



St. Michael's Times

March 2023

Parents' Association



Thanks to the Parents' Association who hosted our Easter raffle and Bun sale. One lucky pupil from each class won a large Easter egg. With the help of the Easter Bunny, we gave an Easter egg to each child in the Special Classes. It was a wonderful morning and the term ended on a high. Many thanks to everyone who supported these initiatives.

Hurling – Spring 2023

Our hurling team are currently training for the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Spring League, which starts after the Easter break. St. Michael's are in Division 1 of the competition. We will play against Dunboyne, Kildalkey, St. Colmcilles, Kells, Cannistown and Ratoath. Many thanks to Mr. Dwane and Mr. E. Mac Suibhne who are coaching the team this year.



School Uniform

We expect our pupils to wear their complete school uniform on uniform days. Please ensure children wear black shoes /runners with their green uniform. Pupils may wear their school tracksuits on P.E. days only. If, due to unforeseen circumstances, your child is unable to wear the school uniform, please forward a note of explanation to the class teacher.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge, which we celebrated from March 13th - 17th, was a huge success again this year. The pupils participated in a range of activities to celebrate our traditions, culture and native language. Well done to all the pupils who won Gaeilgóirí na Seachtaine, Tráth na gCeist, Píosa Scríobhneoireachta agus Píosa Ealaíne.

The week culminated with Lá Glas and a special assembly on Thursday, March 16h. Pupils from Mr. Joyce's class sang "Ireland's Call". Pupil's from Ms. Metcalfe's recited the poem "Bogha Baisti". All pupils sang "Geronimo" as gaeilge. Bhaineamar go léir an-taitneamh as "Seachtain na Gaeilge". Comhghairdeas dó chách!



Marathon Relay

We will be holding our annual school Marathon Relay Fundraiser on Thursday, April 20th at 10:00am. The School Marathon Relay is a fun and inclusive event for all children in our school and all money raised will go towards our fund for an all weather pitch. All pupils will run the distance of a marathon, 42km, in relay format, with each pupil running/walking a minimum of 100m. Each family has received a sponsorship card this week.

Please return sponsorship cards by Tuesday, April 18th. This event will take place in the back pitch/back yard. Many thanks for your support.



Spar FAI Primary School 5s

Well done to all the 5th and 6th class pupils who participated in the FAI schools 5-A-Side competition in the MDL on Friday, March 3rd. Five teams competed against other schools from Co. Meath. All the boys must be complimented on their behaviour, performance on the day and sportsmanship in success and defeat. Thanks to Ms. Feeney, Mr. Dwane, Mr. Mac Suibhne, Ms Mc Keown, Mr. Joyce and Ms. Burke for helping out on the day.



Student Council

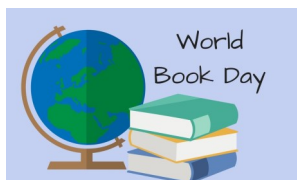
We would like to announce that the Student Council has spent the money raised from the second hand book sale. We bought a set of goal posts for the yard. We also bought a selection of board games for the pupils in the special classes. We look forward to presenting the special classes with the games and getting our goals set up after the Easter break.

Food Dudes

Food dudes will commence for all pupils in St. Michael's on Monday April 17th. The programme will encourage the children to try different fruit and vegetables. Using different incentives the boys and girls will be motivated to try the different fruits and veggies in the hope of reducing taste barriers and broadening their diets. Did you know it takes up to 10 tastes for a child to develop a positive taste preference for a food item!

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day on March the 2nd. The pupils dressed up as characters from their favourite books!



Wellbeing

The wellbeing theme for the month of March was the power of having a Growth Mind-set. The pupils learned the difference between a fixed and growth mind-set. They also learned about the importance of having a growth mind-set.



Attendance

If your child is absent for any reason please inform his/her class teacher explaining the reason for absence via the school Aladdin app. We are obliged under the Education Welfare Act 2000 to notify Tusla (Child and Family Agency) if a pupil is absent for 20 days or more.

Anti-Bullying Week

Our Anti - Bullying week was held from February 20th– 24th, 2023.



