



Wuachtlitir Oíche Shamhna



26ú D. Fómhair, 2017.

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all well for the coming year. By now hopefully everyone has settled back into the routine of school. I would like to welcome all our new pupils in second class and all newcomers to other classes in the school. I hope you will enjoy success and happiness during your time in St. Conleth & Mary's. Welcome back, also, to all the staff and a warm welcome to Mr. O Sullivan, 6th class teacher, and to Josie Lane, SNA, who have joined us this year. Despite the stormy weather we have made a good start to 2017/2018. The vast majority of our pupils are working hard, are keen to do their best, wearing the correct uniform / tracksuit and are abiding by the rules. We greatly appreciate the co-operation and support from parents in relation to homework, schoolwork and uniform. Our attendance rate for the month of September was 94%.

It is very important that children are in school on time but it is also important that children do not arrive in school too early. **There is no supervision on the yard in the morning before 9.00am.** If a child is going to be delayed coming to school for doctor/dentist appointment etc. please let the teacher know beforehand by putting a note in the journal the previous day or by ringing the school.

I would like to wish the Parents Association all the best for the coming year and to thank them for their hard work on behalf of the school and for their support.




I hope you all have a good mid-term break.

Sheila O Neill.

Sacramental Preparation

- 2nd classes have begun the 'Bridge Programme' in preparation for First Holy Communion.
- The Confirmation Programme has begun for 6th classes, with Faith Friends starting on Thursday 26th October.

Sporting News.

- Thanks to Mr. Dooley and Mr. O'Sullivan for mentoring our under 11 boys team. Well done, too, to the boys for all their hard work and a good season, during which they reached the Kildare semi-finals. 
- Girls' football training has resumed and will continue in January for 4th, 5th and 6th classes.
- Volleyball coaching is up and running and 2nds, 3rds and 4ths (Rms. 3 and 20) have been enjoying their weekly sessions. 
- Swimming in K-Leisure, Naas, has also begun. Rms. 7 & 8 have completed their 5 week course, while Rms. 4 & 6 are currently enjoying their weekly dip. 

School Choir

The choir are back in action under the direction of Mrs. Cullen and Ms. Nugent and are currently preparing for next spring's Peace Proms Concert in Dublin.



Green Team

Our Green Team has begun meeting again and new members from 5th class will shortly be appointed. Thanks to Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Nugent for facilitating. Feet First Friday continues and all families are being encouraged, where possible, to walk, 'park and stride' or car pool. A survey was conducted last Friday to examine how children came to school and the results are currently being collated. Our focus this term is on reducing the amount of waste so that, with the help of all classes, fewer bins have to be left out for collection each week. **Ní neart go cur le chéile!** Many hands make light work!

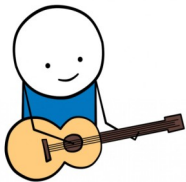


Active Schools Flag

This year we are hoping to secure our 2nd Active Schools Flag. Ms. Bolton and Ms. Dempsey have plenty of activities planned to keep us on the move so keep an eye out for upcoming events.



Guitar Heroes



Once again this year, our 3rd classes are learning how to play the guitar with Don Nea. The weekly sessions have been enjoyed by all participants and they are excited about their upcoming concert for the rest of the school after the mid-term break.

Chess Club

4th class chess meetings, held after school on Wednesdays, are going well. Thanks to the girls and boys for coming each week. They are making good progress and, like millions of people worldwide, are enjoying playing this strategy board game. Thanks to Ms. O'Neill for organising the weekly sessions.



Class News

Rm. 13 did lovely projects on the Romans and the Celts, including paintings of fierce Celtic Warriors.





Rm. 16 performed the drama 'An Tornapa Mór' at Junior Assembly.



Rms. 15 & 16 will be having a dress-up and 'old games' day on Friday to celebrate Halloween.




Environmental Studies

- On Mon. Oct. 9th, Rm. 5 enjoyed a day at The Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, courtesy of Kildare County Council Anti-Litter Initiative. They had a great time frog hunting, pond dipping, learning about carnivorous plants and exploring the bog. 
- The children in Rms. 4 (5th), 14 & 17 (3rd) had a visit from Patrick Hunt on Tue. 24th Oct. He spoke to them about birds and gave them tips on birdwatching and identifying birdsongs. They saw many birds, including robins, blackbirds, rooks and wagtails. Everyone really enjoyed the visit. 


Maths Week

- From Mon. 16th—Fri. 20th Oct. 5th classes were invited over to play maths games with 1st classes in the Infant School. They all had a great time and our students were greatly complimented on the way they interacted with the younger children. 
- A 'Maths Eyes' competition is being run at the moment, with children from 4th, 5th and 6th classes being asked to submit photos of maths situations in everyday life, along with a question or two about their photo. Prizes will be awarded after midterm. 

Holy Family/PBS Show

On Oct. 24th and 25th, 5th & 6th classes were invited to the musical 'Oliver', a co-production by the Holy Family and the P.B.S. It was a fantastic  show, which our pupils thoroughly enjoyed. It was great to see some of our past-pupils taking part, both on stage and in the orchestra. Maith sibh to all concerned.

Cooking

Mr. O'Sullivan's 6th class pupils have been getting lessons in preparing simple, nutritious meals, which they then get to taste. Other classes along the corridor, envious of the tantalising smells emanating from Rm. 1, can't wait for it to be their turn. Sadly, next door neighbours, 2nd class, will have a few years to wait! Buíochas mór to all the parents who help make this possible. 

School Website

The newsletter will be uploaded to www.stconlethandmarys.ie shortly. Please check the website from time to time for updates on school happenings. Also due to be uploaded in the next couple of days are photos of some of the wonderful Halloween Art, which the children have really enjoyed creating.

Bainigí sult as an tsaoire leath-théarma agus tugaigí aire Oíche Shamhna!



Enjoy midterm and take care at Halloween!

