

**Scoil Mhuire
Beann Eadair**

Scoil Mhuire Howth Primary School March 2018 Newsletter

**Volume 1,
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Date**



Accommodation

Following on from months of consultation, negotiation and setbacks a number of issues are at last nearing resolution:

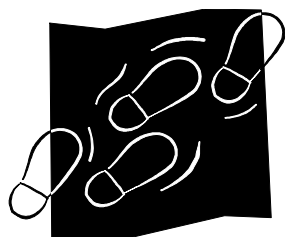
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The transfer of a small area of land from Fingal Co. Council to St. Lawrence Trust (owners of the site on which the school is built) is necessary in order for the school extension project to get the go ahead. Because of land registration issues on the part of Fingal, the transfer was stalled. It now appears that Fingal has, at last, got its registration papers in order. There are other technical terms and conditions being worked out between the two legal teams but these will soon be resolved.

During mid term I was in contact with DES Capital Appraisal Unit to get assurance that money pledged last April (€708,800) was still ring fenced and to press for funding towards additional costs (inflation / rising construction costs / demolition extras / site abnormal charges etc.). The official in charge indicated that she is to move our project for approval – but has since indicated that this could take anything up to 10 weeks.

In order to fund any hidden costs of the building I met with Jenny Hutton, Ashley Wright, Sandra O'Rourke, Ashley Sheridan and Marina Fagan to set up a Build A Brick fundraising campaign. We will call it 'A Pathway through Primary' – invoking the journey undertaken by our pupils from Junior Infants to 6th class while also representing the physical pathway made by sponsored engraved bricks. A number of teachers are to be co-opted on to the team. Details later.



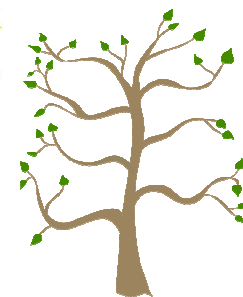
Pathway through Primary

Special points of interest:

- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Rainbows
- School Events
- Child Protection
- Calendar March—June



Congratulations to Rosie May Penn Chester overall winner in the recent Tree Week Poetry Competition. We are all so proud of you Rosie May.



Wellness Poster Winners

Junior Poster Winners:

Rhosyn Darkin 2nd class
Annabel Zheng Snr. Inf.
Carla Whately Jun. Inf.

Senior Winners:

Lily Buckowski 4th class
Charlotte Maguire 3rd class
Lily Mae Penn chester 5th class

Teaching Practice

Howth Primary School welcomed a number of student teachers this term. We hope Ms. Emer Torpey, (Past Pupil) Ms. Liz Tate, Mr. Mark Brennan, Ms. Caoimhe Faughnan, Ms. Ciara Moran, Ms. Eva Furey, Ms. Leona Gaughan & Ms. Emma Rossi all found their stay a productive and happy one. We wish them every success in their future teaching careers. I would like to thank our teachers for facilitating these placements.

Ar aghaidh le chéile!

Rainbows Ireland

Thanks to Ms. Keogh for all her ongoing work on setting up this school as a Rainbows Ireland Centre. Rainbows is a nationwide support service for children who are affected by bereavement or family separation issues. Six of our teachers—Ms. Keogh, Ms.

We would like to thank those parents who have sent in their voluntary contribution. As a Voluntary Non fee-paying Primary School we are highly dependent financially on the monies raised through the Voluntary Contribution. We are most grateful for the generous response from parents to date, however the sums so far received are inadequate to meet the shortfall in day to day operating expenses and Capital Expenditure out-

Child Protection

Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and a C.P. Risk Assessment have been compiled in line with recent DES Child First directives.

We closed the school for mandated staff training on Child Protection on Monday 5th March.

I would like to thank Board members and Parents Association representatives who joined with our school staff on the Training Day.

Copies of these documents are available on request.

Duane, Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Mannix, Ms. Ridge and Ms. Slattery have attended weekend training over the past two months. Watch this space for details of the start of this special programme!!!



Voluntary Contribution

goings. We have a wonderful and vibrant school community.

Howth Primary School has superb facilities. Your financial support is essential in order that this learning environment can be maintained.

Thank you!



Easter Camp

Mr. Burke's Easter Camp takes place next week—starting on Monday 26th and through until Friday 30th.

Hopefully the weather will stay fine and everyone can enjoy all the activities on offer



Enrolment 2018

We have received sufficient enrolment applications for two Junior Infant classes 2018/2019. Information Meeting for new parents will take place on Tuesday 15th May. Thanks to our school secretary, Ms. Joan Lyons, for her work in processing the enrolment applications.

