in the memory of all involved!

Athletics Meet in Porterstown

The school athletics team had two meetings in March as part of the Fingal League in Porterstown Park. A selection of children from 3rd to 6th class ran over four distances. On their maiden runs, Amelia Spulber and Jake Duffy from 3rd and 4th class respectively, blitzed the field to take emphatic wins! There were many other great performances over the course of the two race days, which concluded with 9 podium finishes. Congratulations to the entire team on a brilliant set of results and performances. A special thank you to Mr. Madden, Ms. Mulcahy and Ms. O'Dea for their training and preparation of the athletics team.

NCC Rehearsals



The National Children's Choir consists of over 8,000 children from all over the country. We have had our three regional rehearsals here in our P.E hall. Ms. Murray conducted the children from

multiple schools. Ms. Donohoe played the piano. During our rehearsals, 3 schools came to rehearse with us in our school. The majority of children have voted 'Ar Scáth a Chéile' to be their favourite song out of all of the songs we are singing. Our concert will take place on the 20th of April 2023 in The National Basketball Arena in Tallaght. We are so excited to perform for our families and friends!
by Casey Lawlor & Nora Mulkurti (Ms. Murray's class)

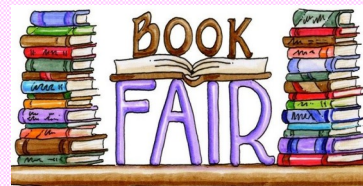
New Chess Club

Over 80 children have taken part in our very popular chess club. Our amazing teachers Ms. Murray and Ms. Fagan very kindly give up their lunch breaks every Tuesday and Thursday to teach us how to play chess.

It is a great opportunity for children to interact with each other and learn how to play chess. So far, we have learned several moves including Castling, Scholar's Mate and Fool's Mate. It is great playing chess against many different children from 5th & 6th class. We hope to take part in mini tournaments and eventually take part in tournaments with pupils from different schools.
by Noah Byrne (Ms. Fagan's class)



Book Fair 2023



Due to covid restrictions, we had been unable to host our Book Fair since 2019. However, we were delighted to welcome back our annual school Book

Fair last month. We had a busy and exciting week. World Book Day took place during Book Fair week, and there was lots of reading, storytelling and book related activities throughout the school during the course of the week. We all liked the D.E.A.R., Drop Everything And Read, activity in particular. We look forward to our 2024 Book Fair!

A huge "THANK YOU" to our Parents' Association. Several members of our Parents' Association gave their time in order to seamlessly operate the Book Fair for the week, managing all stock and ordering responsibilities. We would be unable to hold our Book Fair without their invaluable assistance. We are so grateful to them. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir!!

Dancing with the Champions!

We were so fortunate to have Carl and Emily visit our school this term. We had a wonderful time seeing them perform and were thrilled for them when they won the final of *Dancing with the Stars*! Thanks for answering our questions and sharing your talents with us all. We loved *Gangnam Style*!



School Attendance

Our School Attendance Strategy is published on our website at <http://sacredhearthuntstown.weebly.com/attendance-strategy.html>. It is vital that children have high school attendance levels and attend punctually.

Please note the following excerpt from the Strategy:

- If your child is absent from school, parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide a note of explanation for the teacher either on Aladdin or in your child's journal. If you bring your child to the doctor, please obtain a medical cert and give a copy to the class teacher for attendance records.
- If a child is absent without any communication from parent(s)/guardian(s), after the third day, the class teacher will send you a message on Aladdin asking after your child. Please respond to the teacher's message with an explanation for your child's absence and an expected date for their return to school.
- If, during the school year, your child reaches 10 days absence from school, a text will be sent alerting you to this.
- If, during the school year, your child reaches 15 days absence from school, a text will be sent alerting you to this.
- If, during the school year, your child reaches 20 days absence from school, a text will be sent alerting you to this. The school is then obliged to inform EWS (Tusla's Educational Welfare Service) of your child's attendance.
- Where the school has a concern about your child's attendance, the class teacher, Deputy Principal or Principal may contact you to discuss or invite you to attend a meeting in the school.

Late arrivals/early collections:

- If your child is late for school or is being collected early, parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide a note of explanation for the teacher either on Aladdin or in your child's journal.
- All late arrivals and early collections will be recorded on Aladdin.

When should a child return to school after illness?

- The average child has 6 to 12 illnesses per year, so sickness is a part of normal childhood. It can be difficult to balance the child's school attendance with the risk of spreading the illness to others in school. Please see the advice below from the HSE.

When should my child return to school/childcare?

Logos: HSE (Building a Better Health Service), Searchis Síolta Níós Fear é Forbairt, hpsc

Chicken Pox When scabs are dry	Conjunctivitis No need to stay out*	Diarrhoea or Vomiting 48 hours after the last episode	Flu 5 days after start of illness	Glandular Fever No need to stay out*
Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay out*	Head Lice No need to stay out*	Impetigo When scabs are dry or 24 hours after starting antibiotics	Measles 4 days after rash appears	Mumps 5 days after swelling appears
Scabies After first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after starting antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay out*	Threadworms No need to stay out*	Whooping Cough 5 days after starting antibiotics or 21 days after start of illness

This information is based on the Management of Infectious Diseases in Schools guidance document.

*No need to stay out if child is well but school or childcare provider should be informed.

All-Ireland Champion!



Congratulations to Daniel from Ms. Lee's 5th class on the amazing achievement of representing Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa in the All-Ireland Swimming Championships on Saturday 25th of March at the National Aquatics Centre in Blanchardstown.

