

March Newsletter 2019



Dear Parents/Guardians,

For many of us, the change from winter to spring delivers a much-needed break from cold, snowy days. For others, spring represents a time of great change and new beginnings!

Fun Facts About Spring

- The earliest known use of the term “spring cleaning” was in 1857.
- The first spring flowers are usually daffodils, dandelions, lilies, tulips, iris and lilacs.
- There’s more daylight during spring because the earth’s axis tilts toward the sun at this time of the year.
 - Hurricane season begins in late spring.
- On the first day of spring, the sunrise and sunset are about 12 hours apart everywhere on earth.
- The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox. If you stand at the equator on the first day of spring, you’ll see the sun pass directly over-head. This happens only twice a year – the first day of spring and the first day of autumn.

Sixth Class Retreat

Sixth Class Students went on Retreat to Ennismore Retreat Centre on 5th March. The pupils enjoyed a day of prayerful reflection and contemplation while preparing for their Confirmation and new life in Secondary School.

Sciath na Scol

Both Hurling and Camogie Teams are competing well in Sciath na Scol and games for both Teams are well underway.

Football Association of Ireland

Sixth Class Girls took part in a 5-a-side soccer competition and played magnificently although unfortunately did not qualify for the next round.

The Boys also played in a 5-a-side soccer competition in Carrigaline and have progressed to the next round in the Group Stage.

The Lifetime Lab Maths Workshop

The Life Time Lab visited Third Class and Fourth Class pupils in the Halla on 5th March. The Maths Workshop demonstrated and explored a multisensory approach to the learning of mathematics and was a stimulating and fun introduction to primary maths, motivating pupils to engage primary maths through sight, sound, touch and movement. The workshop included a short presentation before participating in a series of hands on fun math's based activities covering multiplication, symmetry, problem solving and transformations.



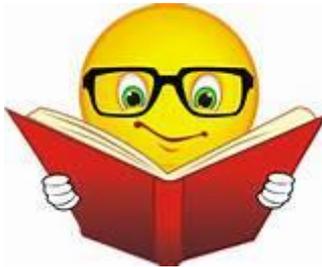
Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí an-seachtain againn I mbliana le seachtain na Gaeilge. D'éagraigh na múinteoirí cluiche Biongó mór sa halla chomh maith le céilí mór chun cultúr agus teanga na hÉireann a chéiliúradh. Ag deireadh na seachtaine phiocamar daltaí amach a rinne sár iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt i rith na seachtaine. Maith Sibh!!!



Lent, 6th March.

Ash Wednesday begins Lent. The day gets its name from the traditional blessing of the ashes taken after the burning of Palm branches (or crosses made from Palm leaves) from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations. The ashes are used to draw a cross on the head of people to mark the beginning of their Lent fast.



World Book Day, 7th March.

World Book Day was a huge success again this year!

Children, and Staff embraced the day by dressing up as a character in their favourite book. The sheer imagination and artistic talent was simply breathtaking in some costumes. The parade in the Halla was the highlight of the day. Pupils renewed and shared their love of reading once again!!

Skip n Rope 25th and 26th March.

SkipnRope fever hit Scoil Phádraig Naofa once again. All Children and Staff in the school absolutely loved the Skipping Workshop which took place outside in the sunshine with Mark McCabe their instructor!!

New Skipping routines were learned perfected and culminated with a final demonstration display at the end of the day. It was even better than the final of "Dancing with the Stars".



Second Class Children who participated in **the Sacrament of Reconciliation**, at St. Patrick's Church on Thursday, 14th March enjoyed their very special evening with Parents/Guardians, Family Members, Teachers and Fr. Pat O'Mahony who once again added his prayerful guidance and wisdom while celebrating the **Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Check out our new website www.rochestownns.ie for this month's up to date photos and activities.

Dates for your Diary:

- Confirmation Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, 2nd April at 10.30am followed by a Reception in the Halla for all Sixth Class Pupils, Parents, siblings and Grandparents.
- Easter Raffle will take place on 11th April, incredible prizes have been donated this year!!
 - Easter Holidays commence on 12th April at 12 Noon.
 - School resumes as normal on 29th April.
 - Holy Communion Blazers to be fitted on Tuesday, 1st May.