



St. Louis GNS

October 2017 Vol 2



Website

To stay in touch with our news, events and activities, log onto the **school's website at**

www.stlouisgns.ie

Check out the Educational & fun resources in our **Learning Zone.**

Positive Mental Health Day

Today, Thursday 26th October, was Positive Mental Health Day in St. Louis GNS. All classes took part in a variety of activities to help boost mood and self-esteem, including: walk and talk trails, mindfulness sessions led by 6th class pupil, Hannah Pourani, yard mix-up at break times, mindful colouring in the classroom and lots of other fun assignments. We are very grateful to Mrs Treanor and the members of the Health Promoting Schools' Committee for organising this wonderful day for us all. Committee members are: 6th Class: Hannah Pourani & Rhian Ronaghan, 5th Class: Aoife Fitzgerald & Daisy Walker, 4th Class: Amina Gecaitė & Leah Ward.

Important Dates for your diary:

Mid-Term Break:

- Closing Friday 27th October
- Reopening Monday 6th November

Parent/Teacher Meetings:

- Wed. 29th & Thurs. 30th November

Switch- On of Christmas

Lights:

- Sunday 26th November-5th Class Choir singing

October Charity Fundraiser

Our annual charity fundraiser will take place tomorrow, Friday, 27th October. We are having a Dress-Up Day and the girls are asked to bring in €2 each. They can wear a Halloween costume, pyjamas or any dress -up outfit to school. This year all proceeds will go to the National Council for the Blind. We will make the presentation of funds raised to Ms. Collette Mc Entee, past -pupil and Fundraising Executive for the NCBI, at a special assembly to be held in our school hall tomorrow afternoon.



Launch of Tradoodle



St. Louis Infant School hosted the launch of Monaghan's first ever Arts Festival for Children last Friday, 20th. Mrs Carmel Mc Carroll, Principal, welcomed all the invited guests, including the Artistic Director of the festival, Mr Thomas Johnston and guest of honour, Minister Heather Humphreys. Mrs Mc Carville's Senior Infant class performed a song specially taught to them by Thomas, while Mrs Cunningham's 4th class sang a medley of traditional numbers, accompanied on guitar by their teacher. Tradoodle is running this week from 24th to 28th of October and we wish it every success in its maiden year. Many thanks to the staff of St. Louis Infants' School for kindly inviting a class of our girls to take part in this very special event.

Parents' Association AGM

The Parents' Association held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, October 12th. Mrs Patricia Mc Elwain presented a summary of the committee's work over the past year, including a statement of accounts. She emphasised the importance of recruiting new members to join the committee as most of the current members have children in the senior classes. Mrs Farrell thanked the committee for its dedication and commitment to the school and for its much-needed fundraising. Guest speaker on the night was Eleanor of REIM Solutions who delivered a comprehensive workshop on Internet Safety. The members of last year's PA committee are: Mrs Freda Connolly, Chairperson, Mrs Claire Sheridan, Vice-Chair, Mrs Margaret McNally, Treasurer, Mrs Nora Devine, Secretary, Mrs Patricia Mc Elwain, Mr Dermot Coyle and Mr Matthew McEnaney. **The PA will hold its next meeting on Wednesday 8th November at 7.30pm and new members are most welcome.**

Maths Week

Maths Week this year ran from Monday 16th to Friday 20th of October. All classes took part in a variety of Maths-related activities, including a Maths Challenge Competition and Maths Trails for junior and senior classes. The winners of the Maths Challenge Competition are: Goda Acaite, Austeja Dobilaitė, Sienna McDermott, Mila Junele, Angel Ogbedeagu, Ernesta Marut, Austeja Kripaitė, Gráinne Feely Kulina, Victoria Knaginiceve, and Kiera Mc Cabe

School Mass

Our annual mass to mark the start of the new school year was held on Wednesday 4th October. Fr Paddy McGinn kindly acted as celebrant in the absence of our school chaplain, Fr. Stephen Duffy. Special thanks to Mrs Treanor and her 3rd/4th class girls who took responsibility for all the parts of the mass. Thanks also to Mrs Gallagher who co-ordinated the preparation, including the singing and to Mrs Cunningham who provided the instrumental music. The girls were excellently behaved and took part in the celebration with great reverence.

