

February Newsletter

February 16th 2024

School News

Wellbeing week: was a major success and was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. It comprised of mindfulness activities, yoga with Jennifer, Dignity and Respect at Work training (staff), homework free evening and Drop everything and Meditate. The week culminated with our first ever Grandparents Day, which was a great success. Thank you especially to Elaine Phelan, Robert Leonard, Noreen Keane and Mary Quinn, who co-ordinated the week, to our support staff and Hilary and Martin who all helped with teas/coffees, the car park and welcoming our visitors. The children learned so much from their grandparents and it was a fantastic opportunity to be able to show our appreciation for them. All our pupils were a credit to their teachers and families in how they welcomed and respected their grandparents.

Grandparents Day



Yoga with Jennifer and our new stages

Thank you: sincere thanks to our **Parent Teacher Association** who kindly donated €2,000 towards the school for the purchase of maths equipment and funding towards the purchase of our **6th class pupil graduation hoodies**, which have all now been ordered. We can't wait to see our 6th class pupils modelling the hoodies once they arrive. Our **maths resources** will support more active learning for all our pupils. Thank you also to the parent/guardian body for the staff Christmas present of a visit from **The Rolling Donut**. It was a really lovely January treat for all during wellbeing week. Finally, our **stages** above (also donated by the PTA) have all arrived. We hope to try them out during Seachtain na Gaeilge performances. They are a really wonderful resource to have in the school. The support of all parents/guardians is greatly appreciated.

Hot meal scheme: Maynooth Educate Together NS was shortlisted for the Hot Meal Scheme. The application for funding is made on a yearly basis and is not guaranteed. We have been following the Dept. of Social protection guidelines in order to get the scheme up and running and to ensure that we have the correct space and resources to run the scheme. This has taken many months and much research. You can learn more about the scheme [HERE](#) and more details for parents/guardians will follow once available. We hope to have the scheme up and running after the Easter Holidays.

Parent/guardian survey: Thank you to everyone who completed our extra-curricular activity survey. The findings will be shared once collated.

Cake sale: Well done to Aimee and the student council who are running a cake sale on 14th February. All proceeds will go towards funding an outdoor classroom. There has been great work put into decorating the hall for the occasion.



Upcoming Events/Closures This Term:

February Midterm- School closure February 15th and 16th

March 7th World Book Day: The children can dress up as a character from a book (optional)

March 11th-15th Seachtain na Gaeilge: Ceoil, craic, rince, visits from pupils in Scoil Ui Fhiaich

March 15th Lá Glas: The children can wear green or colours of Ireland (optional)

March 17th and 18th St. Patrick's Day and additional school closure

April 15th-19th: Inclusion and Diversity Week

Easter Break: Friday 22nd March. Return to school on Monday April 8th

CLASS NEWS

Internet Safety Day: Our pupils learned all about staying safe online last week. Thank you to Dave O' Mahony who co-ordinated a very informative day for our pupils. The workshops gave plenty of opportunity for discussion and learning. Check out the fabulous Internet safety posters designed by our 5th class pupils below.



Aimee's 4th Class enjoyed doing some mindfulness colouring of their names during wellbeing week. **Senior Infants (Aoibhin's class)** and **Sixth class (Laoise's class)** have been joining one another for paired reading every week in our library. The children have been showing off their fantastic reading skills.



Many classes including **Carolina's senior infants**, were busy making pancakes on Tuesday 13th. As a follow up, the children engaged in procedural writing to share with others how they made their batter, cooked the pancakes and added delicious toppings.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pencil Bollards are being put in place by Kildare County Council outside Maynooth Educate Together NS over the coming days. This is an attempt to slow traffic and to improve road and pedestrian safety. The Council also intend to increase signage outside the school.



Kind regards,

Lorraine Murray

Principal