Pupils engaged in various activities and events throughout the week including a poster competition, anti-bullying and friendship role-plays and random acts of kindness. At our Anti-Bullying assembly on Friday, February 24th Ms Metcalfe's class explained the definition of bullying and suggested effective strategies to deal with it. Sixth class pupils recited a dramatic, thought provoking poem entitled "Can't You Take a Joke Kid?" which depicted bullying from the perspective of the victim and the bully. Thank you to Ms. Metcalfe who co-ordinated this initiative.

Erasmus+ Programme

St. Michael's staff are once again participating in the Erasmus Programme. Erasmus+ is the EU's Programme to support education training, youth and sport in Europe. The 2021-2027 programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions and promoting young peoples' participation in democratic life. The project that we are involved in is on Inclusion and Policy Making as well as focusing on creating a meaningful inclusive society. We have teamed up with Reunion Island, Lithuania, Iceland and Italy. Ms. Reid is currently in Reunion Island representing St. Michael's School. She will spend this week in schools and classrooms learning about the education system in Reunion Island and their policy on Inclusion. The teachers and special needs assistants in the special classes made a short video of what 'Inclusion' means to them'. In November 2023, our partners will visit us.

Dates for your Diary

- Communion: Saturday, May 20th, 2023 at 12:00PM
- Marathon Relay: Thursday, April 20th, 2023
- Mini Rounders Blitz: Monday, April 24th, 2023
- Standardised Tests: May 24th and May 31st
- Sixth Class Graduation Ceremony: Thursday, June 22nd
- Swimming: Friday, May 5th and Tuesday, May 9th—All mainstream pupils will commence a six week block.

School Tours

2nd class: Crystal Maze, Monday, May 22nd

3rd Class: Navan Adventure Centre, Thursday, June 22nd

4th Class: Just 4 Fun Kids Camp, Thursday, June 8th

5th Class: Zipit Forest Adventure, Tuesday, June 13th

6th Class: Funtasia, Thursday, May 25th

Cross Country

On Wednesday March the 22nd, 18 pupils from 4th, 5th and 6th classes represented St. Michael's N.S. in the Meath Primary Schools Cross Country Championships at Navan Racecourse. It was an extremely tough course and hugely competitive. All pupils ran very well and represented their school excellently. Many thanks to Mr. Joyce and Ms. Gibbons for organising this event.



School Calendar 2023—2024

Return: Monday, August 28th, 2023

Mid Term: Monday, October 30th – Friday, November 3rd, 2023

Christmas Break: School closes on Friday, December 22nd and re-opens on Monday, January 8th, 2024.

St Brigid's Day: Monday, February 5th, 2024

Feb. Mid-Term Break: Monday, February 12th—Friday, February 16th, 2024

St Patrick's Day: Monday, March 18th, 2024

Easter Break: School closes on Friday, March 22nd and reopens on Monday, April 8th, 2024.

May Break: Monday, May 6th—Friday, May 10th, 2024

June Bank Holiday: Monday, June 3rd, 2024

School Closes: Friday, June 28th, 2024

First Aid Training

Sincere thanks to Gary Costello and the Stephen Leonard Memorial Cycle committee for organising the First Aid Training for the pupils in sixth class. Dave provided excellent training and the pupils learned the importance of CPR and many essential first aid techniques.



Active Schools

At a recent Active Schools Committee meeting, the following pupils were elected as members by their classmates; Seán O' Donohue, Conor Mc Guinness, Jamie Massey, Ryan O' Connor, Oisín Leonard, Mariuss Korotkous, Damien Mekitanian Walsh, Ethan Englishby, Parid Gishta, Sam Mc Gowan, Joseph Gantley, Artem Koslovs, Mikey Donagh, Podge Bagnall, Dylan Halpenny, Oscar Mc Grane Cuffe and Eoghan Gray. The elected members will represent their class at Active Schools meetings. They will encourage everyone to become more active and help to organise various activities such as Active Schools Week, our annual School Marathon Relay, Active Lines and Active Homework Week. Our Active Schools noticeboard is in the main hall of the school and this will be updated regularly to inform the school community of our different upcoming events and activities.



Well done to all pupils who have received Student of the Week awards or have had their work chosen for display on our Good Work Wall this term!

