



# ST. MARNOCK'S N.S.



## MESSAGE FROM MS TRIMBLE

What an event packed term it's been here in St. Marnock's NS as we celebrated Book Week and World Book Day from 4th - 7th March and Seachtain na Gaeilge from 11th - 15th March. The official opening of our new school library took place on the 6th of March. Our special guest on that day was the renowned children's illustrator and author, Margaret Anne Suggs who provided workshops to Junior classes and also helped us to cut the ribbon at our opening ceremony. We celebrated our own school's World Book Day that day, culminating with the launch of the publication of your children's fantastic pieces of writing. Some well-known children's authors visited our classes that week. You can find out lots more about it in our newsletter!

Special thanks to our library team of co-ordinators, Mr. Maughan, Ms. Curtin and Mr. Martin Carroll, who have worked hard getting our new library off the ground, planning Book Week and our Library Launch in collaboration with our wonderful Parents' Association. A BIG THANK YOU to our P.A. co-chairs, Jenny O'Connor and Sinéad McGowan, the parent and grandparent library volunteers and also Ciara O'Brien who co-ordinated the publication of the children's books funded by the P.A. and organised in collaboration with our library team.

Bhaineamar go leir an-taitneamh as Seachtain na Gaeilge ón 11ú - 15ú 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 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. The week concluded with 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 Ms. Phillips, Mr. Martin-Carroll, Ms. T. Phelan and to everyone who made Seachtain na Gaeilge such a great success!

As we approach the end of term tomorrow (Friday 22nd 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 8th April. Enjoy our newsletter & have a very happy Easter!

Cáisc Shona daoibh go léir!  
Sinéad Trimble



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- The school will close for the Easter holidays at 12 noon on Friday 22nd March. We hope everyone has a great Easter break!
- We look forward to celebrating Active Schools Week from 15th - 19th April. There are lots of exciting activities planned with our customary Wake up, Shake up dance every morning and plenty of sporting activities with visiting coaches during the week.
- Students from Sixth Class will make their Confirmation on Friday 26th April.
- First Holy Communion is on Saturday 18th June

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

- A big thank you to Jenny O'Connor, Sinéad McGowan and all the P.A. team all their help with the library opening, the book launch and organising author/illustrator visits to the school.



## BOOK WEEK IN ST. MARNOCK'S



We celebrated Book Week between 4th and 7th of March this year. To help us celebrate, three authors and two illustrators visited the school to talk with the children about their work. Classes took part in activities such as buddy reading, book quizzes, a Book Day rap and designing book covers.



On Tuesday, Rod Smith, the well known Malahide author visited to speak with the Fifth and Sixth classes about his new book, *The Destroyer of Worlds, Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb*.

On Wednesday, Margaret Anne Suggs, a local Illustrator and author visited the Infant classes and did an art activity based on her book, *The Moth and the Moon*.



On Thursday, Díóg O'Connell, a parent and author visited the Third classes to carry out a workshop based on her book about Irish street games called *Under the Moon, Over the Stars*.

The renowned author, Shane Hegarty also visited the Fourth classes to speak about his books, *Darkmouth* and *Boot: Small Robot, Big Adventure*.

The authors loved coming to the school and left signed copies of their books for the library. It was great to see children getting excited about their books.



## LIBRARY OPENING

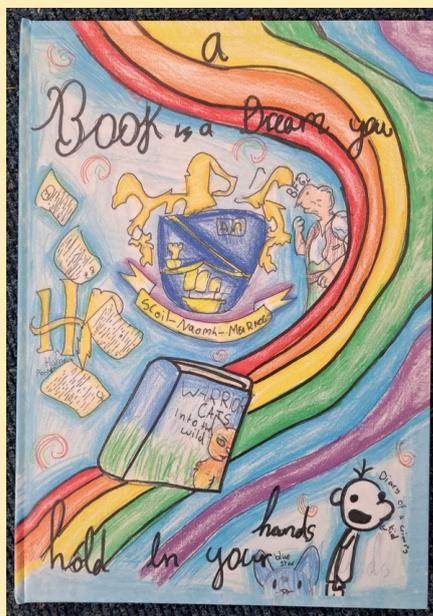


The official opening of the new St. Marnock's library took place on Wednesday 6th March. It was attended by special guest, illustrator Margaret Anne Suggs. Also in attendance were Ms. Flynn's fourth class, Jenny O'Connor and Ciara O'Brien from our P.A, Ms. Trimble, Mr. Martin Carroll and Ms Curtin.

The P.A. had been busy decorating the library with balloons and wall displays during the week and the room looked lovely. The P.A. also presented a beautifully bound copy of the *St. Marnock's Children's Book* which has a piece of writing from every child in the school. The designer of the book cover, Evelyn Carter from Ms. Flynn's class is pictured below with principal, Ms. Trimble.

Ms. Trimble announced the opening of the library and Margaret Anne Suggs cut the ribbon. Thank you to Jenny O'Connor, Sinéad McGowan and the team of volunteers who are coming in each week to work as librarians and to help us sort and scan the books.

Thank you also to Ms. Trimble, Mr. Maughan, Ms. Curtin and Mr. Martin Carroll for coordinating the new library initiative.





# SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE



Bhaineamar an-taitneamh as Seachtain na Gaeilge i Scoil Naomh Mearnóg.

