

A Thuismitheoirí,

Fáilte chuig Seachtain na Gaeilge! An tseachtain seo, táimid ag ceiliúradh an Ghaeilge, ár dteanga agus ár gcultúr. This week we are celebrating all that makes us proud to be Irish, especially our beautiful rich Celtic language and our culture.



Tá an-iarracht á dhéanamh againn Gaeilge a labhairt go minic agus i ngach áit, sa scoil, sa chlós, sa seomra ranga, mórthimpeall na scoile agus sa bhaile. Everybody is trying to speak the Irish they have as often and in as many places as possible - in school, in the yard and in our activities, outside as well as inside the classroom and of course at home.

Labhair Gaeilge linn! Speak to us in Irish - even if it's half a sentence in English and half a sentence in Irish. Every little counts! Tús maith, leath na hoibre!

Or perhaps your children could be the múinteoirí for Seachtain na Gaeilge and teach Mamaí and Daidí a few words and phrases.

We hope to have great fun with all our Seachtain na Gaeilge activities and a Seisiún mór ceoil will take place on Friday afternoon where each class will sing a lovely amhrán as Gaeilge. Beidh an-spraoi againn! But Gaeilge is not just for Seachtain na Gaeilge. It's part of our culture and heritage. It's part of what we are!

An G-Factor which involves poetry recitation or song-singing as Gaeilge will take place after Easter and we promise the pupils a great afternoon. So... a lán sport agus spraoi as Gaeilge.... The children are so enthusiastic, we invite all parents to use the 'cúpla focal' with the children and with us. Bain triail as! Give it a go!

An Cháisc/Easter

It's hard to believe we're nearing the end of our second term and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter!

Le gach dea ghuí,



Muireann Máirtín, Príomh Oide

Beannachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léir!
Wishing you all a very happy Easter!

PROCLAMATION DAY 1916 - 2016



Last term Óglaigh na hÉireann presented us with our very own Irish Flag and a copy of the 1916 Proclamation. To celebrate the Easter Rising in its centenary year, we will have Proclamation Day on Wednesday 15th and we will raise the flag as we remember what it means to be Irish. Cuirfimid litir eile abhaile amárach faoi cad atá ag tarlú. We'll send another note home tomorrow about how we in St. Attracta's Senior School are going to celebrate this special day

in our country's history. The children have really been captivated by the spirit of 1916 and it's been a fabulous year of learning about our history and our nation. An tseachtain seo chugainn, we will celebrate the national feast day of our patron saint - Naomh Pádraig - and really take pride in the beautiful country in which we are so privileged to live. Éire go brách!

CAKES & COMPUTERS - THANK YOU!

Once again, we say a big THANK YOU to all of you - parents and children - for the wonderful response to our February Cake sale which brought in €2200! This time last year - with your help - we upgraded the Computer Room. We're delighted to report that combined with our October Cake Sale, our Easter raffle and some small donations, we can now fit out each classroom with brand new computers. This will make our interactive whiteboards, which are wonderful teaching tools, work much faster and much better for the benefit of all pupils! Go raibh míle maith agaibh!



DAFFODIL DAY...

Don't forget this year's Daffodil Day in aid of the Irish Cancer Society, which takes place in school this **Friday 11th March**. All flowers and badges cost €3. So let's go yellow together and please support this very worthy cause which affects so many of our families and friends. If you can wear a little bit of yellow on the day, why not?



CÓRFHÉILE na SCOILEANNA

Last Friday night, our wonderful 3rd class pupils represented St, Attracta's Senior School when they participated in Córfhéile na Scoileanna in the National Basketball Arena, Tallaght. Led by Ms. Neville, Ms. McEvoy and Ms. Carey, they were accompanied by Anna Waters, Shona Taylor, Emilie Martin, Jakub Novak, Claudia Moran and Ryan Lawlor, on the bosca ceoil, flute, fiddle and cahone. Córfhéile na Scoileanna is Ireland's largest children's music festival. Córfhéile is a non-profit making, voluntary organization that aims to provide an opportunity for children in primary school right around Dublin to perform in a non-competitive music festival. The children that perform in the Córfhéile do so for the enjoyment of singing and for the love of playing music. We were so proud of our pupils - they were very well-behaved and their singing was out of this world. Thanks to the pupils and their teachers for all their hard work. Below are the exceptional comments they received from the adjudicator.



Buachaill Ón Éirne

A very disciplined presentation on stage. The introduction on the instruments set the scene for lovely sustained singing. Your diction was very clear. The contrast of the humming was really lovely. A very enjoyable performance.

