

**SCOIL SHINSIREACH NAOMH ATHRACHT**  
**MEADOWBROOK, ÁTH CLIATH 16**  
**NUACHTLITIR #2 10-10-2016 NEWSLETTER #2**



Dear Parents,

By now, we hope all our pupils are getting used to their new surroundings. It was lovely to meet some of our new parents at a coffee morning on Friday week. It's been a busy few weeks and the children have been working hard at both homework and schoolwork. Extra-curricular activities have started and are going well. We remind pupils that the high standards of behaviour we expect throughout the school day must continue on into these activities, no matter how different or exciting they are. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> class pupils enjoyed a visit from the Fire Brigade in late September and they also learned about the importance of saving and how they could join Dundrum Credit Union Savings Scheme. All 3<sup>rd</sup> class pupils received a note about this very worthwhile scheme and any pupil in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> class who would like to join as a new member should collect a form from the office. Lots to think about!

Sport for All Day was celebrated on the last Friday in September - a big thank you to all who organised it and all our volunteer helpers and coaches. And so to October.... with some exciting activities and events looming, the mid-term break is only weeks away. So let's see what's happening.

Le gach dea ghúí,

**Muireann Máirtín, Príomh Oide**

**BEGINNING OF YEAR SCHOOL MASS**



Our celebration of **Mass** for the start of the new school year in St. Attracta's Senior School took place at 1.30p.m. last Wednesday and we were encouraged by the wonderful turnout of parents and grandparents who joined with us. Thank you for coming!

**GOAL JERSEY DAY**



On **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> October** we'll have Goal Jersey Day. All pupils who donate €2 to this very worthy cause can wear their jerseys (Irish or county jerseys only) on the day. This charity aims to help children in poorer countries, who are suffering as a result of poverty and oppression.

**CAKE SALE**



Our first Cake Sale of the school year will take place this **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct.** Crepes are also available. We hope to raise enough money to buy new lightweight portable basketball posts, new art and craft materials, books for our library and chess sets for each classroom. So get out the recipes and let's get going! See timetable overleaf.

**Junior School Open Day - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 from 11.30a.m.-1.30p.m.**

## ST. ATTRACTA'S STUDENT COUNCIL ~ COMHAIRLE na NDALTAÍ 2016/2017

The elections are over and we have a result! Well done to all those who were nominated in each class and a particular word of congratulations to the following pupils who were elected to our Student Council along with their substitutes who came a very close second. We hope they will serve their school well and represent their class as we work together to make St. Attracta's the best it can be. We wish all our newly elected representatives well and we look forward to working with them in the year ahead. The first meeting of the Student Council will take place soon. **Maith sibh!**



Múinteoir	Rang	#1	#2
Ms. Neville	3	Alex Burns	Jane Gleeson
Ms. Carey	3	Sinéad Ní Bhaoighill	John-Paul Shiels
Ms. Miles	3	Grace O'Kelly	Neve Molloy
Ms. McDonagh	4	Leo Arrigan	Isla Parkes
Ms. Rafter	4	Donagh O'Sullivan	Sophie Shorten O'Reilly
Mr. Fitzgerald	4	Daniel Coleman	Laura Dunne
Ms. O'Regan	5	Lauren Kavanagh	Reanielle Broas
Ms. McEvoy	5	Lucy Walsh	Mícheál Brennan
Ms. Nelly	5	Diarmuid Brennan	Niall Gleeson
Mr. Bradley	5	Éamon Naughton	Isabelle Ryan
Mr. Coughlan	6	Emilie Martin	Eamonn Fallon
Mr. Kenny	6	Eoin McDonnell	Almudena de la Cal Hacar
Ms. O'Leary	6	Emma McGrath	Donal Kelly

### HAPPY & HEALTHY

Attached to this newsletter new parents will find a copy of our healthy eating policy (also on our website). Without a good healthy breakfast it is very hard for many children to concentrate and give their best in class in the early part of the day. We notice a lot of children are coming to school without breakfast and are then eating lots at little break and have little left at big break.



It is very clear that only a small treat is allowed per lunchbox on a Friday. (No crisps or fizzy drinks). We appeal to all parents **not to send in food to share with the rest of the class on a Friday** as this defeats the purpose of our whole policy.

Finally, lack of sleep is also impacting on many of the children, with some children telling us they watch television, play games and text late into the night (and early morning). Naturally this impacts on their engagement with school life and we are bringing this to your attention as the pupils themselves say their parents think they are fast asleep when this is happening. Over to you, parents!