We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge in the run up to St. Patrick's Day this year. It was a great week with lots of activities including a treasure hunt in Irish, Irish dancing with Ms. Phelan, Quizzes in Irish, Irish drama and announcements every morning in Irish. It was great to hear Irish being used around the school.

There was a concert on Thursday with lots of talent on show. Firstly, 12 children from the Naomh Mearnóg Comhaltas branch and three teachers (Mr. Maughan, Ms. Murphy and Ms. Dillon) played some traditional tunes on piano, fiddles and tin whistles. Then Don Murphy and his group from the Comhaltas sang some songs and played some tunes. They were joined by two past pupils, Leah Treitlinger and Cliona Dalton on bodhrán. The two girls explained how their bodhráns work and the showed the children the different sticks you can use to play them. There was a great atmosphere with children and teachers clapping and singing along. Ms. Kenealy led us in a rousing rendition of "The Rattlin' Bog". Lastly, three groups of Irish dancers from the school performed jigs and reels.

On Friday, we had our own St. Patrick's Day parade outside the school and St. Patrick himself paid a visit, much to the delight of the children. Mick the bagpiper escorted him around the yard playing traditional tunes. We then sang Amhrán na bhFiann to round off a great Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024. Go raibh míle maith ag na múinteoirí agus ag na páistí go léir sa scoil a rinne iarracht speisialta do Sheachtain na Gaeilge!

Búíochas faoi leith d' fhoireann Sheachtain na Gaeilge a d'eagraigh na himeachtaí go léir. Scoil Naomh Mearnóg abú!





## SIXTH CLASS GLASNEVIN CEMETERY VISIT



The Sixth classes were blessed with sunshine and blue skies as they travelled to Glasnevin Cemetery for a guided history tour on 6th March.

The children took part in a very informative tour of the graveyard, stopping at Daniel O'Connell's crypt, and the graves of Eamon DeValera, Constance Markiewicz, Grace Gifford, Charles Stewart Parnell, James Larkin, and Michael Collins. The guide didn't spare the gory details!

After the tour of the graveyard the children got to visit the interactive museum in the grounds which had lots of information about the history of the cemetery. Apparently, there have been over 1.5 million people buried there since it opened in 1832.

This was an excellent opportunity for Sixth Class to gain perspective on their studies of the 1916 Rising, The War of Independence and the Civil war.



## SPRING CHICKS IN FIFTH CLASS



Ms. Dillon's Fifth Class were busy knitting Spring chicks recently. Judging by the lovely stitchwork, there are some talented craftspeople in her class. Inside each chick is a small Easter egg that will be laid when Easter comes!

## U 11 CAMOGIE VICTORY

Girls from the Naomh Mearnóg U 11 camogie team were named "Team of the Tournament" and were awarded a plaque in this year's Gormanstown hurling tournament. Their games were spread over five weeks and the girls put in some great performances. All of the girls are in fourth and fifth class in the school so we will be watching out for some of these rising stars when they play camogie for the school team in the future. Well done girls!





# INTERNATIONAL GIRL GUIDE THINKING DAY



In 1926 girl guides and girl scouts from around the world met in the USA for their fourth World Conference. They agreed that there should be a special annual day when Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world think of each other and express their thanks and appreciation for their international movement. This was called Thinking Day. The delegates chose 22 February as the date for Thinking Day because it was the birthday of both Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scout Movement, and Olave Baden-Powell, who was World Chief Guide. The girl guides in St. Marnock's wore their uniforms into school on this day to celebrate. Pictured are Anna Brennan, Elodie Gilhooley, Catherine Madden, Nicole Costello, Evanna Rooney, Orla Keane, Madison Heary and Amelie McCann.



## FAI PRIMARY 5-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT



This year's soccer competitions got underway in February, starting with the FAI Primary 5-A-Side Tournament, which took place in Rivervalley, Swords.

The boys were up first and after some stellar group stage performances, they qualified for the semi-finals. The lads gave it everything they had but unfortunately they lost out on penalties.

The girls were up next. Again, after 4 stellar group stage performances they eased through to the semi-finals. After another exceptional performance here, they found themselves in the final. It was a closely fought battle between both schools but after extra time and a penalty shootout, our girls won and became regional champions! They now move on to the Dublin Finals after Easter, with the hope of qualifying for the national finals which will be held in the Aviva Stadium!

The soccer doesn't stop there though. For the first time in our school's existence we have both boys' and girls' 11-a-side teams competing in FAI competitions. The boys have gotten off to a flying start, winning 2 from 2 and scoring a combined 15 goals! The girls are yet to kick off their 11-a-side campaign and will do so after Easter.

Exciting times ahead for soccer in St. Marnock's!



## SWIMMING SUCCESS



Our swimmers competed well at the Leinster Minor School's Championships in the National Aquatic Centre in January. Kyla Connaughton qualified in the 50m freestyle and 50m back stroke for the Irish Minor School Championships in March. Filip Bottelier and Leon Niemczyk swam strongly in the breast stroke and freestyle races. Leon also competed in the 100m Individual Medley for the first time. Matteo Scaringella won bronze medals for the 50m breaststroke and 100m IM and qualified for the Irish Minor School's in both. Tommaso Scaringella won a silver medal in 50m fly. He also qualified for the Irish Minor School's in the 50m freestyle, 50 breaststroke and 50m fly. The boys also swam in two relays (free and medley) and they worked well as a team, supporting each other. Well done all and thanks to Manuela Cingalo for the great coaching.

