



Roll No. 12180 U

Presentation Primary School

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Mid-Term Newsletter - February 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with great pleasure that I extend warm greetings to you as we approach the end of February. Time seems to be flying by, and we are delighted to share some exciting updates and upcoming events from our school.

First Holy Communion Preparation: Our second-class students are actively engaged in preparing for their First Holy Communion, scheduled to take place on the 11th of May. They have already participated in two 'Do this in Memory' masses, fostering a sense of community and spiritual growth. We invite you to mark your calendars for their Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, 6th March, at 7:30 pm in St. Mary's church. Your presence and support on this special occasion would be greatly appreciated.

Confirmation: Our sixth-class girls are diligently preparing for their Confirmation, set to occur on the 13th of March. The Confirmation students will partake in their Service of Light on Thursday, 7th March, at 7:30 pm in St. Mary's church. We encourage you to join us in celebrating this significant milestone in their spiritual journey.

Catholic Schools Week: We were delighted to observe Catholic Schools Week from the 22nd to the 26th of January. As part of the festivities, we had the pleasure of welcoming many grandparents into our school on Wednesday, 24th January. The grandparents enjoyed a delightful day filled with stories,

songs, interviews, and, of course, a warm cup of tea and engaging conversations. It was a joyous occasion that highlighted the strong bond between our school, students, and their families.

Hot Lunch Scheme: Our dedicated staff worked tirelessly throughout January to sample hot food options in preparation for the roll-out of our free Hot Lunch Scheme, scheduled to commence in April. I am thrilled to announce that 'Gourmet Kids' has secured the tender for our Hot Lunch Scheme. Their nutritious and delicious meals, along with their commitment to sustainability by washing and recycling all packaging, align perfectly with our values. Parents will soon be able to order hot lunches conveniently through the Gourmet Kids app. More information on this will follow shortly, and we look forward to providing our students with a nourishing hot meal every day at school.

Safer Internet Day: Our school actively participated in Safer Internet Day on the 6th of February. During the week, I had the opportunity to visit all classes to discuss online safety, cyberbullying, and the importance of responsible digital citizenship. The "Think before you post" approach was emphasized, and various lessons and activities were conducted in collaboration with our teachers to promote a safer online environment for our students.

Religion Inspection: Sr. Antoinette visited our school on the 9th and 13th of February

for a Religion Inspection. We are delighted to report that she was impressed with all our classes, commending the dedication of our staff and the positive atmosphere buzzing around the school.

Breath, Mind and Body Programme: Our 5th class continues to engage with the Breath, Mind, and Body Programme facilitated by Bernadette May from Barnardos. The girls are thoroughly enjoying this workshop, and Bernadette will extend a similar program to senior infant students after the Easter holidays.

Soccer Success: On the 19th of February, we sent two soccer teams to St. Kevin's in Two-Mile-Borris for the 5-a-side Tipperary soccer blitz. Our B team played extremely well securing one win, one draw and one loss. Our A team not only made it through to the final but emerged victorious, securing a place in the Munster finals in May. Congratulations to all the girls, and a special thank you to Ms. Skehan, Ms. Kirwan, Mr. Connery, and Darren Murray for their efforts in organising, training and guiding the teams.

Enriching Experiences: Our students had a fantastic time on the 20th of February during the interactive show 'Lucky People' by the Red Kettle Drama Group. Additionally, our Junior and Senior Infants were delighted with a visit from Thomas' Dad, Michael O'Dwyer, who arrived in his fire truck on 21st February, providing valuable insights into the life of a firefighter.

Peace Proms: On Saturday, 2nd March our 3rd and 4th class will participate in the Peace Proms concert at SETU Arena in Waterford. Parents attending are in for a treat as our girls showcase their hard work and talent. A separate letter for 3rd and 4th class students containing all details will be sent home today.

Coicís na Gaeilge celebrations: During the Coicís na Gaeilge celebration from 1st to 15th March, several classes will participate in our in-house radio station 'Raidió na Gaeltachta.' Students will showcase their talents by performing traditional Irish songs and poems. The festivities will culminate on the 15th of March with a Lá Glas and Ceolchoirm Gaeilge. All children are invited to wear green clothes to school on this day if they wish and will have the opportunity to perform in our Gaeilge concert for the entire school. Ní féidir linn fanacht!!

Say Yes to Languages Programme: Our 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th class pupils will all be participating in French lessons for 8 weeks with local tutor, Clarisee Mouquet-Boisgard. I secured a grant to cover the cost of these lessons and the girls are really looking forward to a new challenge. Comme c'est excitant!

Important Dates for your diaries:

- **6th March:** Sacrament of Reconciliation for children making their Communion this year at 7:30 pm.
- **7th March:** World Book Day
- **7th March:** Service of Light for children making their Confirmation this year at 7:30 pm.
- **Friday 8th March:** School closed as we are a polling station for the upcoming election. Children will have no school on this day.
- **13th March:** Confirmation in St. Mary's church at **10.30am**.
- **14th March:** Open Night for New Infant Parents at 7 pm.
- **18th March:** School closed for St. Patrick's Day Bank holiday.
- **19-22nd March:** Our School will celebrate Friendship and Kindness Week. We will raise our Cinéaltas Flag during this week.
- **22nd March:** School closes at **12:30 pm** for Easter holidays.
- **8th April:** School reopens after Easter holidays.

- **6th May:** School closed for May bank holiday.
- **9th May:** School closure day for students as teachers will have training in the new Primary Maths Curriculum. St. Mary's CBS will also be closed for training on this date.
- **Saturday 11th May:** Communion at 11 am.
- **23rd May:** Open Days for new junior infants from 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding regarding these important dates. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you, as always for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Tanya O'Brien