



## OUR LADY'S GIRLS' NATIONAL SCHOOL BALLINTEER

### Newsletter March 2019

#### **Important Dates:**

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March:	First Confession in Church 6.30p.m.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March:	Green Day for Special Olympics Ireland.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March:	School closed.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March:	School closed.
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March:	Music Concert in Church 6.30 – 7.30 for 1 <sup>st</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> classes.
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April:	Mini Music Concert in School Hall 9.00-9.30 for all Infant classes.
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> April:	Confirmation in Church 11a.m.
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April:	End of term Mass in Church at 9.30a.m. School closing for Easter Holidays at 12.30p.m.
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May:	First Holy Communion in Church 11a.m.
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June:	Junior Infant Vaccinations.

#### **Challenge for Lent:**

From now until Easter, we are challenging all pupils to reduce their 'screen time' on T.V., Laptop, computer, i pad, phone, etc. and instead spend more time being active, reading or with family. We are encouraging pupils, particularly in older classes to keep a diary/note of what they do instead. We are also challenging them to reduce their use of plastic – e.g. have a reusable lunchbox and drink bottle and wrap food in kitchen paper or greaseproof paper rather than using plastic and tinfoil. Finally, we are encouraging them to pray more and attend Mass/Church as frequently as possible.

#### **Literacy Week:**

We are holding a Literacy Week in school all this week and encouraging all classes to read more. Each class is participating in related events including presentations and dramas at assembly, book reviews, writing books, stories and poems, designing book covers and bookmarks, organising in-class lending libraries with their own books etc. We trust that all pupils are enjoying and benefitting from this experience.

#### **Seachtain na Gaeilge:**

We will celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge next week and will be encouraging both pupils and parents to "labhair Gaeilge" (*Speak in Irish*) even if it's only "cúpla focail" (*a few words*)! We will hold a Ceilí (*Irish Dancing*) for all classes and also a Ceolchoirm (*Concert*), in addition to lots of in class events.

#### **Green Day:**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March as part of our 'Seachtain na Gaeilge' celebrations we will hold a 'Green Day'. All pupils are invited to wear something green e.g. (a jersey, t-shirt, ribbon or hairband etc.) and make a small donation which will go to the Irish Special Olympics Team.

### **Music Concert:**

We will have our main Music Concert in the Church on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 6.30p.m. – 7.30p.m. Classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> will all perform, along with the school Orchestra and the Music Teachers finishing with a massed choir of all pupils. All are welcome to attend and there is no admission charge. Please note that younger siblings must remain seated quietly throughout the performance and that church aisles will need to be kept clear of buggies etc. to allow classes to come and go from their seats safely.

The Junior and Senior Infants Mini Music Concert will take place in the School Hall on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April from 9.00a.m. – 9.30a.m. and all their parents and relations are welcome to attend. Please note that siblings in 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class will not be permitted to attend to avoid disrupting classes.

### **Confirmation:**

We are delighted to announce that this year's Confirmation Ceremony for our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils will be celebrated by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

### **School Uniform/Tracksuit Days:**

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Ms. Ryan	Uniform	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit
Ms. Ní Mhurchú	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Ms. Milmoe	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Ms. McMunn	Tracksuit	Uniform	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Ms. Harmon	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Ms. Dooley	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Uniform	Tracksuit
Ms. Heffernan	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Mrs. Molony	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform
Ms. Sharkey	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit
Ms. O'Neill	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit
Ms. Macken	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit	Uniform	Tracksuit

Please note that nail varnish is **not permitted** in school and hair should always be tied back or held with clips/hairband for short hair.

### **Online Safety for Pupils:**

Please see attached Information Sheet.

### **Active Schools:**

As part of our Active School Campaign, all pupils are being encouraged to be more active. Pupils in every class are using equipment at break times several days per week (balls, ropes, beanbags, hoops etc.) co-ordinated by our Active School Team. We are encouraging pupils to tell us about what they are doing outside of school to 'be active' and posting their pictures on a special noticeboard in the school.

Congratulations to Kinga Gladzik and Eithar Elrayah winners of our Active School Slogan Competition with:

***"BE ACTIVE BE COOL NOT ONLY AT SCHOOL"***

Congratulations also to Ruth Molony, winner of our Active School Logo Competition.

### **End of Term Mass:**

Our end of term Mass will take place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30a.m. in the Church and all are welcome to attend. Pupils not attending Mass may come to school at 10.30a.m.