

Spring Links: February 26th 2013

- **Parents' Association Meeting & Coffee –Halla - tomorrow, 27th Feb at 9.15 a.m.- Do come along ☺**
- **Watch out for us in the next Bishopstown News!**
- **Today we welcomed Ms. Quill , Diocesan Advisor, to St. Catherine's and she was thrilled with all we knew.**
- **We would ask that small children be kept away from Pond area and lower garden area please due to Health & Safety Concerns**
- **We held our first Fire Drill of 2013 yesterday and this went very smoothly.**

Dear Parents,

We are well and truly on our way to Easter and thankfully Spring appears to have Sprung all around us here in St. Catherine's! The following news and advice may be of interest and prove useful at this time:

Look at all we are involved in!:

Gaelic Games: Training is in full swing and we have huge numbers this year all enjoying weekly trips to the GAA with Ms. Walsh, Ms. Kellegher and Mr. Clune. We are also being assisted by Mr. Larkin from Mount Mercy and the resulting improvements are great to see. Maith sibh!

Peace Proms: Any parents who were lucky enough to have attended City Hall on Sunday last were no doubt blown away, like myself, by the talent on show. We were thrilled to have been involved in the Peace Proms with the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland and know that this is a memory that the girls will treasure forever. What an achievement and opportunity they got! Our sincerest thanks to Ms. Kellegher, Ms. Walsh and Mrs. McCarthy and to the girls themselves of course who were a credit to you, themselves and their school.

Scor:

Another fantastic night out was had by all involved in Scór na bPáistí last Friday night and huge congratulations to all who played, danced and sang so wonderfully. We wish our dancers in the Set Dancing and our Grúpa Ceoil the very best of luck on March 10th in Eire óg, Ovens in the Regional Final. A big thank you to Mick Hickey for his massive help and to Ms. Foley for her amazing work with the dancers.

Cork City Hospitals Children's Club:

We are so proud of the girls who represented us recently and assisted Garda John Long with his **pancake making** for shoppers and senior members of our community at SMA Hall Wilton for this wonderfully deserving cause. €2,147 was raised thanks to all involved. We are so proud of you girls. Garda Long has written to say how impressed he was with the mannerly way the girls treated the customers and senior citizens on the day.

Green Flag Action Week:

This is coming up from March 11th thanks to all involved in our Green School Committee led by Ms. Hurley & Ms. Kellegher. Watch out for further info at www.stcathns.com, in our Blogs there and also in notes home. We are applying for our 3rd Green Flag currently and Water Conservation is the key☺. We know we can depend on you, as always, for support.

SNAG (Seachtain na Gaeilge):

We will be trying our best to use the Cúpla Focail over SNAG which runs from March 4th – 17th, 2012. Check out www.snag.ie for dates, events and ideas and why not use the Cúpla Focail too when you get any opportunity☺ .

Food Dudes:

We are about to get involved in this brilliant initiative and the Health Promoting Schools Committee led by Ms. Morris & Ms. Flanagan. Check it out at www.fooddudes.ie – this is a great

way to encourage kids to eat their fruit and veg so we know you will be as keen as we are to see this work.

REMINDERS:

Wash bags- These needed by all pupils on Senior Corridor.

Traffic: We are looking into ways of alleviating traffic congestion around the school and a sub committee of the Parents' Association led by Ms. Louise Crowley is currently working on this. In the meanwhile we ask people as always to respect our **VOLUNTARY ONE WAY SYSTEM** around the school at drop off and collection times. *That means you approach school from the direction of Highfield and this allows you to drop your child on the kerb side.* **Also we ask those parents who persist in doing U-turns in the Carpark entrance to stop this very dangerous practice.**

And.....

Enrolments for 2013/2014:

Thanks to all staff and pupils for making our recent OPEN MORNING a massive success. Our two Junior Infant Classes for the coming year are now full. Limited vacancies in some other classes.

Blogs:

Do check out Class Blogs on our website- its nearly as good as being with us in school and I know you will be thrilled to see what's going around St. Cat

LinkedIn:

Mr. Rob Cosgrove is working on a LinkedIn Community for Parents of the school and if you have an interest in this please let us know and we will put you in contact.

Homework Club:

Continuation of this is highly unlikely after Easter due to insufficient demand but we will keep you posted on this.

Coats:

As the weather is still very cold please make sure your daughter has a coat every day.

Hair:

Head lice are causing problems again so we remind you that hair below shoulders must be tied up daily and never treat your child for Headlice if there is no need.

Shoes:

Converse, DC's Uggs and fancy boots are not regarded as acceptable uniform and also cause peer pressure on pupils on occasion so we earnestly seek your support in implementing this.

Nail Polish & Makeup:

These were never allowed in St. Catherine's and we're sure you the parents will be happy to support this.

Dates for the Diary:

Confirmation on Saturday April 20th at 10.30 a.m.

First Holy Communion on Saturday May 11th at 11.30 a.m.:

Light refreshments in the Crypt after both events – all welcome.

Reminder also that we ask that Cards are not given out to girls in the grounds of the Church or in school the day before as this can cause undue financial pressure for families.

Mrs. C L O' Sullivan, Principal