



# St. Michael's Times

## April 2025

### Marathon Relay

On Thursday, 11th April, we held our Marathon School Relay raising funds for St. Michael's. It was a fun and inclusive event for all the pupils in our school.

All pupils ran the distance of a marathon, 42km, in relay format, with each pupil running/walking a minimum of 100m. Each family received a sponsorship card on the lead up to the day. The money raised will go towards ICT equipment in the school. Thank you to all who supported our day.



### FAI Soccer

A big well done to all the boys who competed in this year's FAI 5 a side competition. The boys represented the school so well and performed exceptionally well! One of our teams was very unlucky having won 7, drawn 2 and losing only one game, eventually missing out on the finals day by only 1 point. A big thank you to all the boys who tried out for the teams also. Thanks to Mr. Joyce, Mr. Dwane and Mr. Smith for coaching the boys on the day.



### Minister Helen Mc Entee Visits St. Michael's N.S.

On Monday, 8th April 2025, we had a very special guest come to visit our school. Minister for Education Helen Mc Entee presented our Lego League participants with their medals following weeks of designing, planning and constructing Lego models.



The theme of this year's Lego project was "Under the Sea". Minister Mc Entee enjoyed viewing each project and spoke to the pupils about the skills and knowledge gained while completing the projects.

Congratulations to the students from 2nd, 4th, 6th and special classes who showed such creativity and innovative skills. Thank you to Ms. Mc Entee, Ms. King, Ms. Forde, Ms. Burke, Ms. Treacy, Ms. Gaffney and Ms. Mullen for helping to prepare the pupils for the Lego Showcase.



### World Downs Syndrome Day

On the 21st of March we supported World Downs Syndrome Day by partaking in the Lots of Socks campaign. We spread the joy by designing colourful socks. Some pupils wore mismatched socks to help raise awareness of the 2025 theme, #ImproveOurSupportSystems



### Sixth Class Trip to Croke Park

On Thursday March 20th, the sixth classes visited Croke Park for a tour of the stadium and museum. This was a most enjoyable tour where the pupils learned about the history of the stadium and got to see where the G.A.A. players prepare before the games. The boys were guided through a detailed history of the G.A.A. during the museum tour. This was followed by some fun filled skills challenges involving football, hurling, handball and rounders.

Afterwards, they visited the Food Court in Liffey Valley for a well-deserved lunch. An enjoyable day was had by all!



### Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025

We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge from March 10th – 14th. The pupils enjoyed participating in cluichí, ealaín agus an tráth na gceist. Everyone tried their best to speak cúpla focail Gaeilge especially with their use of seanfhocail. Well done to all of the pupils who were awarded Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine for their great efforts throughout the week. On Friday, 14th March, pupils dressed up for our Lá Glas. We held a special assembly with performances from various classes including Irish poems, Irish songs, dancing and playing of the tin whistle. We also enjoyed a whole school dance performance of ‘An Dreolín’. Click on the link below to watch the dance!



<https://youtu.be/j4ZI7qOYEFs>

### Artist Workshop

On Wednesday March 19th, the 6th class pupils participated in an art workshop with well known Meath artist, Emily McCormack. Emily demonstrated the use of many art elements before the pupils created their own depictions of the work of Pablo Picasso using charcoal, oil pastels and sugar paper. It was an extremely enjoyable and fun experience for the pupils and we would like to thank Emily for giving her time so generously.



### Spelling Bee 2025

Well done to 6th class pupil Henrique Albuquerque who represented St. Michael’s N.S. at the finals of the County Meath Spelling Bee on Friday 4th of April. After a tense competition, Henrique came in 3rd position with 12 other students in the final.



### Don't Be Mean Behind the Screen

Thank you to Paula O'Connor from "Don't be Mean Behind the Screen" who facilitated a workshop for our 6th class pupils about online safety on March 31st. Paula spoke about gaming, cybersafety and creating a digital footprint. Our pupils really enjoyed the workshop and found it very informative.



