

March 2023 in the classes:

Mr Cunningham's Class enjoyed learning to count money, the value of money and playing shop. We are continuing with our life skills cooking.

Cairdeas 1: Ms N Hogan- We are thinking about Spring in our room, we listened to the birdsong of different birds & made a bird puppet. We had great fun dancing to the Birdie Song with our puppets. We planted, watered and cared for cress seeds and watched them grow. In geography we are talking about the continents of the world and learning their names. In SPHE we are learning about making choices and decisions, we made the decision to go to Tearaways with our friends from Cairdeas 2, we had a super day. We thought about how we are all different and how we all fit together. We are looking forward to our holidays and eating lots of Easter eggs...Happy Easter everyone.

Cairdeas 2: Ms Hynes- The boys have enjoyed learning about how to keep ourselves safe and have completed the stay safe programme. We also enjoyed learning about spring and went on a spring walk to the park. We have also made some spring flowers, easter chicks and bunny silhouettes. Wishing everyone an "egg-cellent Easter"

Junior Infants have been learning all about Spring and what plants need to grow. They took a trip down town to the Organic Store where they saw all the fruit and vegetables that are so good for them. They made a stop at Fayles' on the way back to get some seeds and pots and look forward to growing their own plants in the last term. They really enjoyed having parents and grandparents in to make St Patrick's Day art and treats and have some lovely Easter Art to bring home this week.

Senior Infants did lots of Art activities during March. They made St Patrick's Day headbands and Easter chicks. They also made thumb-pots from clay, they painted and decorated them and transformed them into nests for Easter chicks and eggs!

First & Second Class: Ms. Kenny's class celebrated World Book Day by creating placards all about their favourite books and then used the iPads to record short videos about their favourite part. The boys were very busy creating art for Mother's Day, St Patrick's Day and Easter. For Engineers Week the boys used different materials such as lego, straws and magnets to be inventive and creative. For Seachtain na Gaeilge the boys had great fun chanting the Haka Gaelach and Mrs Kelly read them a lovely story as Gaeilge. The boys really enjoyed this.

First & Second Class: Ms Collins' class have been very busy learning all about Spain, they did research and completed a fact file project about Spain. They really enjoyed Dance with Lisa. The boys had a visitor from an engineer for Engineers Week, they got to construct buildings from spaghetti and marshmallows - it was great fun! Well done to the boys in 2nd class who had their 1st confession, they are now busy preparing for their 1st Holy Communion

First & Second Class: Ms Teehan's class were so lucky to get a visit from a local engineer. The boys created their very own buildings using some very interesting material-marshmallows and spaghetti! We definitely have some stars for the future. The boys really enjoyed Wellbeing Week- we were all so calm after our relaxation and yoga. The boys made their very own butterflies- these will remind us when we need to take a moment and focus on our butterfly breathing. We learnt lots about the story of Easter. We hope everybody has a really happy Easter- enjoy all the chocolate eggs!

3rd Class: Third Class have been working hard learning all about Time in Maths. In Science they experimented making their own boats and seeing if they could stay afloat. This brought us on to learning all about The Titanic which they really enjoyed. Third also learned all about The Viking era. Wishing everyone a lovely Easter break.

St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

Easter 2023



School wellness week 2023

Massive thanks to Ms.Pilkinton and the amber flag committee for their work in setting up and supporting our wellness week which involved YOGA sessions for the boys (and staff :)) with the wonderful Nessa Feehan and mindfulness sessions with the amazing Ann Hoare. The school have been very pro-active in developing the area of wellness and wellbeing over the past year and this was indeed highlighted in the Sen evaluation report Nov 2022 by DES. The committee have been very pro-active at the school and this weeks activities which were paid for by the Board of Management were appreciated by all.

Fun Colour Run and raffle took place at school Friday 31st March. We kindly asked that each child brings in €2 for casual day (wear bright colours) before Friday. We thank all our local businesses who have sponsored such fantastic prizes. **All proceeds go to Pieta House as part of our process in applying for the Amber Flag 2023**

All support is greatly appreciated. At time of printing almost €800 had been raised with final amount and photos to be shared via social media.

