



## Newsletter Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2023



### **Dates to Remember**

25<sup>th</sup> January – Grandparents Day



We wish you all a very Happy New Year.

We look forward to a happy, busy and engaging few months ahead. As always we love to keep lines of communication open with parents regarding your son's learning/wellbeing. Please reach out to the school if you have any concerns.

Please use your Aladdin Connect App to inform school if your child is absent.

We are currently seeing a very significant increase in the usual winter viral infections. This includes an increase in flu, RSV and now Covid-19. This is because we are all mixing together more.

Please see key measures outlined in the letter attached from HSE.



Speech and Drama will recommence on **Wednesday 25th January 2023. (2 40pm)** This term the primary focus will be preparing for Grade Examinations which will take place in May. Term duration is 12 weeks. Please contact Michele Devlin on 0879504284 or [michele.devlin24@gmail.com](mailto:michele.devlin24@gmail.com) for cost details as well as any further questions you may have. Looking forward to seeing familiar and new faces.



Thank you to Fidelity Investments for their generous donation of 30 laptops to our school. This donation has been fantastic to aid and extend our pupils' learning. The pupils have so far used these laptops for writing and publishing stories, researching topics for projects, learning to code, and lots of other projects that are now possible as a whole class activity thanks to having 30 laptops.

Our sixth class have just won round two in a debating competition which was prepared for, and researched on these laptops; it was fantastic to get the whole class involved in researching statistics for these debates together.

Thank you Fidelity so much for this generous donation.



We are delighted to have been accepted into a wonderful arts program called “Creative Clusters” in partnership with Calasanctius College, Gaelscoil de hÍde and Maree National School.

This initiative will enable us to embark on a project for the arts with our pupils over the next two years, while working closely with the schools in our cluster and people in our community. Watch this space!

We are currently brainstorming what direction this arts project will take with our pupils and **looking for any parents with an interest /experience in any aspect of the arts to get in touch.** This can take the form of art, photography, drama, music, dance or anything else you can think of from all cultural backgrounds.

We are very excited to embark on this two year project with our pupils and community.

**\*\*Please see email sent directly to your inbox and reply via email if you are interested in supporting us with this project.**



**Ionad Tacaíochta Oideachais na Gaillimhe**  
**GALWAY EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE**



We are also delighted to be successful in our application to allow 4<sup>th</sup> class pupils to have the opportunity to work with a professional artist. This initiative supports children and young people for the future, where skills like the ability to connect and collaborate with others, engage in creative and critical thinking and practice inclusivity at every level will be paramount to peace, stability, sustainable economic growth and equality. We look forward to watching this project unfold.



We are all aware, concerned and vigilant as to the traffic issue we have outside our school gates every morning and afternoon. This continued danger poses much risk to our students on a daily basis.

Whilst we ask you not to park outside the school in an effort to reduce congestion and lower risk - we are also working behind the scene to improve this current situation.

We were successful last year in applying for funding for help with this initiative.

Based on the audits, observations etc a plan has been put in place that over the following 1-2 years should see the work carried out.

Please see the attached document – Safe Routes to School - the overall improvement plan if you are interested. The proposed interventions will require further work including detailed design, and input from stakeholders such as local community. Some interventions may require further planning. It is important to note that concepts and agreed solutions may not progress at the same time and some concepts may not be suitable, however, all parties aim to work together to improve infrastructure in and around the school.

## Catholic Schools Week – 2023 – Walking Together in Faith & Love

As Part of Catholic Schools week we are delighted to welcome Grandparents in to visit our school and to see their Grandchildren and their friends in their learning Environment. We acknowledge and appreciate all the Grandparents contribute to society and we wish to celebrate that and learn from them on Grandparents Day.

Grandparents Day will take place on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January from 11 15am – 1 PM**

All are welcome

**To help us with planning and to ensure we have adequate space for health and safety concerns we are asking parents to please email the school to confirm if a grandparent/grandparents can visit.**