

St. Louis GNS

April 2018 Vol. 8



Dates for your Diary

First Communion

Saturday 5th May at 11 am

School Closures -
Monday 7th May
(Bank Holiday)

Wednesday 23rd
May (Teacher In-
Service on New Lan-
guage Curriculum)

Friday 25th May
(Referendum)

Mon. 5th June (Bank
Holiday)

**Open Evening for
new 2nd classes-**
Thursday 7th June

**6th Class Gradua-
tion-** Thursday 14th
June

**School closes for
summer-Friday**
22nd June (half day-
12.30)

Sponsored Walk

Our Parents' Association held its Annual Sponsored Walk last Friday, 27th April. Following an early lunch, we all gathered in the front playground with high-vis jackets on, ready for the off. We were delighted to be joined by some parents and family members of the children and were very fortunate that the day remained dry and sunny. We followed a similar route to last year, finishing up on the Greenway. On arrival back at the school, each girl received a bag of goodies and the winners of the Sponsored Walk Art Competition were announced. There were 3 winners in every class, and each was presented with a "Monaghan Has It" voucher from the Parents' Association.



Great praise is due to the members of the PA for their excellent organisation of this event. Thanks also to the parents and relatives who came out and joined us on the day. We are most grateful to all of you who so generously supported us to reach the grand total of €2,320!. This money will be used to subsidise the cost of buses for our school tours. Well done to all concerned!

Confirmation

Congratulations to our sixth class girls who made their Confirmation on Saturday 21st April. We were absolutely blessed with a day of glorious sunshine for the occasion! The girls were excellently behaved and we were very proud of the way they answered all Monsignor McGuinness' questions. Sincere thanks to Ms Holland and Ms Deery for preparing the girls so thoroughly for the sacrament. Thanks also to the priests of the parish, particularly to Fr. Stephen, our School Chaplain for his invaluable guidance and support.

Standardised Tests

Testing will take place on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th May. It is vital that your daughter is in attendance on these days to complete all her Standardised Testing as requested by the Department of Education and Skills.

Drumcondra Testing Pilot

Our school has been asked to take part in a testing pilot to help with the standardisation of the new Drumcondra English and Maths Tests. This will involve two classes doing computer-based tests, while a further three will do paper-based testing. These pilot tests will be run prior to the administration of our usual Standardised Tests and the parents of the classes involved have already been notified by letter.

Friends for Life

This special programme is currently being rolled out in our sixth classes, facilitated by Mrs Farrell and Mrs Flynn. The programme is a school based positive mental health programme that promotes emotional resilience and reduces anxiety in children and adolescents. It is the only anxiety prevention programme acknowledged by the World Health Organisation and is endorsed by the Department of Education and Skills.



Seachtain na Gaeilge Competition

Congratulations to Melanija Trepenska in Ms. Brady's 2nd Class who has won a prize in the Seachtain na Gaeilge Competition organised by Rock's Stationery Shop. Melanija and her teacher were invited to the shop for a special presentation where Melanija received a voucher, as well as goodies for her classmates and some classroom resources. Maith thú Melanija!

Sports

FAI 5-Aside Tournament

Congratulations to our soccer squad who took part in an FAI 5-Aside Tournament held in Gortakeegan on Tuesday 24th April. They played three games; drew against St. Clare's Cavan A team, were defeated by Bunscoil Lughaidh Naofa, Carrickmacross and beat St. Clare's B Team. They finished second overall and were presented with silver medals. Many thanks to Paul McGeown for giving of his time to train the squad, to Ms Mc Nally for supervising and to Ms O'Reilly for accompanying them on the day, Squad members are: Aoife Devlin, Ella Lappin, Niamh McElwain, Alanna McKenna, Leah Ward, Lauren Ward, Victoria Sherry and Ernesta Marut.



Jungle Body

Elaine Keogh is currently taking all classes from 4th to 6th for 6 weeks of "Jungle Body". This is a fast-paced exercise/dance class to music which is excellent for building stamina and fitness levels. Please remember to send in a euro each week for your daughter's lesson or you may pay in bulk if you wish.

Gymnastics

Our two 2nd classes and Ms Mc Nally's 3rd class will be starting 6 weeks of gymnastics/circuits with Niall Teather starting tomorrow, May 1st. There is a cost of €1 per week per child for these lessons.

Skipping

On Thursday 22nd March the children enjoyed a Skipping Workshop led by Mark Mc Cabe, a coach from Skipnrope.com. Each class had an individual skipping workshop at which they learned techniques and tricks. In the afternoon all classes were treated to a skipping demonstration in the hall which was highly entertaining. Skipping is a great way to exercise and keep fit while having fun. Later in the term, the Active Flag Committee hope to run a skipping competition.



Gaelic Training

A selection of 4th, 5th and 6th class girls continue to train hard every Monday in preparation for the Girls Division 1 Cumann na mBunscol League. The two blitzes for this competition will take place on May 10th and May 17th. Thanks to Ms Mc Nally and Ms Reilly who are coaching the girls for this event.

Committee News

Health Promoting Schools Committee

The HPS committee will be organising a Friendship/Anti-Bullying day on Thursday June 7th. All classes will take part

Student Council News

The Student Council has been running a 3-D Art Competition since before Christmas. When each class finished the construction strand of the art curriculum, the Council members judged their finished pieces and picked out a winner. Congratulations to the nine girls who were chosen and who received an Easter Egg each as the prize. The winners were: 2nd Classes: Melanija Trepenska and Sabina Vais, 3rd Class: Paulina, 3rd & 4th: Wiktorina O, 4th Class: Armin, 5th Classes: Elena Cawley and Mia & 6th Class: Anastacia Khoka and Sarah Byrne.

Action Team Partnership Update

The Action Team Partnership Adult Committee came up with the idea of developing an inter-generational project for the school as one of its Climate of Partnership Goals for this year. The aim was to link the school with a senior citizen's group in our local community and develop a project which would be mutually beneficial to both the senior citizens and our pupils. To this end, David Mc Cague, our Family School Liaison Officer, initiated communications with the Tuesday Club in Teach na Daoine. It was decided that various classes within the school will take turns to provide entertainment for the Tuesday Club members over a number of Tuesdays in the summer term.



On Tuesday 17th April, Mrs Cunningham's 4th class, Mrs Flynn and Mrs Dowd, had the privilege of being the first group to go out to Teach na Daoine and meet the Tuesday Club members. The girls sang a variety of songs and played the tin whistle, while their teacher accompanied them on guitar. They also took to the floor and danced with the club members in what proved to be a wonderful afternoon of music and fun for all involved.

Green Schools Committee

Active Flag Committee

Mrs Hannon and the members of the Active Flag Committee are currently running a Handball League in the school with all classes taking part. Our new handball wall is nearly completed and we hope to have an official launch later in the term to coincide with the handball final.

Website

To stay in touch with our news, events and activities, log onto the school's website at www.stlouisgns.ie

There are great Educational and Fun Resources in our Learning Zone

Committee News