Having qualified through the Leinster Championships in January, Daniel won two qualifying rounds to reach the finals in both the 50m freestyle and 50m backstroke. Daniel won both finals and is now a double All-Ireland Minor Schools Champion for 2023, having taken home two gold medals! The future of swimming is bright for this All-Ireland Champion and we are so proud of his great achievement! Comhghairdeas Daniel!

Assembly & Dismissal Arrangements

Parents/Guardians are reminded of the following assembly and dismissal arrangements:

- School grounds open for pupils, parents and guardians at approximately 8.30am.
- No responsibility is accepted for children arriving before that time.
- Classes commence at 8.40am for Coiscéim classes and at 8.50am for Junior Infants – 6th classes.
- Classes finish at 1.20pm for the Junior Coiscéim group, 1.30pm for Junior and Senior Infants, 2.20pm for the Senior Coiscéim group and 2.30pm for 1st – 6th Classes.
- Children/parents/guardians accessing the school through the front gate should only do so through the pedestrian entrance.

It is vital that children are punctual in arriving to school, however in some cases children are arriving to school too early, before the school gates open. This is an unnecessary health and safety risk for these children. Parents/guardians are requested not to send children to the school before the stated times.

Children arriving for school in the mornings should line up outside their classroom or in their designated line up area and remain there until their classroom door is opened to receive them. On very wet mornings the classroom doors will be opened prior to 8.50am and the children will be allowed into their classrooms.

Parents/guardians/minders collecting infant children should be at the school no later than 1.20pm for the Junior Coiscéim group and 1.30pm for Junior and Senior Infants. 1st and 2nd class children must be collected at 2.30pm. Parents of children in all other classes who wish to have their children escorted home, should make arrangements to have them met at their exit door and the person to escort them should be at the school no later than 2.20pm for the Senior Coiscéim group and at 2.30pm for 3rd – 6th Classes, as the school cannot accept responsibility for children after their dismissal time.

Parents/guardians and children should dismount from their bicycles, scooters, flickers etc. before entering the school grounds. For safety reasons, nobody should cycle or scoot through the church car park or school grounds at any time. There is no smoking or vaping allowed on the school grounds. No dogs are allowed on the school grounds, apart from assistance dogs.

Sincere thanks from the Board of Management of the school for your cooperation on these matters.

Fond Farewell

It is with a heavy heart that the staff and pupils of our school bid a fond farewell to Colette Mooney and wish her well on her new adventure ahead. Colette has been a Special Needs Assistant in our school for the past 11 years.

Colette's tireless work and dedication supporting children with additional needs throughout that time has been immense. The school community in Huntstown would like to wish Colette well in her new position in a school closer to her home. *Go raibh mile maith agat Colette agus go n-éirí go geal leat.*

School Calendar 2022/23 – Term 3

Easter Break: Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April 2023 inclusive.
School reopens on Monday 17th April.

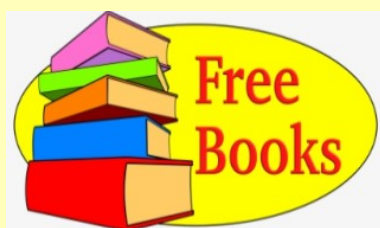
May Public Holiday: Monday 1st May 2023.

Primary Language Curriculum staff training day: School will close for an additional date on Monday 8th May 2023 to facilitate an in-service training day.

June Mid-term Break: Friday 2nd, Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th June 2023.

School will close for the summer holidays at 12 noon on Friday 30th June.

The school calendar for 2023/2024 is published below.



Free Books Scheme for Primary Schools

Great news in these challenging times for parents/guardians, with the introduction of the Free Primary Schoolbooks Scheme from September 2023. It will remove the cost from families of funding schoolbooks for children enrolled in primary and special schools. Parents/Guardians will no longer be required to make any contribution towards the cost of schoolbooks, including the cost of workbooks and copybooks. *Go hiontach!*

School Calendar 2023/24



Sacred Heart of Jesus NS
2023/2024 School Calendar

August 2023							September 2023							October 2023						
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November 2023							December 2023							January 2024						
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							31													
February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
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25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													
May 2024							June 2024							July 2024						
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26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
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First day of school year



School holidays



12 noon closure

- The school will open for the 2023/2024 academic year on Wednesday, 30th August 2023.
- Where contingency arrangements are required to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures the length of the Easter break may be reduced by remaining open up to and including Wednesday, 27th March 2024.
- Primary Curriculum in-service training for teachers will take place during the 2023/2024 academic year. The dates for school closures to facilitate this in-service training will be communicated to parents/guardians when they have been finalised.
- School year will finish on Friday, 28th June 2024.

Friendship Week



Friendship Week was a wonderful experience for the children this term. This year we placed an emphasis on kindness and good manners towards others. The children thoroughly enjoyed the daily activities and competitions throughout the week.

Each teacher and SNA was tasked with looking out for acts of kindness or lovely manners and highlight such positive behaviour with one of the many prizes for the children. Our wonderful Student Council was a huge help during the week and everyone enjoyed the art competition to colour in a kindness poster. A special thank you to Ms. Dooley and Ms. J. Gillan for organising this year's event!

Sport is back with a bang!

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that sport has returned to Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Íosa this term. Our school senior boys and girls Gaelic football teams have taken part in the Fingal Leagues, our 3rd and 4th classes have been to swimming in the National Aquatics Centre and our school soccer team have been competing in the Dublin West League again this season. Well done to all involved and thank you to the teachers who give up their personal time to train and attend matches!

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Follow us on <https://twitter.com/sacredheartns>