Standardised Testing

Annual Standardised testing for 1st—6th will take place in May. Please endeavour to have your child present at school and if for any reason your child will be absent please inform the class teacher in advance. The teachers of pupils in sacrament classes will be working around their busy schedule so may have to do them at a later date. The two tests being administered will be the Sigma T testing mathematical skills and the Drumcondra Reading test which tests reading, vocabulary and comprehension. More information is available for parents on the ncca website:

http://ncca.ie/en/Curriculum_and_Assessment/Early_Childhood_and_Primary_Education/Primary-Education/Assessment/Leaflets_for_parents/Leaflets_-_Standardised_testing.html

The pupils in Senior Infants will so a MIST test which tests literacy skills. The results are not standardized but inform the teacher of a child's ability in literacy.

The results of the standardized tests will be on your child's report. For the Drumcondra Reading and Sigma T, scores will be in a STen format (see NCCA website) click on the link below

http://ncca.ie/en/Curriculum_and_Assessment/Early_Childhood_and_Primary_Education/Primary-Education/Assessment/Leaflets_for_parents/RRD01251A-NCCA-ENGLISH-Tip-Sheet-STEN.pdf

Sacramental Preparation

This is a hectic time for our pupils in Ms. Fagan Barrett's, Ms. Maher's, and Mr. Burke's classes with regards to preparation for the sacraments of Holy Communion (12th May) and Confirmation (25th May).

Our school choir, under the baton of Ms. Fox and Ms. Breen have also been very

busy getting ready for these important occasions.

Sacrament of Reconciliation for 2nd class took place on Thursday 15th March and the Service of Light for 6th class on Thursday 22nd April.



Stations of the Cross

Our boys and girls are practicing hard under the guiding hand of Pat Guinan and her team for the Stations of the Cross which will take place on Good Friday 30th March 2018.



Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí a lán imeachtaí ar siúil again le linn Seachtain na Gaeilge I Scoil Mhuire chun úsáid na teanga a spreagadh sa scoil. Seachtain na Gaeilge this year was marked by several special events / activities in Howth Primary School culminating in our annual Céilí Mór in the school hall. On

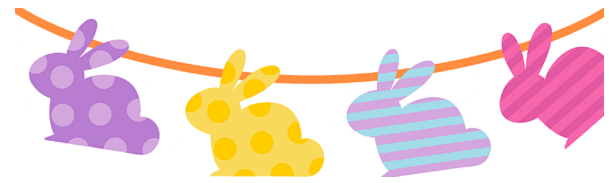
that day, our school was transformed with pupils, teachers and staff all wearing something green. From Junior Infants to Sixth Class every child took part in our annual Céilí Mór. Buíochas mór chuig Mr. Burke who coordinated this event and to Ms. Reilly and Ms. Heerey who

co-ordinated Irish dancing practices for each class prior to the big day.

Ni neart le cur le chéile



Calendar March—June 2018



March :

Thursday	22nd	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Thursday	22nd	Service of Light (6th Class)	7.30 p.m.
Friday	23rd	School closes for Easter Holidays	12 noon

April:

Monday	9th	School re-opens after Easter Holidays	
Thursday	26th	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	

May:

Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th		Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed
Saturday	12th	First Holy Communion (2nd Class)	11.00 a.m.
Thursday	24th	Meeting of the Teaching Staff	
Friday	25th	Sacrament of Confirmation (6th Class)	

June:

Friday 1st & Monday 4th		Public Holiday/School Holiday	School Closed
Wednesday	27th	Graduation (6th Class)	
Friday	29th	School Closes for Summer Holidays	12 noon

School Events—Recent/Current/Ongoing

March 13th	Green School Water Pollution presentations for all classes
March 15th	Fire Drill
March 15th	Tráth na gCeist—thanks to Mr. Burke
March 15th	Sacrament of Reconciliation. Well done to Ms. Fagan Barratt, Ms. Maher and to all the boys and girls of our two 2nd classes
March 15th	Our Soccer team played in Spar 5 Aside 2018. thanks to Ms. Anderson and Mr. Flynn
March 16th	The school turned Green - Céili Mór 2018!!!
March 21st	Anti Bullying Talk with Jenny Ryan
March 22nd	Our Athletics team compete in Newbridge. Thanks to Ms. Anderson and Mr. Flynn

Ongoing events: GAA/WOW/Music Makes Magic / Tin Whistle / Chess / Stations of the Cross /After School Club / Sport trí Gaeilge