Walk the Beat



During the first week of October, some of our classes visited the museum to see an exhibition called "The Watchmen." They learned about policing, crime and punishment in Monaghan. They discovered that long ago, if children misbehaved, they were sent away on a boat without their families! Children were not allowed to write using their left hand and if they did so, they got hit with a cane. The girls got their headshots taken in prisoners' uniforms and also saw lots of police uniforms and weapons.

Futsal

12 girls from 4th class will take part in a Futsal Blitz, which is an indoor 5-a-side soccer competition, on Wednesday 8th November in Coláiste Oiriall. The girls have been training hard over the last few weeks and are well-prepared for this event. They are: Lauren & Leah Ward, Ernesta Marut, Emma McCann, Elizabete Sermolite, Alexandra Karlaite, Rhianna Bell, Madeleine McConnell, Natalie Connolly, Kaitlyn Dearden and Jessie Cleary Keenan. Many thanks to Miss McNally for coaching the girls.



HSE Be Active Programme

The HSE Be Active Programme continues for second class only each Monday from 3-4pm. The girls need to remember to wear their tracksuits and take a little extra lunch and drink on Mondays. Thanks to Mrs Hannon, Ms. McNally and Mrs McKenna for facilitating this programme with Mrs Farrell.

Swimming Gala

Well done to our swimming squad who represented the school at the Ulster Schools Championship Gala in Bangor last Saturday. The girls had a great day and all received goodie bags for taking part. Our swimmers are: Ava Murphy, Eimear Duffy, Daisy Walker, Niamh Mc Elwain and Hannah Sheridan. Special thanks to Hannah's mother, Claire, for co-ordinating the team.

Halloween Safety Talk

Garda Margaret Olliphant and Paul Smyth of Foróige delivered a Safety Talk to our 5th and 6th classes on Monday. They focused on the dangers of fireworks and bonfires at Halloween time.

Culture Night Celebrations in the Museum

On September 22nd, to celebrate Culture Night, some of our classes attended an exhibition of Japanese culture in Monaghan County Museum. The girls were treated to a showcase of the martial art "Kendo" and learned some rules and terms. Next up, was a talk on the history of the kimono and the girls were shown some beautiful samples of different types of kimonos. Afterwards, there was a lively performance of Japanese drumming and singing. Many thanks to the staff of the museum for facilitating such great workshops and to Mrs Treanor who arranged the bookings for our girls.



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Basketball

Basketball is continuing every Thursday evening for 5th and 6th class girls in St. Louis Secondary School PE Hall. It is facilitated by a team of Transition Year students and supervised by Ms. Holland, Mrs Cunningham and Ms. Reilly on a rota basis. We are very grateful to Ms. Vera O'Brien, Principal, and Mr. Adrian Fitzgerald, TY Co-ordinator, of St. Louis Secondary School, for providing this opportunity for our girls and to the students and teachers who are facilitating it.

Gaelic GoBlitz

Congratulations to our victorious 4th class Gaelic Squad who travelled to Cloghan on Tuesday 24th October to take part in the Halloween GoGames Blitz. The girls played 3 games against Broomfield, Knockconan and Corduff and won all three matches! Congratulations to the squad and to their coach, Miss McNally who trained them in advance and travelled with them on the day. Squad members are: Nan Cawley, Klaudia Kaczor, Rhianna Bell, Natalie Connolly, Kaitlyn Dearden, Melisa Rutkauskas, Lauren & Leah Ward, Emma McCann, Gloria & Ernesta Marut and Elizabete Sermolite.

