



Newsletter Jan 9th 2024



Dates to Remember

24th January – Grandparents Day



Ath Bhliain mhaise Duit/Daoibh

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 you'd like discussed etc.

A few reminders...

Please use your Aladdin Connect App to inform school if your child is absent, is going to be late, needs to be collected early etc.

We ask that collections take place before children go to yard from 10 50am – 11 am and 12 50pm – 1pm if at all possible to avoid disruptions to the flow of a class. We appreciate this may not be possible at all times.



Speech and Drama will recommence on **Tuesday 16th January 2023. (2 40pm)** Speech and Drama classes will resume in Scoil Íosaif Naofa on Tuesday 16th January 2023 at 2:40 – 3:40pm. The course will focus on grade exam preparation under the Irish Board of Speech and Drama. The 12 week course costs €120 per child but family discounts are available. Please contact Michele Devlin on 0879504284 to book your place.

Anti Bullying week 15th- 19th Jan

Next week we will be having our annual 'Anti-Bullying Week'. it will give the children the opportunity to discuss friendships, also recognise what bullying behaviour is, and what to do if you are experiencing bullying behaviour'

Please support us in our work by talking to your child about what they are learning at school next week, please look at our anti Bullying policy on our school website to familiarise yourself with the procedures involved should you suspect your child is being bullied. We also are happy to discuss any aspect of our policy with you. Our annual review of this policy will take place during this term so please let us know if you'd like to add anything to the policy or indeed suggest changes.

Unfortunately, research informs us, as do our internal sources, that children, especially in senior classes, do not inform parents, nor teachers if they are being bullied.

We must continue to try and change mind-sets around this secrecy.

Well Being week- As a follow up to Anti Bulling week we celebrate Wellbeing week from the 29th – 2nd February. We will keep you updated as to what this will entail closer to the date.

This incorporates nicely as a follow on to anti bullying, as we now take time to reflect on the importance of being kind, not only to others but to ourselves. We work with the children on varied activities throughout the week to increase everyone's awareness around Well Being.

If you feel you would like to support us in our endeavours please contact the school. We'd love to have parents involved as a part of Wellbeing week. Maybe you can run a yoga class for children or staff, you may like to bring in a musical instrument and play for the children, the list is endless. If you're available and would like to share with us any of your Well Being skills or talents please come in.

Annual review of our Child safeguarding Statement.

In January of every school year I like to remind parents to look at our Child Safeguarding Statement – A hard copy is available from the office if you wish to request one. It is also on display at reception.

I, Maeve Meenaghan (Principal) am the DLP Designated Liaison Person and JoAnn Coyne (Deputy) is the DDLP should you need to contact me at any point.

If you'd like to make any suggestions regarding our policy we'd be delighted to talk to you, an email is also very welcome if you'd add anything to it that we may have overlooked etc.

Thank You.



Ionad Tacaíochta Oideachais na Gaillimhe
GALWAY EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE



We are delighted to be successful in our application for a 2nd year running onto the Blast Programme, which allows for pupils to have the opportunity to work with a professional artist. Classes participating are yet to be selected. 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 again to watching this project unfold.

Catholic Schools Week 2024 – Communities of Service

Catholic Schools will take place from **Sunday 21 to Saturday 27 January 2024** on the theme of Catholic Schools as Communities of Service.

Christian service puts faith into action. In Catholic schools, as we study and look to Jesus Christ as our role model and Teacher, we come to a greater understanding of the depth of Christian service. Jesus served every person regardless of creed, background, faith, social status or age. He put faith into action by showing all those around him how our Heavenly Father is compassionate, courageous and forgiving. Jesus didn't just talk about His faith; He lived it.

We are called by faith to go into the world to share the love of God with all those we meet. Each person, at every age, is called to become Christ for another by serving every person with a humble heart and with a generous spirit.

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 that Grandparents contribute to society and we wish to celebrate that and learn from them on Grandparents Day.

Grandparents Day will take place on Wednesday 24th January- time to be confirmed.

To help us with planning and to ensure we have adequate space, we are asking parents to please email the school to confirm if a grandparent/grandparents can visit. Please name the class teacher your child/ren are in when replying.