

Spring is in the air! We hope everyone is keeping well. Following Government announcements around the easing and ending of some restrictions, we await further guidance from the Department as to what this will look like from a school perspective. We do hope that bubbles, pods, PPE and so on will begin to take a back seat in our everyday school life. Once we receive updated guidance and information, we will let you know.

Clothing collection

We are holding a clothing collection on **Thursday 17th February**. This is a great opportunity to do some spring cleaning and help raise some funds for our school at the same time! Items accepted include: women's, men's and children's clothing, handbags, belts, all paired shoes - NO PILLOWS OR DUVETS, please. Curtains, bed linen, towels, blankets and soft toys are allowed. Due to limited storage space in the school building, we would ask that you drop your bags to St. Multose Hall on Thursday 17th February in advance of collection on the morning of Friday 18th. Bags can be dropped between the hours of 8.50am and 2.30pm. Please support!

Bills

We would appreciate if any outstanding bills could be paid over the coming week, please. If you encounter any issues with the Aladdin payment system, please contact Sue in the office. Please contact us in confidence if you are experiencing any difficulties in making payments.

School Self-Evaluation

As part of our School Self-Evaluation process, we are looking at the Irish language and the use of the spoken word. If you haven't already had a chance to complete our parent survey, please click on the link below. Your input is very much appreciated.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3RL6T7K>

BLAST: Arts in Education

We are still looking for some supplies for our upcoming art project with Julie Kelleher. Julie will be working with children from Síológa and Junior Infants to 1st class. She has asked that we gather bubble wrap (small bubbles!), rolls of white paper/wallpaper, wool (not acrylic), pudding containers e.g. plum pudding containers and old cotton bed sheets.

Student Council

We recently had a student council meeting in our beautiful outdoor classroom area. It was a most productive meeting. The student council suggested some fun activities for the months ahead. Their first suggestion will take place at the end of Friendship week...Pyjama Day (18th February)!



As part of our renewal of the Amber Flag, we are going to support the work of Special Olympics Ireland and celebrate the importance of friendship with them. Friendship February is a fun chance to encourage our pupils to take part in two acts of friendship a day across one week while raising funds for Special Olympics Ireland. We will hold this event during the week before mid-term (14th-18th February).

We know how important it is to be nice to one another and we will be learning about how important kindness and friendship are for the athletes of Special Olympics Ireland. Through clubs and competitions, Special Olympics athletes make life-long friends, learn to include

and support one another, help celebrate their successes and support each other through the tough times. On the final day (Friday 18th February), we are being asked to show an act of kindness towards the athletes of Special Olympics Ireland through a €2 donation or a donation of your choice. You can also donate online at

www.justgiving.com/campaign/FriendshipFebruary2022 (don't forget to mention your school name and class in the donation). All donations will go towards supporting children and adults with an intellectual disability across Ireland who are enjoying all the benefits of being part of a Special Olympics club, taking part in sports leagues, development days and healthy athlete programmes as well as so much more. Donate if you wish or alternatively, you could tell a family friend about the important work of Special Olympics Ireland. We are really looking forward to joining Special Olympics Ireland in celebrating friendships and kindness this February. We hope you all enjoy taking part in Friendship February 2022.

P.E. days

Síológa: Wednesday

Junior Infants - 1st: Wednesday

2nd and 3rd class: Wednesday

4th and 5th class: Thursday

6th class: Friday

Illness

Please continue to exercise extreme vigilance in relation to symptoms and illness. Even if your child has had a negative antigen test, their symptoms should have almost fully or fully resolved for two days (48 hours) before they return to school.

Head lice

Please be vigilant in checking your children's hair weekly and informing the school immediately if you suspect your child has head lice, so that we can alert other parents. If you do detect head lice, please treat accordingly with medicated treatments. Ask pharmacists for advice as to what treatments would suit your child. Sometimes, one treatment is not enough and it can easily reoccur. There are numerous treatments available. Please note all hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back.

Thank you to our Parents' Association

Huge thanks again to our PA for the wonderful addition to our uniform, the school bobble hats. The children and staff are wearing them with pride! A very kind and thoughtful gift.



Inter School Sports Association

The Inter School Sports Association recently held a meeting about the possibility of holding the annual favourites: the hockey tournament, hockey blitz, soccer blitz and athletics events. Further details and information will be made available to the parent body, as we receive it.

Creative Clusters: Ukulele le Chéile

As many of you will be aware, the children from 2nd to 5th have been learning ukulele under the direction of Christine Deady. On Thursday 3rd February, the staff and children of Ballymoney National School took us on a virtual tour of their school and performed some of their ukulele pieces. Next week, the children of Kilgarriffe National School are the hosts followed by St Multose NS on Thursday 17th of February where we will have an opportunity to showcase our school and ukulele pieces.

We also hope that Robbie Carroll (Assistant Director of Music at St Fin Barre's Cathedral), will return to our school in the near future to recommence singing and music lessons.

Dates for your diary:

February mid-term: Monday 21st February-
Friday 25th February

Coicís na Gaeilge: 1st to 17th March

Ukulele recommences for 2nd to 5th class: 3rd March

Science showcase day (in school): 10th March

St Patrick's Day: 17th March

School photographer: 23rd March (details to follow)

Hockey tournament: 26th March (TBC)

Inter School Sports Hockey Blitz: 2nd April (proposed date)