Digital Stories

Our two 6th classes recently took part in a Digital Stories Workshop facilitated by illustrator Ian Jackson. Ian taught the girls how to use Microsoft Paint to illustrate some well-known tales which they later showcased for the second classes. It was a very enjoyable and informative day for



Student Committees

Green Schools Committee

Our new Green Schools' Committee for 2017/18 has been elected. The members have met with Ms Brady and Mrs Treanor and have been assigned their jobs on a rotational basis. We are beginning to work on our Water Flag this year, which is a 2-year process in total. Miss Deery will be joining the committee in this endeavour, as will Stephen, our caretaker. The committee members include: Adrija Taulovica, Hayden Toal, Katie Mc Mahon, Wiktorija Obara, Jasmine Coyle, Maheen Mohsin, Aiste Ruchleviciute, Eadoin Mc Corry, Jessie Cleary Keenan, Emma Mc Cann, Alanna Mc Kenna, Aofie Devlin, Niamh Mc Elwain, Mia Butaviciute, Millie Rose Cleary, Alanna Mc Kenna, Jagoda Skiba and Evelina Markauskaite,

Last Friday, the committee met with Nial O'Connor, Environmental Officer with Monaghan County Council. Nial offered advice and guidance on the various stages involved in working towards the attainment of the Water Flag.

Action Team Partnership

The adult committee met at the end of September and set the following goals for this year:

Academic Areas:

1. SESE: Environmental Awareness & Care (Water Flag)

- Support the work of the Green Schools Committee
- Organise Water Workshops for some classes.

2. Reading:

- Tips for Parents to support their children's reading at home to be published on website
- Read aloud story sessions facilitated by pupils from St. Louis Secondary.

3. Behavioural Area:

- To help improve the quality of the children's play during outdoor and indoor (wet) playtime.
- Dancing.
- Doll's House Backdrop
- Mindful Colouring

4. Climate of Partnership: Making the School a more Welcoming Place

- Community- based project
- School Annals.
- Punctuality Drives.

Adult Committee: Bernie Farrell, David Mc Cague, Rosemary Holland, Anne Healy, Fiona O' Gara, Magda Gracz, Pauline Hall, Blaithin Ronaghan and Maeve Hackett

Children's Committee: Karina Visockyte, Caragh Morgan, Greta Antimonovaite, Angel Ogbedgu, Melisa Rutkauskas, Natalie Connolly, Ella Lappin, Ella Connolly, Kathy Otsalt and Fausta Lekniute.

Active Flag Committee

Mrs Hannon and the Active Flag Committee members want to ensure that our pupils continue to keep active and healthy during break times. They provide hula hoops in the junior yard each day and have also organised handball and basketball in the senior playground. The committee members are: Clodagh McKenna, Lia Toal, Alesha Cawley, Sienna Mc Dermott, Rhianna Bell, Clodagh Smyth, Willow Fitzpatrick, Geraldine Sweeney, Patrycja Kolobius and Katherine Vaisnoraite,



Hula—Hoop Demo with Sophie Herron

On Wednesday, 11th October the committee invited Sophie Herron to come to the school. Sophie did a hula-hooping demo for the junior classes in the P.E. hall and some girls were invited to take part. She taught them various hula- hooping techniques and tricks. Sophie finished up with a special session for our champions from last year's competition. She showed these girls a few tips and they will in turn teach them to our junior classes at break times.



Student Council

The new student council has met with Mrs Farrell and decided on some initiatives for this term. They are going to run a 3-D Art Competition for all classes in the month of November and work on an Advent Assembly. This year's student council members are: Alisija Dunauska, Siomha Ronaghan, Patricia Stanaszek, Inna Dimitrova, Kaitlyn Dearden, Mila Junele, Lauren Ward, Aoife Fitzgerald, Ava Mc Glone, Eliza Naklicka, Sarah Gormley and Aoife O' Gara,