**BCS Open Evening - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 from 7.00 - 9.00p.m.**

## COPPERS FOR COMPUTERS



We continue to progress on our Digital School strategy and our recent recognition as a Digital School of Distinction is a source of great pride for us. Some years ago, we never dreamed we would have a state of the art computer room as well as interactive whiteboards in all classes.

However, many of these whiteboards are now reaching the end of their natural life and we will prepare a budget and a fundraising plan in the near future to replace whiteboards and projectors which are failing. Along with this major expenditure, we also need to continue to replace computer accessories and software, which are a constant drain on our IT funds received as Part B of the Booklist. We plan to resurrect our **Coppers for Computers** idea which was so successful when we were fundraising for the school extension. All we ask is for all of us - teachers, children, parents and others to collect any loose change we find at home or at school. We don't ever do door to door collections, but please ask aunts, uncles, grannies and grandads to help with this. We also have labels with our school logo, which can be placed in a workplace if you are willing to do so. Just ask!

The amount collected each week will be totalled and we'll let the children know each week how we're doing. Ar aghaidh le chéile!

For the month of December we'll suspend our Coppers for Computers campaign and donate all money collected to BÓTHAR, one of our annually supported charities, but more on that later.



## EDUCATION WELFARE ACT

Under this act schools are obliged to report to the National Education Welfare Board the name of any child who misses 20 school days or more in any given year. Parents are also obliged to inform the school, in writing, of the date/s and reason/s why children are absent. So, if your child is absent from school, from now on an absence note in the homework journal must be filled out when your child returns to school. Please don't send a child to school following an absence without a note. We ask all pupils to make a special effort to be in school every day unless they are sick, in which case the best place for them is at home.

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



As principal, I would like to take this opportunity to thank St. Attracta's Parents' Association and the general parent body for their fundraising efforts over the past year - including the very successful Summer Fair. We are extremely grateful for the cheque of €7500 we received recently and which will be put to good use for the benefit of the children and the school. The Board of Management is so grateful for your response to the Voluntary Contribution appeal over the last three years. The Boards of both schools will write to you soon in relation to this but in the meantime we continue to use those funds to bridge the gap between the Departmental grants we receive and the constant bills we need to pay for utilities, school upgrades and the general running of the school. So thanks once again for all your support.

## REMINDER of PARENTS' ASSOCIATION AGM

When? 8.00p.m. this Wednesday evening - 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Where? In the Junior School Hall



### TIMETABLE and MORE ON THE CAKESALE:

10.00 - 10.15	R 3 + R3	Ms. Miles + Ms. Neville
10.15 - 10.30	R3 + R4	Ms. Carey + Ms. McDonagh
10.30 - 10.40	Sos / Little Break	
11.00 - 11.15	R4 + R4	Ms. Rafter + Mr. Fitzgerald
11.15 - 11.30	R5 + R5 R5	Ms. McEvoy + Ms. O'Regan Mr. Bradley
11.30 - 11.45	R5 + R6	Ms. Nelly + Mr. Coughlan
11.45 - 12.00	R6 + R6	Mr. Kenny + Ms. O'Leary
12.00 - 12.15	Selling off any unsold Cakes/Buns	

Children get all homework off if they bring in cake/buns on Friday morning.

Children need to bring in the following on Friday morning:

- Buns/cakes (if in tin/plate it must have a name on it.)
- Paper/plastic bag for what they buy.
- Lots of money and change.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MATHS WEEK - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

BOOK WEEK - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October

HALLOWE'EN DRESS-UP DAY - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October

MID-TERM BREAK - Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November

RAINBOWS PROGRAMME STARTS - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November

RAINBOWS FUNDRAISER (€2 each) - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November

6<sup>th</sup> CLASS MATHS TABLE QUIZ - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

ACCORD TALK - RANG 6 - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November

INTERNET SAFETY TALKS - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Rang 5

INTERNET SAFETY TALKS - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Rang 6

### PARENTS OF ALL NEW PUPILS...

We remind you that if children are late for school, they must sign in at the office and pupils going home early must be signed out by their parents.

### PART B of BOOK LIST WELCOME ANYTIME!

This helps us buy art & craft materials, computer software, sports equipment etc. - all for the benefit of your children. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Le gach dea ghuí,

---

Muireann Máirtín