



## Scoil Naomh Feichín Termonfeckin



### School Newsletter – April 2018



**Please make note of the following dates.....**

#### MAY

May 3<sup>rd</sup> (Thurs) – No Uniform Day (Hannah Donnelly)  
May 4<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) – School Closed  
May 7<sup>th</sup> (Mon.) – School Closed (Public Holiday)  
May 12<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) – First Communion 11am  
May 15<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) – School Photographer  
May 25<sup>th</sup> – (Fri.) – School Closed for Referendum  
May 26<sup>th</sup> – (Sat.) – Confirmation 11am  
May 30<sup>th</sup> – (Wed.) – School Photographer  
May 31<sup>st</sup> – (Thurs) – 6<sup>th</sup> Classes School Tour

#### JUNE

June 4<sup>th</sup> (Mon.) – School Closed (Public Holiday)  
June 5<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) – Board of Management Meeting  
June 7<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) – Science Fair in Belfast – 6<sup>th</sup> classe  
June 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Classes School Tour  
June 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) – Junior Infants Vaccinations  
June 14<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) – 5<sup>th</sup> Class School Tour  
June 14<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) – 5<sup>th</sup> Class School Tour  
June 15<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Classes School Tour  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri.) – Jun & Sen Infants School Tour

***June 26<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) – School closes at 12.30pm for Summer Holidays***

#### SCHOOL BOOK RENTAL SCHEME

Mrs Hurley is coordinating the Book Rental Scheme in our school again this year. It's great to see so many of our school families paying for school books in this way as it can be difficult to pay the full amount in one payment at the end of this term. We will not be able to order books that have not been paid for so please ensure that the correct payment is made in good time for us to get the order in by mid-June. Remember that you can also pay directly into the school bank account if that suits.



#### First Communion / Confirmation

We are all very much looking forward to First Communion and Confirmation in our school. We hope that all of the families involved have a great day and we are very grateful to the teachers for all of the work they do to prepare the children. The Parents Association have made arrangements for receptions after the special Masses on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. See page 4 of the newsletter for more details.



#### Classes & Teachers for 2018/19

Over the next week or two we will be matching teachers to class groups for the new school year. It appears that we will have approximately 40 Junior Infant pupils starting with us at the end of August so we will divide this number into two classes of 20 pupils. An Information Meeting for the parents/guardians of these new pupils will be arranged soon and will take place in early June.

#### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be visiting our school to take photographs of individual pupils and siblings on May 15<sup>th</sup> & May 30<sup>th</sup>. He will take pictures of pupils who have received their First Communion on May 15<sup>th</sup> as well as the Junior Infant Class. On May 30<sup>th</sup> he will take pictures of pupils who have been confirmed and also the 6<sup>th</sup> class groups.



Please download the textaparent app so that you can receive messages from the school and also see the school calendar on your phone.

By downloading this FREE app you will help the school save money.

Thank you.



New Set Down Area



Roofing the Building



New Sports & Assembly Hall

## School Construction NEWS

Construction work on our new school extension is ongoing. Due to the bad weather over the winter and spring, the programme of work has been delayed by a number of weeks. At the last site meeting a revised programme was agreed with the contractors and architects. We hope that the new building will be ready for the new school year and that work in the existing school will be finished before the end of 2018. It is hoped that a number of classes can move into the new building in September. The other classes will remain in the temporary classrooms until refurbishment work has been completed on the existing school. Thank you for your cooperation and patience while this work is going on.



### SCHOOL CHESS CLUB

Another great year for our school chess club with about 50 pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> class to 6<sup>th</sup> class involved. Our school team played in the Drogheda Area Primary Schools League and the players did really well with 3-2 wins over Le Cheile ETNS and Scoil Mhuire gan Smal, Cartown, a draw against Duleek BNS and a narrow 2-3 loss against St. Joseph's BNS, Drogheda. The presentation of school prizes will take place next month in Drogheda.

Our own internal school league is ongoing and we will award plaques to the class champions and runners-up in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

Sincere thanks to Eileen & Seamus Rushe who baked the most amazing "Chess Cake" for the chess kids to enjoy at the end of season chess party.

### Scoil Naomh Feichin Summer Camp

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing construction work at our school, it will not be possible to host the summer camp this July. I'm sure that the teachers will be back up and running in 2019.



### **Family Fun Table Quiz**

Last July, 32 year old John Byrne, dad of Seamus Rushe (5<sup>th</sup> Class) passed away in his sleep following a seizure related to his epilepsy. As a result, Seamus and his family have been fundraising for Epilepsy Ireland & Make a Wish Foundation for the last few months and have raised €12,000 so far. Seamus would like to invite his school friends and families to a **Fun Table Quiz on this Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> in Keogh's Lounge, Monasterboice at 3pm.**

Teams will be made up of 4 people with a maximum of two adults per table – The contribution is €5 per person and there are lots of prizes to be won! The questions are aimed at children 10 years and upwards. Any queries, contact Eileen Rushe.... 087-7207632.