The Foggy Dew

There was lovely unison singing. You make a lovely sound on the high notes. Your percussionist kept a very steady beat on the box throughout. You had a lovely contrast of dynamics in the last verse - this is what makes a performance interesting and enjoyable for the audience.

You Can Count on Me

I love this song! Lovely sustained singing on the Ooooo sections - you are a wonderful choir - keep up the hard work - this is a choir to look out for! Maith sibh!

6th CLASS CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME



Last Sunday, our 6th class pupils chose the 'You Shall Be My Witnesses' Confirmation Programme' has been very successful this year. We thank Sr. Anna for all her organisation of the programme. We now look forward to the Retreat in Gort Mhuire on the 26th April. We anticipate a day of peace and tranquillity where the children will get to know God better and where Jesus will give meaning to their lives. May the Holy Spirit be with the children in all their endeavours.

EASTER RAFFLE



Thanks to Robert Malone (Jamie's Dad), we received a donation of a **huge** Easter Egg from Fruitworld in Stillorgan ('purveyors of the finest fruit and vegetables, Italian and artisan foods, Tel: 2883462). We also received a gift of two sets of tickets for the Ireland v Slovakia match on March 29 and it was suggested we raffle them, so here goes! Tickets 50c each or 3 for €1 on sale tomorrow! Runner up prizes

include 12 smaller Easter Eggs. So remember, if you're not in, you can't win!!!

TRÓCAIRE BOXES



Please remember to keep filling your Trócaire Boxes so that we can help those who are so badly in need of our help throughout the world. Many parents and teachers remember filling those Trócaire boxes when we were at school ourselves and we really can make a difference. So remember - your loose coins are very welcome. Remember that the boxes must be returned to school after the Easter Holidays. This year speakers from Trócaire gave a talk to 4th and 5th class children on their work and on how the money the children donate is put to good use. Check out Trócaire's website to learn more: www.trocaire.com.

ENROLMENT 2016/2017

The closing date for receipt of applications for enrolment in the Senior School for the academic year 2016/17 was Friday 12th February. Decisions in relation to applications for enrolment are made by the Board of Management, in accordance with the school's enrolment policy. We now have a limited number of places available, so if you know somebody who would like to join our school, please tell them to contact the school immediately and we will send out a registration form. The school will hold an 'Open Day' in May but in the meantime, we welcome all new applicants to come and view the facilities on offer at our school and to collect a school prospectus. If you're moving house and intend to leave the school, we would be very grateful if you could let us know as soon as possible so that we can determine class numbers for next year.



THE WAY OF THE CROSS: THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS CEREMONY

All parents are invited to attend the children's presentation of the Stations of the Cross at 11.00a.m. next Wednesday 16th March. (School closes at 12 noon.) As the pupils are not in school during Holy Week, we feel this is a fitting way to mark Good Friday - even it is over a week early! All are welcome! Fáilte! And then on Good Friday itself, co-ordinated by Ms. Neville, we will have a dramatisation of the story of Jesus Christ's passion and death. This will take place in the Oratory at 7.30p.m. on Friday 25th March and will involve pupils, past pupils and young adults with music provided by Joe Dunne and the Folk Group along with own pupils.



MUSIC TO OUR EARS!

Some weeks ago, as part of our music curriculum, Paul Maher from 'Simply Music' brought his music technology workshop to St. Attracta's Senior School. Third class pupils really enjoyed the Simply Music programme, which is based on the three strands (listening, performing and composing) of the Primary Curriculum for Music. On Thursday many pupils from 6th class participated in a music technology workshop using I-Pads. This was a really exciting new venture which we hope will encourage children to pursue music in the future.



PLEASE SLOW DOWN

It has come to our attention that once again, speed seems to be a problem outside the school at arrival and going home times. Several parents have complained that they don't feel their children are safe when crossing from Meadowbrook Swimming Pool to the schools and oratory.



ATTENTION CYCLISTS!

Please SLOW DOWN as you cycle around the school and please dismount and cycle your bike through the yard. Pupils are asked to lock their bikes if they bring them to school as we can accept no responsibility for bikes on the school premises.



PARTY INVITATIONS

As notified to you in September, it is our policy that Party Invitations should not be given out to children in school or on the school premises. As time goes on, it can create numerous problems. We ask for your co-operation on this matter.



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT THANK YOU!

The BOARD of MANAGEMENT recently sent home a letter to all parents - it was on a cream-coloured page and if you didn't get it, please have a look in your child's schoolbag or request another note from the office.



SCHOOL CLOSURES

Easter Holidays will start at 12 noon on Wednesday 16th March and we return to school on Monday 4th April.

Both Junior and Senior Schools will be closed on Confirmation Day - Thursday 26th May 2016.

