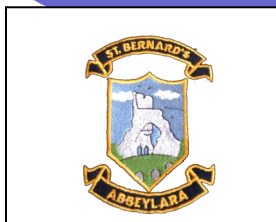


ST. BERNARD'S N.S. ABBEYLARA



Easter Newsletter 2016

Flag Presentation and Flag Raising

We received our Flag and a copy of the Proclamation from Irish Army Officers as part of 1916 Centenary Celebrations on January 22nd.

On Tuesday 15th March our flag was raised by Sean McCormack, Holly's Grandad. The children in the Senior Room had been working on our own version of the Proclamation and this 2016 Proclamation was read by the pupils. A copy of this will be on display in the School Hall. We had a Tree Planting Ceremony where seven trees representing each of the seven original signatories were planted in the school grounds. Thank you to Larry and Susan Boland for sponsoring the trees.

History Display

Thank you to all the children and parents who brought in such an interesting array of items for the Display on Proclamation Day. The children were so enthusiastic and all in all it was a very successful day.

School Self Evaluation

As part of our **Literacy and Numeracy** strategy we would urge all parents who have internet access at home to encourage your child to continue to use **Reading Eggs and Mathletics (in Senior Room) programmes**. Each child has his/her own password. They can access the programme at school. To get real benefit we encourage them to use the programme at home.

The annual subscription for Reading Eggs costs €6 per child but the Board is subsidising the cost so each child is asked to pay €3. The School is also covering full cost of Mathletics. The subscription will be collected after Easter. It is important that your child uses these two programmes as much as possible. If any child has a problem with their password please let Ms. Farrell know.

Homework Club

Following a request by the Parents' Association we started a Homework Club after Mid Term. We hope to continue it after Easter. You will appreciate that it is a commitment on the part of the teachers and it may happen that the days will be changed from time to time where the teacher is unavailable or when there is a clash with matches.

Please ensure that oral work (reading, spelling and tables) is completed and supervised at home.

Just a Note.....

- The **school garden** is in the process of being set as we go to press!
- **Grandparents' Day** took place on 22 January. It was a great success with the children enjoying their performances of songs and poems for their grandparents. Thank you to the Parents Association who organised refreshments.

Sport

Paddy Cullen, Longford GAA coach, has given two sessions to all pupil in GAA football skills. The Club School Link Coach this year is Niall Maguire and he will start after Easter.

In the Indoor Hurling Competition we reached a Division 5 Final in Newtownforbes last week and we were defeated by a goal by Ballymahon. Well done to the team who put in great performances in the earlier rounds of the competition and thanks to Ms Crean Lynch who trained the team. Thanks to parents who helped with transport.

Cumann na mBunscol Mixed Football championship matches have only started so good luck to the team in their matches.

Granard Credit Union Quiz

Well done to the two teams who represented the school in the Credit Union Quiz in January.

Green School

We have been very busy working on our Travel Flag - our application is sent off to An Táisce so fingers crossed we will get the flag. Thank you to parents and siblings who helped us walk safely to school. Tiernan, our An Táisce School Co-Ordinator interviewed the Green School Committee on 4th March as part of the Green School Audit.

We hope to have another Cycle Day to Derragh Lake - so get your bikes in order!

Clothes Collection

A clothes collection is being organised by the Parents Association for 19th April.

First Penance

Congratulations to the children in Second Class - who celebrated First Penance yesterday Monday in St. Bernard's Church ably prepared by Mrs Guckian.

Reminders:

- **Date for Communion: Saturday 21 May 2016 at 12 o'clock**
- **Date for Confirmation: Saturday 16 April 2016 at 11.00am in Abbeylara Church.**
- **Children get Easter holidays on tomorrow Wednesday at 12.30p.m. There will not be a bus service at this time.**

*Le gach dea ghúí
um Cháisc*

*Mary
Quinn.
Príncípál*

