

Mr and Mrs Keary

We have had an eventful month. Mr Keary retired on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. We made the day into a day of celebration as even though we were very sad to see Mr Keary retire we felt it was important to make the day as enjoyable as possible. Certainly the staff and the children did him proud! The day started with a special assembly. The children presented Mr Keary with a present of a Dublin GAA jersey and two Offaly GAA hats, one for him and one for his wife. These gifts symbolized his involvement in the area and that of his love for his home county of Offaly. The children made speeches remembering how Mr Keary loved sport and that they were very appreciative of all his work for the school. Some children composed poetry, beautiful art and little memory books were all presented to Mr Keary. The grand finale of the assembly was a resounding rendition of the Offaly Rover. Extra play was given and the children had a party afternoon. Overall it was a great day and one that we will all remember.

Thank you Mr Keary.

Many thanks to all the parents who sent their best wishes to him and a special thanks to the parents' committee as they supplied the sweets for the school party.

Deputy Principal:

Congratulations to Ms Joanne Callaghan who has been appointed as deputy principal. We wish her every success in her new role.

### Gaeilgeoirí na Seachtaine



Congratulations to all the children who were awarded, 'Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine,' in their class. This is an award given to children who make a good effort to speak Irish during the week. Ms McCrudden has been working very hard on improving the level of oral Irish used in the school. Maith Thú!

St Patrick's Day is approaching and all the children will be partaking in cultural events in school.

### Sport

#### GAA

The gaelic football season has started and both the boys and the girls will have matches between now and the Easter holidays. We wish them good luck on their endeavor to get to Parnell Park.

Ms Coyle, Mr Callaghan and Ms Moore are the coaches.

#### Tennis

The school is entering two teams into the primary schools tennis league this season.

Ms Rooney is coordinating this.

#### Futsal

Some children from 4<sup>th</sup> class will go to Gormanston on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March to play futsal. This is organised by Fingal and is one part of an overall initiative to highlight that this is the year of the Olympics. Other sports will follow.

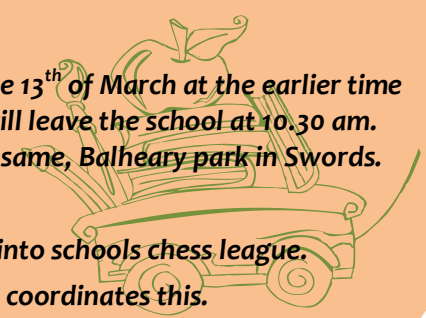
#### Cross Country

The next race is on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March at the earlier time of 11.15am. The bus will leave the school at 10.30 am. The race venue is the same, Balheary park in Swords.

#### Chess

Children are entered into schools chess league.

Mrs Patterson coordinates this.



### **Health and safety updates.**

**The school opening time is 9.20 am, children and parents are requested to wait outside until the bell rings to signal the start of the school day.**

#### **Please note**

**As from immediate effect all children who need to leave school during school hours must be collected from the class teacher or from the office. Children cannot wait at the school gates as this is not safe. This is to ensure the safety of the children. There can be no exceptions to this rule. Thank you in advance for your acceptance of this.**

#### **Green Flag**

**We are planning on walking to school every Wednesday as the weather has improved. We will start this next Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March.**

#### **Spanish**

We are fortunate to be in the position to continue the teaching of Spanish to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class in light of the suspension of the Modern Language Initiative. Thanks to the following people for their valued contributions thus far. Ms Rooney, Ms McCrudden, Ms Gleeson, Ms Markham, Mrs Cody and Ms Maldonado.



#### **Easter raffle**

Tickets will go on sale for the Easter raffle from Thursday.

1<sup>st</sup> prize: 2 vouchers to Gormanston Summer Camp.

Many thanks to Niall Flynn from D&F Sports camp.

2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Large Easter egg.

3<sup>rd</sup> prize: A slightly smaller but still large Easter egg!

There will be an Easter egg as a prize in each class.

Tickets prices:

1 ticket = 50 cent      5 tickets = €2

All proceeds go towards school funds.

#### **Dates for you diary**

School is closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of March.

School will close at 12.30 on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of March for the Easter holidays.



Please remember that we have a healthy eating policy. Cereal bars are allowed but only ones without chocolate. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. As part of our healthy eating policy there will be a fruit break in the afternoon. Please supply an extra piece of fruit for this break if you can, again thanks.

**Well done to Laura Weldon for getting an award in the Tesco Valentine art competition.**

**The school has a busy after school programme.**

#### **Homework club**

Tuesday to Thursday from 3 to 4.

This is run by Mr Callaghan and Ms Coyle.

#### **GAA**

Boys and girls gaelic football is on a Monday 3-4.

This is run by Mr Callaghan, Ms Moore and Ms Coyle on a voluntary basis.

#### **Spanish**

Spanish is run on a voluntary basis by Ms Rooney.

#### **Crafty kids**

Crafty kids is on a Tuesday and is organised by Mrs Patterson and Ms McCrudden

#### **Chess**

Chess is organised within the school by Mrs Patterson. The after school class is coached by Maurice O' Connor an experienced chess player who has taught chess in the school for some years now.

Irish dancing

Breda Gibbons teaches Irish dancing on Tuesdays from 3 to 4.

**If you would like any further information on any of the above clubs please contact the school office.**

