

St Patrick's Boys' School

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 2 nd March	Confirmation
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	School closed, Referendum
Friday 15 th March:	Lá Glas
Monday 18 th March:	School closed St. Patrick's Day
Friday 22 nd March:	Easter Holidays (School closed for two weeks)
Saturday 11 th May:	First Holy Communion



St. Patrick's Day

The school will close on Monday 18th March for St. Patrick's Day holiday.

Lá Glas

As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge, we will celebrate **Lá Glas** on Friday 15th March. Children and staff are invited to dress up in green on this special day. We look forward to seeing your green outfits.

Easter Holidays

The school will close for two weeks for the Easter break. The school will close from Friday 22nd March (which will be a normal school day) and will re-open on Monday 8th April.

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion

Our sixth-class boys and the girls from GNS will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 2nd March. We wish God's blessings on all the children on this very special occasion.

Parents, sponsors, family and friends of the Confirmation group are invited to the school on Friday 1st March for the Confirmation Prayer Service.

The date for First Holy Communion is Saturday 11th May (at 1:00 pm)

Morning Assembly

Children are supervised every morning from 9:10 am to 9:20 am. Thank you for making sure that children do not arrive before this time. There is a Breakfast Club available for children/families that need to arrive earlier. The Breakfast Club is available from 8:30 am. It has proved very popular and we now have many children attending daily. Please contact the school office by email stpatsboyscarn@gmail.com or by phone on 0749374136 if you need information about joining the Breakfast Club.

Parents are reminded that they should not drive into the school carpark in the mornings or afternoons. The carpark is extremely busy with staff cars and buses. A small number of families have permission to drive in. If you feel that you need to drive into the school grounds, please speak to Mrs. McLaughlin, Principal.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on 7th March. All children have received World Book Day tokens which may be redeemed in book shops. There will be competitions and activities to mark this special day in all classes.

Mobile Phones: Reminder

Parents are reminded that children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school. Child protection is of paramount importance and this rule is implemented in the interests of the safety of all of our pupils.

Debating

Our debating team progressed to the county semi-finals after beating Kilmacrennan School. They proposed the motion Sport always brings communities together against Glenswilly NS. Unfortunately, the motion was defeated by an excellent team but it was a very close contest. Well done to Alex Bradley (captain), Rory Bradley & Ben Kelly (speakers) and other team members Lochlainn Harkin, Gareth Gomez and Jack Walsh.

It was noted by the organisers that St. Patrick's Boys' School has a great reputation for debating and we were very proud to hear this.

Chess

Eight boys from Fifth Class represented the school on Wednesday at a chess tournament in Scoil Iosagáin, Buncrana. The group included:

Rory Bradley, Alex Doherty, William Ponder, Olexander Rumiantsev, Carter Taitt, Lochlainn Harkin, Jaxon Logue Farren and Vladyslav Honcharov.

The boys had great success on the day and enjoyed the challenge.

Parents' Association Fundraiser

BINGO is back in Carn!

The parents' association are excited to announce the date for their upcoming bingo fundraiser. It will take place on Wednesday 20th March in the Colgan Hall. Doors open at 8.30pm and bingo begins at 9pm sharp. Single books are €10 and jackpot sheets €2. This is sure to be a mega night of fun with lots of amazing cash prizes to win, €50 per line, €100 per house and a fantastic top prize to be announced soon.

There will also be a raffle on the night with fabulous prizes and vouchers for some lucky winners. Your support for this fundraiser will be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Parents' Association

Board of Management

The Board of Management met this week. The board approved our updated policies/procedures; Parental Complaints Procedure, Critical Incidents Policy and English as an Additional Language Policy (EAL). These documents will be available on our school website soon.

We say “Si” to Spanish

Fifth & Sixth Class pupils are currently involved in the “Say Yes to Languages” programme. The children are learning basic Spanish and are enjoying the challenge. We have received funding for an eight-week programme which is delivered by Mr. Mark Spencer. Mr. Spencer is sharing his passion and expertise in Spanish with our pupils and the boys are enjoying the lessons immensely. We recognise the value and importance of a module such as this and it will give our senior pupils a great head start before they transfer to post primary school.



FAIRTRADE

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 4th to 17th March. Change Makers’ focus this year is on getting more fairtrade products available in Donegal shops, cafes and hotels at a time when climate change is already affecting growers, producers and traders. Well done to Mrs. Barr and our Fair Trade committee for their great work.



The school is involved in the ninth renewal application of the green flag this year. A member of green schools visited the school today to talk to the school committee and witness the various projects that the pupils are partaking in. The theme is Global Citizenship food and biodiversity. This theme allows you to partake in local actions, including growing your own organic food as well as focusing on the positive global impacts of consuming local produced food. We hope for a favourable response to our meeting.

Ceilí Mór

The boys and girls from the senior classes (fourth, fifth & sixth) will get together for a Ceilí Mór in the Colgan Hall on Friday 15th March as part of our Seachtain na Gaeilge and Lá Glas activities. The boys are practising their dancing and look forward to meeting up with their friends from GNS. We hope everyone enjoys the fun.



Sport

Soccer: The boys will play an 11-a-side match against Scoil Naomh Fionáin, Whitecastle next week. Some boys played a five-a-side competition recently organised by Finn harps FC. An in-school competition will begin this month for fourth, fifth and sixth classes. Matches will take place during lunchtime and continue until the summer break. Jayden McDaid and Noah Quinn are the last two remaining in the “Last Man Standing” competition.

Hurling: Cathal Doherty and Marty McGrath are doing hurling training with first, second and fourth classes. Master Noel Doherty took a group of boys to a indoor hurling blitz in Foden on Tuesday and this was a very productive and an enjoyable event for all involved.

HSCL

Home Visits: Home visits continue to be an integral part of my role, taking up approximately 30% of my time. Home Visits allow the parents an opportunity to have a chat about how they and their child are settling into school life. Many parents and children have been made aware of and have joined groups as a result of these Home Visits. I fully understand that Home Visits do not suit all of our parents but please feel free to contact me at any time on the HSCL number.

Maths – Helping Your Child with Homework:

This is a free course which is supported by the Donegal ETB. It will run on Thursdays from 10am to 12pm in the chalet in St. Patrick's Girls' School and it's for parents from both St. Patrick's Boys' School and St. Patrick's Girls' School. This is great if you want to brush up on your Maths skills in a small, supportive environment. Tea and biscuits are also provided.

Internet Safety: Donegal Youth Service will be giving an information talk to parents on Internet Safety in St. Patrick's Boys' School on Wednesday 13th March at 9.30 a.m. They will provide parents with a range of information on how to keep children safe online and how to protect their personal information from predators and hackers. A practical booklet will also be provided with information on secure apps, parental controls, restriction settings, Bluetooth, privacy settings, email, scams and the various gaming consoles. If you would like to book a place, please get in contact so I can ensure I have the correct number of booklets available.

Sinéad McLaughlin: 0862383847 @Carnhscl on Instagram carnhscl@gmail.com

Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh go léir.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all our children and families.