#### **Boxing Champion Breanna**

Congratulations to 6<sup>th</sup> class pupil, Breanna Johnston, (Tredagh Boxing Club) who was crowned U-14 Leinster Champion earlier this month.

### **Leinster Primary Schools Tennis League**

Well done to the boys and girls who played their first two matches in this year's primary schools league last week. The team, made up of Jake Fahey, Peter & Anna McNulty, Hugo & Alice Johnston and Marabelle Ortega played Donabate-Portrane ETNS and Le Cheile ETNS at a sunny Termonfeckin Tennis Club. Our pupils played extremely well winning all of their matches against Donabate-Portrane. However the players from Le Cheile, Mornington, proved a little too strong and their school was the overall winner on the day. The next match in the league is away to Curragha NS on Tuesday next.

We are also planning to play a one day triangular tournament with Scoil Mhuire gan Smal, Cartown and St Peter's NS, Drogheda, on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Margaret Drew for her excellent coaching and also Peter McNulty for his support on the day of the event.



### **Child Protection & Safeguarding**

*All staff training related to the new Child Protection Procedures, School Risk Assessment and the Development of a Child Safeguarding Statement was completed when the school was closed due to heavy snow before Easter. The Department had previously instructed schools to close for two half days or a full day so that staff could complete this training and work on a Safeguarding Statement together. However, the teachers agreed to carry out this work during the period when the school was closed to avoid disruption in the busy third term. All members of school staff have completed the TUSLA training as well as the training provided by the Department of Education & Skills.*



#### **"Congratulations Ms Carroll"**

Best wishes to Ms Emma Carroll who married Paraic Smith from Clogherhead just before the Easter break. Her first class pupils were delighted to welcome the new Mrs Smith back to school after the holidays.

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018-19**

The School Calendar for the next school year will be available soon and will be posted on the school website – Parents' Page

### **CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

The Child Safeguarding Statement of Scoil Naomh Feichin is now available on the school website and is also displayed on the noticeboard in the entrance hallway of the school.

### **TEACHERS & CLASSES 2018-19**

A decision about teachers and class groups will also be made shortly and will be published on the school website.

### **Board of Management**

At a recent board meeting the BoM ratified the updated Physical Education Policy and also reviewed and ratified the school's Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Safeguarding Statement and School Risk Assessment Report. The appointment of Mrs Cassidy to the post of Assistant Principal II was also approved.



### **Gaelic Games at Scoil Naomh Feichin**

Coaching of Gaelic Football (Mrs Ryan's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class) and Hurling (Mrs Sweeney's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class) has been organised for this term at school. Both classes are taken for an hour of coaching each week by a qualified games coach employed by Louth County Board.

As we currently have no playing field at the school due to ongoing construction work, Gaelic training has been organised by Mrs Fahy & Ms McAuley on Tuesday afternoons at St Fechin's GAA Grounds at Beaulieu. A bus is hired each week to take the children to Beaulieu for training. Many thanks to Matthew Ronan and Ronan O'Gorman for assisting with the coaching of players.



Both boys and girls school teams have been competing in the Cumann na mBunscol leagues in recent weeks. Both teams did well in the 7-a-side blitzes that were played in Monasterboice and the boys' team will compete in the upcoming Peadar Ó Céarnaigh 13-a-side league which is played during the months of May and June. Four pupils from 6<sup>th</sup> class have been selected to represent the school later this week in the annual primary schools Skills Competition in Darver. Cian Cleary & Jayne Smith will compete in the Gaelic Football skills event while Mahon Ronan will represent the school in the Hurling skills competition and Aoife O'Gorman will do the same in the Camogie skills test. Best of luck to all our players.....

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**



Hopefully the weather will start to improve over the next few weeks and we will have warmer days. At this time of the year many of the children prefer to wear shorts and polo shirts. The following guidelines should be followed for school summer wear:

- Shorts must be navy – no denims or sports/football shorts.
- Polo shirts must be white.
- School tracksuits may be worn.

### **No Uniform Day – Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Following a request by a number of parents we have decided to have a "***Wear Red Day***" and allow the pupils to dispense with their school uniforms for one day to show their support for Drogheda teenager, Hannah Donnelly. Schools are being asked to raise some money to help making changes to her home so that she can return to live in her own house with her family. Hannah has a rare condition called Apert Syndrome and has had over 40 operations in her short life. She is currently in ICU in Temple Street Hospital but desperately wants to return home. Our pupils can help by donating €1 each on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Parents Association**

- After the success of last year's fun walk to the beach, we are planning a similar fundraiser this year, as soon as the sun comes out to play! All funds raised this year will go towards the planned new defibrillator for the school.
- The Parents Association would like to invite the families of First Communion and Confirmation pupils to a reception hosted in **An Grianán**, after each ceremony. A special thank you to An Grianán for providing the facilities while the school hall is out of action. We will of course need help baking and on the day, which we will be in touch on very soon.

