

News and Updates from the Principal

Feb. 28, 2020



Dear parents/guardians,

I hope you all enjoyed the Midterm Break last week.

Code of Behaviour: As a school we are currently reviewing our Code of Behaviour, which you can find on our school web site, on the Policies page. The Incredible Years and Friends for Life programmes greatly promote positive behaviour and a happy and safe environment in our school. A major component of our school's Code of Behaviour are our Golden Rules:

- I will be polite. I will say "Excuse me" and "Thank you."
- I will show respect and kindness. I will share, help others and take turns.
- I will respect property; I will keep my place tidy.
- I will be safe; I will walk indoors and be gentle at all times.
- I will work hard; I will do my best at everything I do.

A core value of RESPECT underpins all interactions in our school. As part of the current review of our Code of Behaviour we are discussing these rules and our core value of respect. The children, staff, parents and Board of Management all contribute to this discussion. On your behalf the Parents' Association represent the parent voice. We encourage you to support our work in ensuring that respect remains a core value.

**Noreen Healy,
Principal**

HSE advice regarding Coronavirus/Covid-19

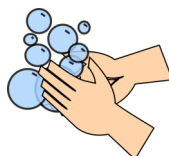
In response to global concerns about the "Coronavirus", we wish to highlight advice from the HSE. Children may be anxious about the virus, so it is a good idea to share information with them at an age-appropriate level, being mindful of giving them trustworthy information without undue fear.

Here is a link to the HSE web site: www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html

Here is a link to the HSE hand-washing advice: www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/how-to-wash-your-hands.html

Remember to wash your hands with soap for a full 20 seconds:

- after coughing or sneezing
- after toilet use
- before eating
- before and after preparing food
- if you are in contact with a sick person
- if your hands are dirty
- if you have handled animals or animal waste



Dates for Your Diary

**Thursday, March 12th at 11 am—
Confirmation**

Choir members from Third to Sixth Class will travel by bus to and from school to sing for the Confirmation ceremony at the church. Students must wear their full uniforms with ties—no PE tracksuits. Thank you.

Confirmation preparation dates:

Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:30 pm— Service of Light for students and parents in the school hall. Children wear full uniforms. We wish them well.

**Monday, March 9th—
Confirmation class retreat at the church.** The students will travel by bus to the church first thing in the morning and return just before 2:20 pm. A pizza lunch is provided.

First Communion preparation date:
**Saturday, March 14th at 6 pm—
Do This in Memory of Me mass**

School Board of Management 2019-23

Michael Gallagher, Chairman
Noreen Healy, Secretary
Kilian Dooley, Treasurer/Parent Nominee
Fiona Keane, Teacher Nominee
Louise McGuinness, Patron Nominee
Jacqui O'Grady, Parent Nominee
Cllr. Dónal Lyons, Community Nominee
Pat Commins, Community Nominee

**Please see attached poster:
Covid-19 Guidance for Schools**

Children's Activities

Brass Instrument Blast!

On Wednesday Fifth and Sixth Class students were treated to a demonstration of brass instruments from local musicians working with Music Generation Galway City.

We are now delighted that Music Generation are offering tuition in brass instruments for any interested children starting with those classes. See attached letter and form for expression of interest.

Branar show

Branar Theatre Company will present "Sruth na Teanga" at the former Galway Airport. Our Third and Fourth Classes will attend on March 9th. This show is part of the Galway 2020 initiative.

Global Citizenship Litter and Waste Action Day

On Friday, March 13th we will be participating in this Green Schools Action Day by cleaning our school grounds and the surrounding area.

Sports at KNS

National Swimming Champions

Congratulations to our school's swimmers who competed in the Irish Minor Schools Swimming Championships at the National Aquatic Centre on Sunday February 9th 2020.

Eoin Connery won gold in the 50m breaststroke and silver in the 50m backstroke.

Niamh Connery won bronze in the 50m breaststroke.

James McEnroy swam a brilliant personal best in the backstroke, and the girls' relay team had a fantastic, personal-best performance.

Well done to all. We are so proud of your achievements.

FAI 5-a-sides

Best of luck to our boys' 5-a-side soccer team who will begin their journey to defend our Connacht Championship in Mervue on Tuesday, March 3rd. An FAI coach will be training Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Class students every Thursday.

Hurling for Junior Infants

Thanks very much to parent Ben Mangan, who again this year has volunteered to coach Junior Infants in hurling skills on Wednesday mornings in March.

Rugby for Second Class: Matt from Connacht Rugby has been coaching some of our older classes every Tuesday this school year. For the month of March he will be working with Second Class students.

Music at KNS

Join the Afterschool choir

Children from Second to Sixth Class can still join our KNS Choir with Lisa Seary every Monday after school. See the attached flyer.

Brass instrument lessons available

See top of this page and attachment from Music Generation.

Looking Ahead

- **Thursday, March 5th**
School closes at 1:20 for a staff meeting
- **St. Patrick's Day—Tuesday, March 17th**
School is closed
- **Friday, April 3rd**
School closes at 12 noon for Easter break and re-opens on Monday, April 20th

Calling any Engineer Parents!

- **March 2nd to 6th—Engineering Week**
Parents who work or study in the engineering field are invited to share their love of engineering with the students. Please contact the school if you can help out, perhaps by visiting a class and speaking about your work or providing us links to assist our plans for Engineering Week.

Science Roadshow

There are many activities planned for Engineering Week, including the start of an ongoing collaborative project between our school and Coláiste Éinde. Over a number of weeks students in First, Second, Fifth and Sixth Class will take part in hands-on science activities with Dr. Seán Meally (teacher) and students from Coláiste Einde.

Park and Stride 2020-21

Our school has registered for the Galway City Council Schools Park and Stride initiative. Park and Stride means leaving the car about 10 minutes walk from the school gate and making the last leg of the journey to school on foot. We will update families with full information as we receive it from City Council.

For Your Information

While these activities are not school related, we are passing along, for your information, the attached flyers:

- Dyslexia seminar
- Maintaining Mental Wellbeing in an Era of Digital Distraction