

# SCOIL NAOMH PÁDRAIG

## APRIL/MAY NEWSLETTER

### Dates for your Diary

Easter Holidays  
School Closed (Autism Training)  
School closed (Bank holiday)  
First Holy Communion  
Sports Day (weather permitting)  
School Closed (Bank Holiday)  
Fan the Flame Mass (Sixth Class)  
Summer Holidays

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June



### Easter Holidays

The school will close on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April for the Easter holidays. This will be a full school day (2pm for Infants and 3pm for all other classes). The school will re-open on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

### Staff Training

The school will close for staff training in Autism on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. When schools open an Autism class, it is obligatory for all staff to receive training in this area. This training is provided by OIDE (support service for teachers and school leaders, funded by the Department of Education).

### Autism Acceptance Week

Please see separate flyer containing the information about all the great activities we have planned this week.

## **First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 1:00 pm in Sacred Heart Church. This ceremony is for children from Scoil Naomh Pádraig and GNS. We wish God's blessing on all of the children and their families on this very special occasion.

## **School Diary**

The school diary is the main means of communication between teachers and parents/guardians. It tells you what homework your child has every night. Teachers may also write notes about your child's achievements or concerns the teacher may have. You are requested to countersign notes. You are asked also to sign the diary every day.

## **Spelling Bee**

Congratulations to John McElhinney, Sixth Class, winner of our school Spelling Bee which we held recently. John represented us in Letterkenny at the county final of Eason's Spelling Bee and he certainly did us proud! John came second in this competition. What an amazing achievement! Well done, John.

## **Art Competition**

Congratulations to Tadhg Lynott, First Class who was highly commended in the recent Donegal Co. Council Road Safety Poster Competition. There was great excitement in Tadhg's class when his prize arrived by post. Well done, Tadhg.

## **Feis Domhnaigh**

Feis Domhnaigh will be held on 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We look forward to participating again this year. More information will follow at a later date.

## **Chess**

A team of eight students travelled to Letterkenny on Friday to participate in the county final of the Ficheall tournament. Huge congratulations to the boys- they were placed third in the county.

Team members were: Oleksandr Rumiantsev, Carter Taitt, William Ponder, Matvii Ryga, Jaxon Logue Farren, Matthew Kelly, Rory Bradley and Vladyslav Honncharov.

## **Mobile Phones**

In the interest of child protection and the safety of all pupils, children are not permitted to have mobile phones at school. Parents/guardians are kindly requested to make sure that devices are **not** brought into the school. Any mobile phones found will have to be collected from the principal by parent/guardian.

## **Board of Management**

The Board of Management met this week. The board is working on our new Anti-Bullying policy called Bi Cinealta. The board thanked the staff for all their hard work, including the great effort that has gone into the Autism Acceptance week.

## **Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) and Stay Safe**

RSE and stay Safe will be taught in the school in the coming weeks. Both these programmes are integral parts of Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE). The sensitive elements of RSE are covered under “Growing and Changing” and “Taking Care of My Body”. The content may be viewed at [www.curriculumonline.ie/sphe](http://www.curriculumonline.ie/sphe)

Stay Safe is a primary school-based approach to the prevention of child abuse. The aim of stay Safe is to reduce vulnerability to child abuse and bullying through the provision of a personal safety education programme. Stay Safe seeks to enhance self-protective skills by participating in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger. Further information is available at [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie)

Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

## **Rugby**

Thank you to Inishowen Rugby and Tara McConalogue for providing rugby training to our first, second, third and fourth classes. This is proving very popular with our pupils.

## **HSCL News**

### Home Visits

As HSCL my role is to support you as parents/guardians as your child makes their way through primary school. Please feel free to contact me at any time if a problem arises eg. School refusal or if you just want a chat. You are welcome to come into the school to my office, or, if you'd prefer, I'd be more than happy to come out to your home.

### 'Healthy Me'

Our 'Healthy Me' program started on March 4th for 6 weeks with Sheila Keyes facilitating it. The focus is on gathering to share experiences and discuss tips and advice on how to make small changes, while being consistent and staying positive within your family. It's a place and space to work through some of the challenges you maybe have as parents E.g. managing technology, healthy eating and self-care.

### Book Club

A Book Club meets every second Friday at 10am in Carndonagh Community Library. It is intended to be a positive, welcoming space for readers of all levels. All levels of readers are welcome.

### Maths – Fetac Level 3

Well done to the parents who are consistently showing up every Wednesday in the Colgan Hall, working on our Maths assignments. This will continue throughout the year. Lots of credit due to these parents.

### Crochet

A 6-week crochet class is ongoing for parents in St. Patrick's GNS. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions for other classes too.

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*Happy Easter to all our children and families*