



OUR LADY'S GIRLS' NATIONAL SCHOOL BALLINTEER Newsletter January 2018

Welcome back to all pupils and parents and a Happy New Year to all

Important Dates:

Sunday 4 th February:	Open Day - 11.30a.m. – 1.00p.m.
Thursday 15 th - Friday 16 th February:	Mid-Term Break. School closed.
Monday 19 th March:	St. Patrick's Day observation. School closed.

Music Lessons:

Music lessons have now resumed for all classes. This week's lesson was a catch up class for the school closure for storm Ophelia.

Orchestra:

Orchestra class will resume next Tuesday 30th January at 8a.m. as they already had a catch-up class before Christmas. There are still places available in the Orchestra class for pupils from 2nd class and upwards who have already done a year of violin lessons.

Spanish:

Spanish classes have resumed and now take place in the Library. Pupils from this class can now be collected outside the Main Entrance at 2.30p.m. for Infants and 3.30p.m. for older pupils.

"You Shall Be My Witness":

The "You Shall be My Witness" programme for Confirmation candidates from 6th class will take place this year in Ballinteer Community School beginning next Tuesday 30th January.

Mass for Catholic Schools' Week:

Our Catholic Schools Week Mass will take place on Sunday 4th February at 11a.m. in the Church. The school choir will sing at this Mass and all are cordially invited to attend.

Open Day/Grandparents' Day:

The above Mass will be followed by our Annual Open day/Grandparents' Day. The school will be open from 11.30a.m. – 1.00p.m. Tea and coffee will be available in the school Hall, some classrooms will be open, and teachers and senior pupils will be in attendance. Pupils work will be displayed for viewing and all are most welcome to visit, particularly Grandparents. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday 4th February.

Sports Event:

We will have a fun Sports Event for all pupils on Wednesday 7th February in the school hall. A top sportswoman, Caradh O'Donovan, will visit us and conduct a short Fitness Circuit Challenge with each class in turn, followed by a whole school question and answer session. All pupils should wear tracksuit and runners for this event. There is no charge for participating in this event. However, there is an option to sponsor the visiting athlete for anyone who wishes to do so. Sponsorship forms are available on request from the class teachers or from the Secretary's office.

Health & Safety:

Pupils and younger siblings are not permitted to climb rocks or grassy banks on the school grounds for safety reasons.

Parking:

Parents and others who are delivering or collecting pupils from school are reminded to please drive slowly and carefully in the car park, and to park safely in a designated space. This will help keep all pupils and their younger siblings safe.

Dropping to school – for safety reasons:

All pupils from Infants to second class should always be handed over to a responsible adult when being dropped to school and never left in the yard, or outside the school or classroom door. Their class may be in another location, they may not know where to go, and we may not know that they have arrived in school.

School Attendance:

Parents are reminded that any pupil absent for 20 days or more in any school year must be reported to T.U.S.L.A., the Child and Family Agency. Consistent lateness may also be reported.

Christmas Jumper Fundraiser:

Many thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas Jumper Fundraiser in aid of the homeless, raising a total of €475 for the Peter McVerry Trust.