

February 28, 2019

Dear parents and children,

Spring is definitely in the air the grass has begun to grow. School is closed on Monday the 18th of March and Tuesday the 19th of March.

Thank you to all for the big improvement in punctuality. It is really important for the children to be on time and mostly this is dependent on you, the parents.

Standardised testing will take place on 14th, 15th, 22nd, 23rd, 28th and 29th of May.

Unfortunately pupils who are on holiday during this time cannot be tested. In the past few years retesting those on holiday has taken up too much time. Of course if your child is sick retesting will take place.

Believe it or not the building project has been rumbling on in the background for a long time. The new design team has now been appointed. The team will meet with the Board. I will keep you posted.

The Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment have been reviewed by the Board. These will be available on our school website. Mrs Murphy is the DLP and Mrs Callaghan is the DDLP.

Stay Safe lessons are taking place between now and Easter. Please take the time to talk with your child about the lesson.

If your child needs to leave early for an appointment you must go to the office first, sign your child out and someone will get your child for you. This is the same process if you need to collect at break times. Someone on the yard will bring you into the office to sign your child out.

The Green school Committee is working hard in preparation for the renewal of our Green, Global citizenship and energy. They have been telling us all about climate change and the importance of renewable energies. Thinking about where our food comes from is part of Global citizenship. Ms Gleeson and Ms Markham are asking pupils and staff to bring in the wrapper of something they bought that has the fair-trade symbol. These will be displayed. See tips on energy saving attached.

Mrs Murphy



Confirmation:

6th class celebrated their confirmation enrolment mass on Tuesday the 19th of February. They chose the readings, prayers and song. It was a special ceremony for them. Thank you to Fr Brendan Madden, Ms Byrne and Ms Kennedy. Well done 6th class.

2nd class will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation on the 14th of March at 11.30 in St Peter and Paul's Church. More detail to follow.

Sport

Athletics:

A group of 22 pupils competed in Abbotstown, indoor arena, on Thursday the 28th of February. Congratulations to Stephen Ibidokun who is the 60m sprint champion of North Co. Dublin.

GAA:

Training has commenced for boys and girls after school on Tuesdays. Thank you to Ms Kennedy, Ms O Mahony, Ms Kiernan and Ms Folan for coaching the pupils.

Soccer training with Mr Hall and Mr Callaghan has also commenced.

Cricket

Ms McGovern has organised coaching on a Friday for the pupils during school time. Cricket coaching takes place in school also. Ms Gleeson's class is taking part in this.

Choir:

Ms Calnan's and Mr Callaghan's classes travelled to Kells to practice with another school in preparation for their upcoming concert in March. They sound really professional now.

Credit Union Quiz: This will take place on Saturday the 6th of April. Team will be chosen in the next couple of weeks.

Oral Language and writing: March

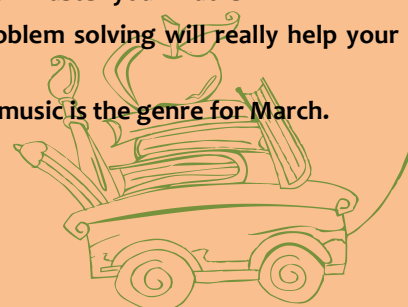
Oral Language theme for Gaelge and English is Caitheamh Aimsire (Hobbies), the writing genre is Poetry.

Reading fluency: Encourage your child to read a short piece aloud to you.

Maths: Please ask your child to show you problem of the week. It is usually in their Master your Maths.

A one to one when problem solving will really help your child.

Music: Traditional Irish music is the genre for March.



Breakfast Morning: Student Council/Yellow Flag Committee

As part of friendship week the children had breakfast at school. The parents' committee supplied croissants and juice. 5th and 6th class enjoyed their hot chocolate and tea. The aim of the breakfast morning is to chat and relax with our friends. A big thank you to the Parents' Committee.

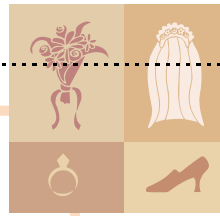
The pupils designed and made bridges, some individually and some in groups. The bridge project was chosen as bridges need a sound foundation, bridges connect spaces and they often symbolise peace mirroring friendships. As usual the children of Balrothery NS showed again how creative they are and they produced excellent bridges. Well done to everyone and to the winners. Each participant got a night off homework.



Creative Friendship Bridges



Fifa gaming afternoon takes place this Sunday. All participants must be at school for 2pm. No entrants on the day.



JEP: Cushions can now be ordered cost €10

Choose your colour, use it to make your school chair more comfortable. Crazy Cushions



Thank you to Gerry Andrews for speaking with the pupils about his business career. (more importantly for bringing goodies!)

Chinese New Year

Some classes took part in a dance workshop and learned about Chinese New year followed by a traditional Chinese dance.



Glebe Park

We are very excited about the new playground due to open in Balrothery. 5th class through Margaret Haugh, Balrothery Community Group, have written the information about the new trees in the park. Fingal Co Council is making plaques for the trees. We can't wait to see them.



Fair Trade Symbol

