



ST. MARNOCK'S N.S.



MESSAGE FROM MS TRIMBLE

It's been a busy and exciting term here in St. Marnock's NS as we celebrated Book Week and World Book Day at the end of February and Seachtain na Gaeilge from 13th - 16th March. B'ócáid iontach é inár scoil nuair a chéiliúramar Seachtain na Gaeilge ón 9ú - 16ú Márta! Everyone made an extra special effort to speak as Gaeilge during that week and it was a great celebration of Irish language and culture. Children took part in a wide range of activities such as Fógraí Naomh Mearnóg when poems, songs and jokes as Gaeilge were broadcasted by your children from my office!

We were delighted to welcome visiting traditional musicians from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Phort Mearnóg back to our school and we were so proud to see our own musical pupils joining them to take part in a traditional music concert in the hall. Everyone had great fun as Ms. T. Phelan taught Irish dancing in the hall and there was also a great variety of other activities organised by our Seachtain na Gaeilge team which you can read about in our newsletter. It all culminated in a colourful parade outdoors with all classes taking part as our local piper Mick Foyne played traditional music on bagpipes and St. Patrick paid a visit to join in our parade, Morshiúl Naomh Pádraig! Go raibh míle maith ag gach éinne a ghlac páirt - Thanks to everyone who made Seachtain na Gaeilge such a great success!

As we approach the end of term tomorrow (Friday 31st March), I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their support, dedication and commitment to your children. We will close at 12.00 midday and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school after the Easter holidays on Monday 17th April.

Enjoy our newsletter & have a very happy Easter!
Cáisc Shona daoibh go léir!
Sinéad Trimble



UPCOMING EVENTS

- St. Marnock's will celebrate Active Schools Week starting on April 24th. The children will take part in a guided "Wake up, shake up" dance each morning and classes will get coaching in various sports during the week.
- Please support our Parents' Association Book Fair Fundraiser which will take place from 24th - 26th April. This is a great fundraiser to encourage children to read more while also raising much needed funds for books for our library project. More details will follow after the Easter holidays. Thanks to Ríona Myers and her team of parent volunteers from the Parents' Association for all their planning and preparation for this.
- The school will close at 12 noon on 31st March for Easter Holidays. Happy Easter everyone!





BOOK WEEK IN ST. MARNOCK'S



We celebrated World Book Day with a week of book-related activities this year. There was a 'buddy system' in place for the week where a senior class paired up with a junior class and took part in shared reading and book discussion. Children also designed book covers, wrote book reviews and took part in book quizzes during the week. Mr. Maughan's class learned a rap song by MC Grammar that is based on International book day and performed it for Ms. O'Dowd's class. There was also a 'Secret Reader' competition where the teachers posed for photographs with their faces disguised by an open book. The children had to guess who each teacher was. On Friday the children and teachers dressed up as their favourite book characters. There were some very imaginative costumes on show.



MALAHIDE LIBRARY VISIT



Ms. Joyce's 3rd Class and Ms. B Phelans 2nd Class travelled by DART to attend a workshop in Malahide Library as part of this year's World Book Day celebrations. The workshop was hosted by Irish children's author Alan Nolan. Alan Nolan is best known for titles such as *The Sackville Street Capers* and *Gordon's Game*. The children had an opportunity to read some of *The Sackville Street Capers* before they went to the library. Alan gave the children an insight into the interesting life on an author and the children got to do some fun book-related activities in the library. A great day was had by all!



SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE



We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge in the run up to St. Patrick's day in St. Marnock's. There were lots of activities organised for the week including a 1916 commemoration, a concert, a quiz, Irish dancing and even a visit from St. Patrick himself! The week began with the 1916 commemoration, organised by the sixth class teachers and students. Children were chosen to act the parts of some of the signatories of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic. Then the students of sixth class sang Grace, the song written about artist Grace Gifford who married Joseph Mary Plunkett in the chapel at Kilmainham Gaol just hours before he was executed by firing squad in 1916. Mr. Corkery and Mr. Spellacy accompanied them on guitars. On the same day St. Patrick visited the school. All the children assembled in front of the school as St. Patrick went around shaking hands and posing for photos.

