

February 2019 News Letter.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

February has been a very busy month with lots of exciting things happening in Scoil Phádraig Naofa. The month kicked off with **Safer Internet Day** which is an EU wide initiative to promote a **safer internet** for all users, especially young people. **Children and Teachers** discussed the importance of Internet Safety raising the level of awareness of simple techniques to help keep them safe. A very important Internet Safety Advice has been emailed for the attention of all parents and staff separately today.



Indoor Hurling Blitz

Well done to Fourth Class boys for reaching the County Final of the Sciath na Scol Indoor Hurling Blitz, on Monday 4th February, they won this match and are now through to the final which will take place in Na Pairsaigh on 5th March.



Chinese New Year.

We celebrated Chinese New Year on 5th February 2019, and learned that this year is

“The Year of the Pig”.





The All Ireland Senior Camogie Champions visited

Scoil Phádraig Naofa.

Cork ladies captain **Julia Walsh** visited Scoil Phádraig Naofa on Friday 15th February, with the O'Duffy Cup. The Cork Camogie Team are the All Ireland Senior Camogie Champions. Julia spoke to all the classes about how it has been an honour playing for the Cork Camogie team and, also representing her club, Douglas GAA club. Comhghairdeas Julia ó Scoil Phádraig Naofa.

The pupils were full of enthusiasm and energy following this visit which raised the awareness of the importance of sport, exercise, fun and making friends!!

Friendship Week 11th to 15th February.





From Monday 11th February – 15th February we celebrated Friendship Week in Scoil Phádraig Naofa.

Friendship week was an initiative in our school which focused on positive mental health and, also tied in with our push for our Health Promoting Schools Flag. Each class took part in different activities throughout the week finishing on Friday with a friendship wall which can be seen in our school hall. Rang 6 played a big part in leading friendship week and in building the friendship wall. All pupils and staff wore pink or red casual clothes on Valentines Day as part of the Friendship Week celebrations.



Ceremony of Light

Sixth Class celebrated the “**Ceremony of Light**” on Wednesday 13th February, in St. Patrick’s Church in Rochestown with Fr. Pat O’Mahony.

The **Ceremony of Light** is a pre-Confirmation **ceremony** and is an important event in preparing the children for Confirmation. A key part of the service is when parents hand the lighted Baptismal candle to their child, acknowledging that their child is now ready to become a responsible Christian.

Fr. Pat O’Mahony once again made this ceremony very special for both pupils, teachers and parents alike.



Senior Infants visited the Teddy Bear Hospital in UCC.

Senior Infants visited the Teddy Bear Hospital by bus on Tuesday 26th February, in UCC where they had the chance to bring their Teddy Bears for a thorough examination and medical aid or operation if, and when it was needed. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and had great fun with the Teddy Bear X-Ray Machine!!!

Child Safeguard Statement Review.

Please note that our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment have had its annual review. Our Child Safeguarding Statement is available to view in the Policy Section of our school website which will be live in the next week. It is also on display at our school reception area and in all classrooms. Our Designated Liaison Person is **Ms. Annemarie Kingston** and our Deputy Designated Liaison Person is **Ms. June Ní Shúilleabháin**.

Refresher Training on Child Safeguarding is available should Parents wish to familiarise themselves accordingly:

1. Go to pdst.ie
2. Click on 'Primary'
3. Click on 'Child Protection'
4. Go to pdst e-learning programme
5. Click on Course 2 (for all personnel)
6. Click on 'Mirror 1' to start.

Update on School Remediation Programme.

Recently I have spoken to some parents about cycling to school and how we were unable to open the facility until remediation works had been carried out. I have been in contact with the Department of Education over the last few weeks and was informed today that we have been given a provisional date for works to be carried out. The works are to begin on the **12th April** and are due to be carried out over weekends to prevent disruption to the schools. Scoil Phádraig Naofa would like to thank all our parent(s) / guardian(s) for their patience during this time.

Dates for your Diary:

- **5th March – Shrove Tuesday**
 - **6th March – First day of Lent**
 - **7th March – World Book Day**
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