



Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Clontubrid, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.
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R D S S C I E N C E F A I R

Students from 3rd to 6th class travelled to the **RDS Science Fair in Limerick** on the 19th of January. It proved to be a fantastic day out and we learned a huge amount about physics and chemistry. The children really enjoyed exploring all of the various projects on display and we are hoping that next year we might even enter our own project in the exhibition. Thanks to the Parent's Council for providing the bus and also to our parent volunteers Anne, Sabrina and Karena for travelling with us on the day.

C L O T H I N G C O L L E C T I O N

The school will run a fundraising clothing and textile collection starting on **Monday February the 5th until Wednesday February the 13th**. All clothing items welcome, except for duvets. Laptops and old mobile phones also welcome. The school will be paid by the bag for the clothes. Funds raised will go towards the running of the school. Please spread the word to neighbours, friends and relatives. All support would be greatly appreciated.

A D D I T I O N A L S C H O O L C L O S U R E S

In order for the teaching staff of our school to train in the new "Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools 2017", our school will **close for one full day on Wednesday 14th of February** (before the mid term break) to allow for this training.

On **Tuesday, the 6th of March**, our school will close **one hour early @ 1:40pm** in order to facilitate an in-service on the New Special Education Model. All children will go home at infant home time.

S W I M M I N G

Swimming lessons are ongoing at the moment. Please ensure that your child brings a **warm coat and hat** to wear after the lessons. Children will not be permitted to go out to yard after lessons. Please be reminded that any parent helping out in the dressing rooms before or after the lessons must have received Garda vetting through the school. If any parent requires vetting, please contact the school. Thanks to all the parents who have been helping out with the lessons.

S P E E C H A N D D R A M A

The school will hold a **one day workshop** for Speech and Drama on **Friday 20th of April**. Thanks to Deirdre Dunne for agreeing once again to give up her time to facilitate this valuable workshop.

F A C E B O O K P A G E

Our Facebook page has now gone live. You will find it under '**Scoil Naomh Fiachra Clontubrid**'. We will soon begin posting information to the page. Please add this page if you are on Facebook and share the page with friends and family. We aim to use this page to highlight some of the fantastic work going on in our school and also to celebrate some of our many achievements. Thanks to Tiernan Herlihy for all his help with this.

C R E D I T U N I O N T A B L E Q U I Z

Well done to our under 11 and under 13 quiz teams who competed in the Credit Union Quiz on Friday 26th of January in Cillín Hill. They represented the school brilliantly and finished in very high positions. Our under 11 team was represented by **Orla Phelan, Evan Perry, Liam O'Gorman and Conor Dowling**. Our under 13 team was represented by **Ruadhán Downey, Conor O'Gorman, Katie Brennan and Lucy Dunne**. Thanks to their parents who attended and supervised on the night.

S C H O O L S E C U R I T Y

There have been a number of **issues with security** in the school this year since the summer break. We would ask that if anybody notices people on the school grounds causing damage to please let the school know. On a number of occasions, we have come back from a school break or a weekend to find our bins full with somebody else's rubbish. We recently had a substantial amount of oil taken from the tank. Our basketball stands were also damaged over the summer holidays last year and there have been a number of other small issues in relation to the pitch. Please inform the school if you notice anything. Thanks in advance for your help with this matter.



On the **22nd of February**, **Buddy Bench Ireland** will deliver a one day **training course** on the Buddy Bench Programme to teachers and students in our school. This training was organised and will be paid for by the **'Light Up The Night'** charity organisation who ran a very successful tractor run at Christmas. The school would like to thank one of our parents, **Martin Kenny** for organising this training for our school as part of the work he is doing for this wonderful charity.

P A R E N T ' S C O U N C I L

Thanks to everyone who supported the **Christmas hamper raffle** which raised approximately **€1,200**. The Parent's Council are presently helping the school to review a number of policies including **Internet Acceptable Usage Policy** and the new **Child Safeguarding Policy**.

The Parent's Council have recently subsidised a number of things including new **athletics equipment**, **building blocks** for Aistear in the Junior Room, **novels** for the older children, **science equipment**, **swimming lessons**, **tin whistle lessons** and the bus to the **RDS Science Fair** in Limerick.

The Parent's Council will run a **Bingo** event this term. A text will be sent out with the details soon. Please support this event.

The Parent's Council are organising a talk for children and adults on **Internet Safety**. A text will be sent with further details in the coming days.

S E A C H T A I N N A G A E I L G E

Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl i Scoil Naomh Fiachra ó **20ú go 23ú lá** de Mhí Márta. Beidh a lán gníomhaíochtaí ar siúl cosúil le **"Ticéidí agus Crannchur"**, **"Ceolchoirm"**, **"Tráth na gCeist"** agus gníomhaíochtaí eagsúla eile. Táimid go léir ag tnúth leis an tseachtain seo. Bigí ag caint as Ghaeilge sa bhaile freisin comh minic agus is féidir libh.

H U R L I N G & C A M O G I E

Hurling and camogie training will begin for **4th to 6th class players** after the mid term break when the pitches have dried out. A text messaging service will be set up to inform parents of training and games.

C E L E B R A T I O N E V E N I N G : P I T C H & G R E E N F L A G

The school has provisionally chosen the date of **Friday 18th of May** to hold a celebratory evening at 7:30pm (weather permitting) to **open our new all weather pitch** and **raise our 3rd green flag** for water which we were awarded last year. The children will play an exhibition match and there will be a number of activities on the evening also. The board of management and the parent's council will work together to organise this event and we are hoping to invite all of the local businesses who sponsored our new pitch. Please come along on the evening and enjoy the celebrations with us.

D I G I T A L S C H O O L O F D I S T I N C T I O N

As you may be aware, Scoil Naomh Fiachra holds the status of being a digital school. However, we have now begun the process of applying for the **Digital School of Distinction Award**. Thanks to the teachers involved in this process, especially Ms. Fennelly who will be coordinating it.

F O O D D U D E S

Scoil Naomh Fiachra has been participating in Bord Bia's educational programme **"Food Dudes"** for the past number of weeks. The children have been receiving Fruit and Vegetables everyday. Once the fruit and vegetables have stopped being provided, it is then up parents to send a portion of fruit and veg in with your child everyday in their specialised new fruit and veg lunchboxes. Please support your child with this initiative as it could change their eating habits for the better which will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y

Monday 29th of January - Beginning of **Catholic Schools Week**

Monday 5th – Tuesday 13th of February - **Clothing and Textiles Collection**

Wednesday 14th of February - Closed for **in-service training** on Child Safeguarding Procedures

Thursday 15th & Friday 16th - Closed for **Mid Term Break**

Tuesday 27th of February - **First Confession** in Lisdowney Church @ 7:30pm

Tuesday 6th of March - **Closed @ 1:40pm** (infant home time) for **in-service** on new SEN Model

Monday 19th of March - School closed for **Bank Holiday (St. Patricks Weekend)**

Tuesday 20th to Friday 23rd of March - **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Friday 23rd of March - Closed for **Easter Holidays @ 12 o'clock**

Saturday 28th of April - **First Communion** in Lisdowney Church @ 11am

Friday 18th of May - (Provisionally) Celebration Evening @ 7:30pm — **Opening of Pitch & Green Flag**

Friday 1st of June - **Graduation** for 6th Class

Sunday 10th of June - **Confirmation** in Lisdowney Church @ 11am

Monday 11th to Friday 15th of June - **"Active School Week"**

Friday 22nd of June - Closed @ 12 o'clock for **Summer Holidays**