

St John the Baptist Infant Girls' School
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Scoil Eoin Baisde Cailíní Naoidh
Bóthar Ghort na Mara
Cluain Tarbh
Baile Átha Cliath 3

Principal: Dearbhla O'Driscoll
Acting Deputy Principal: Fiona Gearty
Chair, Board of Management: Paul Nolan

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Spring has finally sprung!! The longer brighter days of Spring bring a new burst of energy. We had a busy term last term with Science week and Seachtain na Gaeilge, not to mention the snow days!

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl i rith mí na Márta i Scoil Eoin Baside agus bhaineamar go léir taitneamh as. Roimh Lá Fhéile Pádraig bhí Damhsa Mór sa halla le ceol, amhráin agus damhsa. Bhí maidin íontach againn. An seachtain ina dhiadh sin thainig grúpa drámaíochta go dtí an scoil agus bhaineamar go léir an-sult as an dráma An Tuar Ceatha Caillte.

Seachtain na Gaeilge took place during March in St Brigid's and we all enjoyed it greatly. Before St Patrick's Day we had a Damhsa Mór in the hall with great, music, song and dance. We had a wonderful day. The following week a drama group came and they told the story of An Tuar Ceatha Caillte (The Lost Rainbow) by Gráinne Jordan in English and in Irish!

Snow Days

Contingency arrangements in the event of unforeseen school closures are outlined in the Department of Education circular on the standardised school year, written after the snows of 2010. The circular suggests that lost time could be made up by

- *prioritising tuition over other non-tuition activities
- * consideration of whether learning in the classroom should be prioritised over school tours, etc

Consideration was given to cancelling tours this year and/ or Sports Day in order to facilitate extra tuition. However, it was decided by the Board of Management in consultation with teachers that tours and Sports Day should go ahead as usual this year. Teachers will be asked to note in their planning where the content and learning objectives which were planned for the time the school was closed, are being included in their schemes of work.

Child Protection

We are currently preparing a Risk Assessment as part of our new Child Safeguarding Statement. We want to inform Parents and Guardians of the following

- Official teaching time begins at 8.55 a.m. Dismissal time is 1.15 p.m. Children arriving after 8.55 must enter through Reception. Parents/ Guardians will not be permitted access to the classrooms after 8.55. Late comers will be recorded.

- If you are making changes to the collection arrangements for a pupil please let the teacher know in advance.
- Early collections must be made through Reception. Pupils should give their teacher a note and they then must be signed out by an adult.
- Since the inception of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 schools are obliged to report on school attendance. Schools are required to submit Student Absence Reports twice each year on those students with serious attendance issues that have been identified during the current academic year i.e. students that have been absent from school for a cumulative total of twenty days or more falling within the following categories:

- Illness
- Urgent Family Reason
- Holiday
- Suspended
- Other
- Unexplained

As all attendance is monitored it is important to let us know in writing the reason your child has been absent when she returns to school.

Arts Week

Arts Week- 30th April- 3rd May. Arts week will take place during the week in the run up to the Easter holidays and once again we would like to invite parents with talent to come into school to share their skills. Please let your child's class teacher if you are interested in coming in that week. Activities organised for Arts Week include Lego workshops by Learnit for Junior and Senior Infant children and workshops by the National Concert Hall for all classes. Money raised by the Parents' Association will be used to fund these visits.

Trocaire Boxes

Please send in your Trocaire boxes this week.

Save the Dates

May 4th, 7th, 8th-School Closed

May 11th – Junior Infant 2018 Open Morning

May 25th – Bake Sale

June 1st, 4th and 5th- School Closed

June 15th- 1st Class Graduation

Summer Closing at noon on Friday June 29th Re opening at 8:35 am. on Thursday August 30th

Our warmest congratulations to Ms Kate O'Shaughnessy on the recent birth of her beautiful daughter, Eleanor.