

SAINT MICHAEL'S NS NEWSLETTER

January News - New Astroturf



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022. We started the new year off to an exciting start with the installation of our new Astroturf surface in the yard. The pupils and staff are delighted with it. 4th, 5th & 6th class 'christened' the new pitches by holding their own African Cup of Nations. Congratulations to the winners: Egypt and Cameroon and thanks to Ms. Doran and Ms. Fossitt for organising the event. Our next focus for the yard will be resurfacing the Junior yard and restoring the shelter so it can be used as an outdoor learning space. The P.T.A. are kindly supporting the fund-raising efforts for these, so please do support them.

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Our whole school theme for January was **perseverance** and class teachers and pupils thought about what it means to persevere with something difficult. Our theme for February will be **being healthy**. Did you know the school does have a Health Eating Policy? I think it is fair to say that it has been a little neglected over the past while, so we will be updating our policy and looking for feedback from parents/guardians and pupils on how we can make our school a healthier place. Your opinions really do matter, so I encourage you to have your say when policies are sent out for consultation.



We have made some updates to our school website so you can now view the website in a language of your choice. If your home language is not there, please let me know and we can add it. We also now have class blog pages, so do keep checking in with the website to see what is happening in your child's classroom. We are delighted that 4th - 6th class will be starting Rugby with Munster Rugby next week for four weeks. We are hoping that as we move through spring and into summer, we will be able to offer more activities like this to all classes.

I would like to thank all the staff, pupils and parents/guardians of Saint Michael's N.S. for helping to keep our school safe over the past few months. As we move into spring, we eagerly await the day when many of the restrictions in school can be safely lifted. As always, please continue to follow the relevant public health advice, keep your child at home if they are symptomatic or if someone at home has symptoms or tests positive for COVID19. If your child wears a mask to school, continue to remind them how to wear it properly and safely.



Dates for you diary

- Feb 1st:** Chinese New Year and St. Brigid's Day
- Feb 4th - 18th:** Road to Beijing Olympic School Challenge
- Feb 7th:** P.T.A. Annual General Meeting (7pm, Zoom)
- Feb 8th:** Safer Internet Day
- Feb 9th:** Four weeks training with Munster Rugby
- Feb 14th -17th:** Parent teacher meetings- Senior Infants & 1st class (Ms. Gleeson)
- Feb 21st - 23rd:** Parent teacher meetings - Junior Infants (Ms. Wallace)

- Feb 24th & 25th:** Mid-term break (School closed)
- Feb 28th - March 3rd:** Parent teacher meetings - 2nd & 3rd class (Ms. Halpin)
- March 7th - 10th:** Parent teacher meetings - 4th & 5th class (Ms. Fossitt)
- March 21st - 24th:** Parent teacher meetings - 5th & 6th class (Ms. Doran)
- March 1st - 17th:** Seachtain na Gaeilge
- March 4th:** World Book Day
- March 17th & 18th:** Bank Holidays (School closed)

P.T.A. News

Well done to the P.T.A committee for their marvelous Christmas cookbook and thank you to everyone who contributed with a recipe and a purchase (copies are still available if you would like one). This joint effort raised €647 which will go towards resurfacing the Junior yard in the coming months. The P.T.A. Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) will be held on February 7th at 7 p.m. via Zoom and we really encourage all parents in the school to attend. This is an opportunity to learn a little more about what the P.T.A. committee does to support the school and your chance to get involved in school life, meet other parents, propose ideas for events and become part of the school community. The funds raised by the P.T.A. directly benefit the children in the school by paying for trips/outings, equipment, class materials etc. Please do consider getting involved - you can commit as much or as little time as you can.

Creative Schools News

In December, 2nd - 6th class took part in animation workshops, with each group creating their own short animated story. They had to write a short plot and make plasticine figures before they could create their animation. I think it is safe to say everyone really enjoyed this and you will be able to view the animations on the school website in the coming days.

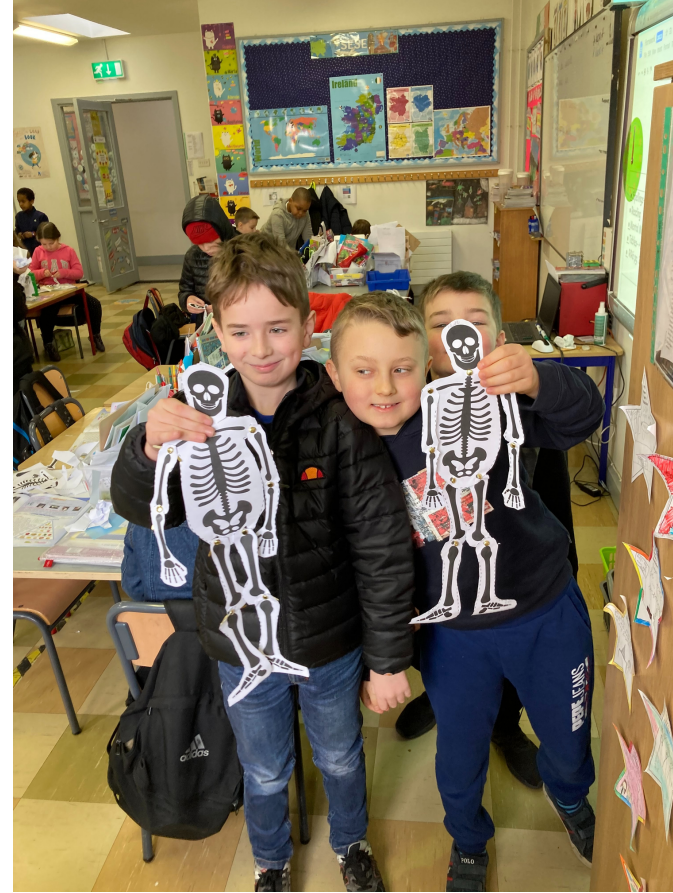
We are looking forward to organising more activities which promote creativity and if you or someone you know has skills in this area and could offer the school a talk, event or workshop, please get in touch with our Creative Schools coordinator, Ms. Doran.

African Cup of Nations teams - Ms. Fossitt's class



Green Schools

After a few years' break, the staff and pupils of Saint Michael's School have decided to restart our Green Schools Journey. Our first theme is 'Litter and Waste'. Ms. Halpin is our Green Schools Coordinator and until we can hold cross-school committees again, 2nd & 3rd class will take the lead for us. We are looking for 2-4 parents who would also like to join our Green Schools committee. Please contact Ms. Halpin if you are interested in helping out.



Parish News

As we navigate our way through the easing of restrictions we look forward to the resumption of 'normal' activities within the parish. To be included in the weekly newsletter please email limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com