On Tuesday morning we had a traditional music concert in the hall. First children who attend traditional music lessons in the local Comhaltas branch played three tunes. Then Don and his band from the same Comhaltas branch sang some songs for the children. After that, the Irish dancers in the school danced for us. It was a very entertaining morning. On Wednesday and Thursday there were Irish dancing lessons with Ms. T. Phelan and a table quiz in Irish hosted by Mr. Corkery. Go raibh míle maith ag na múinteoirí agus ag na páistí go léir sa scoil a rinne iarracht speisialta do Sheachtain na Gaeilge! Búiochas faoi leith d' fhoireann Sheachtain na Gaeilge a d'eagraigh na himeachtaí go léir. Scoil Naomh Mearnóg abú!

LOW LIE THE FIELDS OF ATHENRY!



Ms. Kenealy's fourth class have been busy learning how to play, sing and speak about the song 'The Fields of Athenry'. Dan Stalley, Max Bamford, Andrew Low and Bobby Stafford learned the chords on guitar. During Seachtain na Gaeilge, classes from 3rd to 6th went to the hall to see them and singers from the other fourth classes sing and play the song. Then Ms. Kenealy talked about the history of the song and taught the song to the children. Following that, everyone sang a rousing rendition of the song together. It was a great learning experience and a chance for the children to sing a well known song together.



A BUDDING POET



According to her teacher, Ms. Kenealy, Quinn McManus has shown great talent for writing poetry. She even has her own poetry book as you can see in the picture. Quinn wrote a lovely poem called 'Inné' for Seachtain na Gaeilge. She even performed it for the school over the intercom. Quinn is inspired by nature and has written poems called 'Fire', 'Wind' and 'Trees'.



NATIONAL SWIMMING SUCCESS



The the Irish Minor School Swimming Championship took place in the National Aquatic centre on Sunday 25th March. There were three St. Marnock's students competing: Kyla Connaughton from Mr. Doherty's Fourth class, Tommaso Scaringella from Ms. Cullen's third class and Matteo Scaringella from Mr. Maughan's fifth class.

Kyla Connaughton competed in the 50m back crawl and the 50m breaststroke and improved her times from the Leinster gala. Tommaso came fourth in 50m front crawl and 5th in 50m breaststroke. Matteo came 2nd in 100m Individual Medley and 3rd in 50m breaststroke. He is pictured with his Irish National Silver and Bronze medals. Well done all!



THROUGH THE ROPES



Nathan Lynch in Mr. Spellacy's class represented Portmarnock boxing club in the Dublin Boxing League recently. It took place in the National Stadium. He had three bouts. He lost the first, won the second against a boxer from Baldoyle and lost the third one. Well done Nathan!



GYMNAST OF THE FUTURE



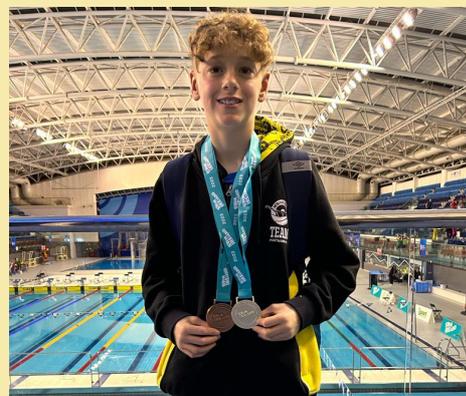
Lena Lenihan from Ms. Kennedy's first class took part in a gymnastics competition in the Mid Sutton gymnastics club on Saturday 25th March. Here she is with her certificate and medal. Well done Lena!



WATCH THIS DRIVE!



Rory Costello in Mr. Doherty's fourth class plays golf at Forrest Little golf club in Swords. He practises during the week and plays on club competitions on Saturdays. Pictured is Rory representing his club in a team event. He has had some wins already. Rory is improving every week and ready for the season ahead. Well done Rory!





DIVING TO SUCCESS



Fionn Richardson in Ms. Monaghan's third class is travelling to Scotland on the 27th of April with Shamrock Diving club to compete in the Scottish Open. He will compete in the 10 and 11 year old skills competition and the open synchro competition.

Fionn competed in the Irish open in November and won a silver medal for diving. He is very excited to be travelling with the team this will be his first competition away from Ireland and his third time competing in a diving competition.



SQUASH NEWS



Danny O'Brien and Jan Kruszynski from sixth class and Ethan Ryan from fifth class represented St. Marnock's N.S. as a team in a school's squash tournament in Sutton Lawn Tennis Club recently. It was a competition for mostly North Dublin Schools. The boys came third in their competition. Well done to the boys!

In other squash news, Danny O'Brien represented Leinster in an inter-province competition in Belfast recently. Leinster came first and Danny won a medal for his efforts.



PHOTO GALLERY

