



Our Lady's Girls' National School  
Ballinteer Avenue  
Dublin 16

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# Newsletter

Autumn 2022

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## Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe we are already at Halloween! Our students have been excellent. We are delighted with their attitude and behaviour in school. Every class has been so busy everyday. Thank you to our wonderful students for engaging in lessons and trying their best all the time. We praise effort in our school, it is so important that every child feels a sense of success everyday. Thank you to our amazing team of teachers, SNAs and our secretary, Linda.

We are now enrolling for September 2023. Please share this information with anyone who might be interested.

Thank you all for your continued support. We are delighted with how the beginning of our new school year has gone. Please contact us if you have any concerns. I hope everyone has a lovely mid term break. Please be safe at Halloween and enjoy dressing up!

Kind regards,

Robbie Murphy



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## Heritage Ireland

We have been very lucky to have Patrick Hunt in from Heritage Ireland. He has now worked with every class. The students loved visiting Marley Park and exploring the school grounds. Please read the report from **Chloe and Darcy in 4th Class** below:

On the 7th of October Ms. Murphy's fourth class went to Marlay Park with Patrick Hunt from Heritage Ireland. He showed everyone lots of leaves and pointed out some poisonous trees. The oak tree and the mushroom leaves were some favourites. Hurling sticks are mostly made out of ash wood. The yew tree is toxic to animals and humans. It is the most poisonous Irish tree. All parts of the yew tree are poisonous, except for the flesh of the berry. It can reach up to 20 metres tall. An interesting fact we learnt is that you can count the tree rings to find out how old it is. On our trip we had partners and some of us collected leaves from the trees. We all had a really good day in Marlay Park. **By Chloe and Darcy in 4th Class.**



**The Girls work with Patrick from Heritage Ireland**

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## **Trips to Airfield**

The senior class visited the Airfield and had a lovely day out! Every child came back with a big smile!



3rd/4th visit Airfield!

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## **School Twitter**

Please follow our Twitter site to see some of the amazing activities and lessons we do here! Please click [here](#).

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## **Sport Update**

We have had a terrific start to the year with sporting activities. We have the Basketball team training hard every Monday. They played their first match against Loreto this week. They played really well and it went right down to the last minute! A draw was a fair result. Well done Girls! Especially those who played for the first time! Good luck to the players from Ms O'Neills who will play our next game!





Girls' Basketball

Our 6th Class Hockey team is working hard in the Tree Rock Hockey Club every Wednesday after school. The hall is full on Fridays with our Table Tennis players and outdoor PE lessons are still in full swing!

We had Cricket Ireland in to do an Introduction to Cricket Day with the Junior end of the school. The students in the senior classes will do Cricket after Christmas and each class will have 6 sessions. It's great to see the students taking part in such a range of sports.

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## The Lunch Bag

We have started using The Lunch Bag to get lunches delivered. So far, we have had positive feedback. There is no pressure on families to buy school lunches each day. We are trying to keep this low key and not bring too much attention to it. Please let us know if there are any problems.

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## DSPCA

Well done to Vionela in 5th who donated over €250 to the DSPCA. Vionela made her own jewellery and sold it to family and friends to raise money. This has been a year long project with a huge amount of work put into it.



Well done Vionela!

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## Homework

The purpose of Homework is to:

- Provide an important link between home and school
- Consolidate, revisit and revise daily schoolwork

- Encourage and develop the habit of independent study
- Encourage daily reading practice

Class Recommended times:

- Junior Infants 10 minutes
- Senior Infants 10 minutes
- First/Second Class 15/20 minutes
- Third/Fourth Class 25 minutes
- Fifth/Sixth Class 30 minutes

These times are guidelines. Some children may complete the work in less time. However, if your child is regularly taking more than the guidelines time, please stop at that time and confer with the class teacher.

## Green Schools

Thank you Ms Sharkey for organising our Green School Committee! Please see the message below from the children:

### Green Schools News

Our new Green Schools Committee is now up and running.

We are so proud to have six green flags!

We are very excited about raising awareness of issues such as Litter and Waste, Climate Change and Energy Consumption.

We have lots of fantastic activities planned such as green themed assemblies, poster competitions, litter and waste clean-ups and our regular 'Green Flash'.

Together we can make a difference! Let's make that change!

*'Be Keen to Go Green!'*



Green Schools Committee Assembly in the Hall

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## Active Schools

The school achieved so much last year with our first Active Flag. Thank you to Ms O'Neill for continuing the initiative this year. The girls had their first Active Schools Committee Meeting last week. Please read this message from the Committee:

In our school we have an Active School Committee. We got our Active School Flag last year. We ran a mile every day and introduced yard equipment into our school. We are part of the Active School Committee. We ensure that all the equipment stays clean and we encourage everyone to stay active. There are two active school members in every class that help bring in and out the equipment from the yard. Even the girls who aren't on the active committee help the school stay active. In our school we make sure we stay active so the days that are too rainy to go out to the yard, we will still try to be active like doing Just Dance or playing a game inside. We have loads of equipment we use for P.E like basketballs, soccer balls and hurdles. Every week each class gets to go to the school playground as well. Remember you can stay active by doing something as simple as going out for a walk. **By Laura and Hannah, 6th Class**

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## Ballinteer St John's Ladies Senior 2 Champions

We welcomed the St. John's Senior Ladies Camogie team to celebrate their amazing County Final win! It was a great day for the school and community!



St John's Visit



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## 6th Class Visit to St Enda's

Thank you to **Juliette in 6th Class**, for writing this report on the 6th class tour to Pearse Park and St. Enda's.

Both of the sixth classes have been doing projects about Pádraig Pearse. So because of that we decided to plan a trip on Wednesday the 28th of September to visit the Pádraig Pearse museum in St. Enda's Rathfarnham. St. Enda's park is not only a local park in our community but it is of great historical significance. We arrived by bus at 9.30 am. We arrived a little bit early at the museum and fortunately we were allowed to play in the beautiful landscaped gardens until the museum opened. At 10am we were warmly welcomed by the staff of the museum. We had a very interesting tour of Pádraig Pearse's house and also his involvement in setting up a school on the grounds. We learned that Pádraig named his school 'Scoil Éanna'. We learnt lots about the boys in the school and what subjects they learnt and what uniforms they wore too.

I really enjoyed the short movies of his life and childhood. We also learned that Pádraig's sister Mary Pearse was a harpist and his brother Willie Pearse was a sculptor. During our visit we learned that Pádraig Pearse idolized Robert Emmet. We saw where the students put on plays and where they had assemblies. I thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Pádraig ancestral home and museum. I would really recommend visiting it sometime.



6th Class at St Enda's

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## Important Dates

- School Closes for Mid Term: 28th October
- School reopens: 7th November
- Parent Teacher Meetings / Phone calls: 15th & 16th November
- Christmas Show: 15th December 12:00 in the Church




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