### St. Michael's N.S. Parents ' Association

St. Michaels Parents' Association hope you all had a happy Easter. There was great excitement on the day of the holidays with the Easter egg raffle taking place. Congrats to all the lucky winners and our sincere thanks to Kenny @ Maple Financial services for sponsoring the chocolate eggs. We will be holding our bake sale on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May, with further details on Aladdin.

The Parents' Association was invited to meet the external facilitator appointed to hear the opinions of all stakeholder on school amalgamations. This meeting included St Michael's and St Mary's PA members. There was also an evening meeting where all parents were invited to attend and express views, opinions and have questions answered. On behalf of the Parents' Association we wish to thank the school patronage for including parents in the process.

This school year, Christina, Mags, Vicky will step down from the PA, as our boys transition into 1<sup>st</sup> year. Our final event will be the communion party on the 24<sup>th</sup> May. ((anyone available to help , please contact reception). We will be leaving the PA in the capable hands of Justina, Gemma, Veronica and Emer. Please consider becoming a member of the PA, or join our helpers Whats app group. We are so lucky to have so many parents willing to give their time. Thank you.

Thank you to all the staff of St. Michael's N.S., the students and the students council for your continued assistance with events. Wishing you all a happy final school term.

Christina Nestor on behalf of the Parents' Association.



### Daffodil Day 2025

Sincere thanks to our SNA Ms. Cathy Shelley for organising a staff coffee morning on Friday March 28th in aid of The Irish Cancer Society.



### Primary Maths Curriculum Training Day

On Thursday the 3rd of April teachers participated in training for the new Primary Mathematics Curriculum, facilitated by Oide. The course helped teachers to prepare for the teaching and learning of the Shape and Space, and Algebra Strands of the curriculum. It was a most informative and enjoyable course and we look forward to sharing the new resources and knowledge with the school community.

### Basketball Court

We are delighted to announce that our new basketball court has now been fully installed, with court markings completed over the Easter Holidays. Pupils have been making the most of the new facility and are thoroughly enjoying playing on it!



## Sport

The final term of the school year sees a busy sporting schedule for our teams. The Cumann na mBunscol hurling competition started before the Easter break. All involved are currently training hard in preparation for games against Kildalkey, Kilmessan and Ratoath. Our school Rounders team will play their first game against St. Seachnall's, Dunshaughlin on Thursday 1st of May.



## First Holy Communion

Pupils from our second and special classes are continuing to prepare for their First Holy Communion on May 24th. Fr. Paul and Fr. John encourage all pupils who are making their First Holy Communion to attend mass on a regular basis on the lead up to their special day. Our school choir are also busy preparing hymns and songs for the special occasion.



Well done to all pupils who have received Student of the Week certificates and Principal's awards this half-term.



Well done to all pupils who wore blue and participated in celebratory activities for World Autism Day on April 2nd 2025. Everyone showed their unending support and wholehearted respect for our students with Autism.



## Anti-Bullying Week

Our Anti-Bullying Week was held from the 7th to 11th of April this year. This week is an important week in our school calendar each year as it highlights the importance of kindness, care and friendships and encourages pupils to actively participate in the work of preventing bullying. Activities were organised at each class level based on the school's SPHE curriculum and topics included cyberbullying, the impact of Bullying, the price of silence and the ripple effect of being kind. The highlight of the week was a powerful assembly lead by Mrs Metcalfe's 2nd class and 6th class. The assembly was an opportunity to remind everyone of the serious message behind the fun – to be kind to each other and respect and celebrate each other's individuality.



## Dates for your Diary

- Half Day (Bí Cineálta Training Day): May 2nd
- Standardised Tests: May 15th, 2025 (Literacy) and May 22nd, 2025 (Numeracy)
- First Holy Communion: May 24th, 2025
- Summer Holidays: June 27th, 2025
- 6th Class Graduation: Thursday June 19th

