

UP-COMING SCHOOL TOURS

Our teachers have booked tour venues that are good value, age-appropriate and combine both an educational and fun element:

Class	Venue	Date
Junior Infants	Newgrange Farm	Friday 12 th May
Senior Infants	Lo Lo Town, Navan	Friday 9 th June
1 st & 2 nd Classes	Armagh Planetarium	Thursday 8 th June
3 rd & 4 th Class	Newgrange Monument & Visitors Centre	Monday 6 th & Friday 10 th March
5 th & 6 th Class	The Crystal Maze, Kells, Co Meath	Friday 5 th May



School Calendar 2017/2018



Back to school	Re-open	Wednesday 30 th August 2017
Mid-Term Break	School Closed	Monday 30 th October – Friday 3 rd November 2017 (<i>inclusive</i>)
	School Re-opens	Monday 6 th November 2017
Christmas Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Friday 22 nd December 2017
	School Re-opens	Monday 8 th January 2018
Mid-Term Break	School Closed	Thursday 15 th & Friday 16 th February 2018
	School Re-opens	Monday 19 th February 2018
St. Patrick's Day	School Closed	Monday 19 th March 2018
Easter Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Friday 23 rd March 2018
	School Re-opens	Monday 9 th April 2018
Bank Holiday	School Closed	Monday 7 th May 2018
May Break	School Closed	Monday 28 th May – Monday 4 th June 2018 (incl)
	School Re-opens	Tuesday 5 th June 2018
Summer Holidays	School Closing at 12.20pm	Friday 29 th June 2018





Scoil Mhuire na Trócaire, Ardee, Co. Louth

NEWSLETTER
NO. 4



25th April 2017

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Upcoming School Closures



Monday 1st May ~ Bank Holiday
 Wednesday 3rd May ~ School Closed for Department of Education In-Service Day
 for the Primary Language Curriculum
 Monday 5th June ~ Bank Holiday
 Summer Holidays ~ Closing Thursday 29th June @ 12.20pm

ACTIVE SCHOOLS WEEK

We are busy working towards the Active School Flag Award and as this week is "Active Schools Week" we have a full programme of physical activities planned including Drop Everything and Dance, Wake Up - Shake Up in the Yard, Poc Fada, Dance-a-thon, 5 Minute laps challenge - to name but a few. We will also have visits from local and county GAA players to speak about the important of physical activity and sport. We aim to help and encourage pupils to get 60 minutes of physical activity daily.

Pupils are asked to wear school tracksuit and runners everyday this week.



Friday is JERSEY DAY ~ so girls may wear any sports jersey to school ~ otherwise tracksuit is fine. We want to get moving and do our bit to ensure that we are healthy, happy and fit!



Spelling Bee



Our school will take part in the Eason's Spelling Bee Competition on 16th May. We held our own in-school Spelling Bee for pupils in 5th & 6th classes. After a nail-biting competition the top 3 spellers were:-

- 1st: Suzanne Colreavy (6th Class)
- 2nd: Rhiannon Kelly (5th Class)
- 3rd: Chloë Durrigan (6th Class)

Suzanne will represent our school in the County Final in May ~ good luck Suzanne!



SKY DOME PLANETARIUM

The Sky Dome Mobile Planetarium will visit our school tomorrow, Wednesday 26th April. Pupils will enter a giant dome in our school hall and get a full 360° view of the night sky so they can experience the wonders of the planets, stars and galaxies

without having to travel astronomical distances!

Pupils from 1st to 6th classes are asked to bring €4 for this activity.



SPONSORED WALK

Our Parents' Association will hold their Annual Sponsored Walk on Wednesday 10th May. This is their main fundraising event of the year so we hope all families can support the event. Each family will receive a sponsorship card this week. We hope you can walk with us on the day ~ we plan to depart at 9.45am.



Policy Updates

- The annual review of the school's Anti-Bullying Policy has been undertaken by the Board of Management. A copy of this policy is readily available to parents on request.
- Our staff and Parents' Association have agreed a revised SPHE Policy (Social, Personal and Health Education) and RSE Policy (Relationships and Sexuality Education). The policies now go before the Board of Management for ratification. Our staff will implement our new RSE plan this term and parents will be informed of the lessons and their content prior to class work. A copy of all policies are readily available to parents on request and they will also be available in due course on our new website www.smntardee.ie.



FR O'LEARY'S GOLDEN JUBILEE 1967-2017

We congratulate Fr O'Leary on his Golden Jubilee to the priesthood. Fr O'Leary is Chairperson of our Board of Management and he is most supportive and encouraging of the work of our staff, pupils and school community. We presented a gift to Fr John to mark this special occasion and we wish him continued good health and joy to continue his ministry.





EASTER POM POMS

The industrious girls in Rang 6, fresh from their successful '6th Scents' business enterprise, were once again working hard, this time for the benefit of Temple Street Childrens' Hospital. They raised €100 by making and selling Easter pom pom chicks. Well done girls!



SACRAMENTS

We congratulate the 35 girls in 6th class who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on 2nd April. The girls were very well prepared for the ceremony and we thank their teacher, Mrs Kirby and their families for all their work and support.



Our two Second Classes celebrated their First Penance on 21st March in a lovely ceremony where every child had a special role. They are now preparing for their First Holy Communion on 20th May. Thank you to their teachers Mrs O'Malley and Ms Mullen for all their good work.

ATTENDANCE



We encourage good attendance at all times and overall our pupils have excellent attendance rates. If your child is absent please remember to send a written note of explanation on her return to school. Once a child misses 20 days from school we are obliged to make a report to TUSLA, the Child & Family Agency. We will be conducting the annual standardised literacy and numeracy tests this term. These tests are an important element in the assessment of your child's progress at school. Please make every effort to ensure your child's attendance at school for the remainder of this term.



SPORT

GAA Coaching: 4th & 5th class will receive training this term with GAA coaches from Louth GAA.

GAA Training: Pupils from 5th & 6th classes will continue training after school this term with teachers Ms Mullen and Mrs King.

Tag Rugby: 2nd -6th classes have completed 5 weeks of tag-rugby coaching.

Swimming: 3rd - 5th classes have completed a 6 week course of swimming lessons in Aura, Dundalk.

Fit Kids: On Friday all classes from infants to 2nd class will commence a 6 week programme with Niall Teather of "Fit Kids" - this programme focuses on the development of gymnastics skills.

Yoga: Once again the 6 week after-school yoga programme was very popular. Thank you to Shauna & Aisling of Oriel Yoga.