School Hurling

St Brendan's PS / Gaelscoil Na Laochra hurling team 2023 !

The panel of 29 boys have been working hard under coach Mr Kennedy with support from Mr Carroll / Mr Gorman / Mr Crofton and Ms Pilkington. The school invests a huge amount of time and money into hurling and its gret to see so many boys involved once again. The cumann na mbunscoil A competition will begin after Easter and our panel has already played two challenge matches travelling to Kinnity and Roscrea to ensure boys get games and enjoy them.

Thanks to Coach Aaron Whelahan for the Monday coaching sessions and we ask boys to keep making the effort on Monday to bring in gear and make the most of these sessions which are designed to improve fundamental movement skills as well as enjoy the wonderful game of hurling.

Dates for your diary

Friday 31st March 2023 @12.20 (Infants)@12.30pm (Classes 1st- 6th)
Easter holidays (2 weeks)
Monday 17th April School reopens

May Bank Holiday weekend Closed Monday 1st May 2023
Closed Tuesday 2nd May 2023

June Bank Holiday weekend Closed Friday 2nd June 2023
Closed Monday 5th June 2023
Closed Tuesday 6th June,2023

Summer Holidays (half Day) Closing Tuesday 28th June 2022

- First Holy Communion—Saturday 6th May at 11am
- Confirmation ceremony Saturday 20th May at 11am
- There will be another staff CPD closure in term 3 as directed by Minister for Education to introduce the new Primary Curriculum framework but no details have been given to schools yet.

Text-a-parent system / email communication system

We would ask parents/guardians to keep school informed of any changes in mobile numbers as home-school communication is very important for us. With Green schools and environmental awareness notes are sent out via EMAIL.

School literacy and numeracy standardized testing

The school will be administering these national tests to all boys from 1st to 6th classes in May. We ask parents to ensure your son does not worry about these, gets good sleep for the first few weeks in May and does their best at all times. Scores are reported on school reports for 2nd / 4th and 6th as per schools policy.

Summer Programmes 2023 and reopening 23/24

As communicated to parents we hope to run summer programmes and Literacy / numeracy camp during August. These will be staffed and organised in term 3.

Dates for the 3 weeks(15 days) SP are Tues 8th —Monday 28th Aug

DEIS summer camp will be Monday 21st- Friday 25th August

Also with regard to family holidays our school will reopen for the academic year on **Thursday 31st August 2023**. We will have the full calendar of holidays with school reports which will be issued to all parents in mid June as per school assessment and reporting policy.

Dance with Lisa

Thanks to Gravity Dance Academy for our final dance session with Lisa Hogan- huge thanks to Offaly County Council Arts Department for their support with this programme. The theme of this years programme was called " Find your feet" which looked at developing self confidence , self expression along with enjoyment and love of the arts !



Transition to 2nd level

Lovely transition session for our 6th class in March with Ms Cusack from @stbrendansbirr with some fantastic past pupils (Keelan / Dylan / Vincent and Zmarak) chatting with the boys about second level school- Thanks to Dani from SCP for supporting and the boys in 6th also enjoyed a town treasure hunt and a ceili (seachtain na Gaeilge) with the other 6th classes from Mercy Primary and Oxmantown NS as part of this programme.

Thanks to HSCL Ms Hennelly and SCP for their work in this area.

March 2023 in the classes:

4th Class: Enjoyed preparing and learning about St Patrick's Day. The boys also participated in A Trth na gCeist (Seachtain na Gaeilge). For Engineers Week 4th class learned about a Formula One car and the effects and changes this car has made this year. They learned about design, friction, down-word form and drag. Third class drew a Formula One car.

5th Class: had a busy March and really enjoyed Seachtain na Gaeilge and Well-Being Week. We also took a trip to Birr Castle and really enjoyed it. We did silhouette art, projects on London and learned about France. **Have a** lovely Easter everyone!

6th Class: have had another busy month in school. We have been learning all about the 1916 Rising. Each boy completed a project on The Rising which included the leaders, reason for The Rising and the effects of The Rising on Ireland. Have a great Easter everyone.