

SAINT MICHAEL'S NS NEWSLETTER

School News

Happy New Year to all our pupils, staff and families. 2024 began with a cold snap and the children loved playing outdoors with the astroturf white with frost. January saw three weeks of rugby training for 2nd - 6th class, swimmin lessons continued with 2nd & 3rd class having their turn. 4th, 5th & 6th class have been very busy preparing for Peace Proms and they did us all proud performing on January 28th in UL. It was a very special occasion for all of us who took part or were able to come to watch the concert. The children performce with enthusiam and behaved very well.

Junior Infants - 1st class have been enjoying new activites using our 'Six Bricks'. This programme uses Lego bricks to develop different skills from team work to maths skills. Both 2nd & 3rd class and 4th & 5th were lucky enough to visit exhibitions in Limerick City Gallery, including one by James Skerritt. James visited the school in December to work with all classes.

We have lots of exciting activties and events to look forward to over the next month or two. We will be starting dance classes again with Dance It Out Ireland, 5th & 6th are hoping to take part in a rubgy blitz and we will have lots of interesting things happening for Seachtain na Gaeilge, Engineers Week, and Neurodiveristy Celebration week. If any parents or family members would like to help us out for any of these, please do get in touch.

As you may have heard the school has been awarded just over €8000 as part of the Department of Education's STEM (Science, technology, engineering and maths) grant. We are going to use this to build STEM kits, using stories and books as a launch pad. We are very excited and putting the kits together over the next couple of months and trying out some fun and challenging STEM activties with all the classes.

Tuesday 6th February is Safer Internet Day and that week we will be arranging internet safety talks for pupils 2nd - 6th class on Thursday February 8th. It's a perfect opportunity to have a chat with your child about their own use of devices, games, social media etc. You can find great information on www.webwise.ie We are hoping to run a parent session also and the P.T.A. are going to host a social event on the same evening. We would love to see as many parents as possible there.

Finally, the school will be a polling station for the referendum on March 8th and will be closed that day.



2nd and 3rd class visit to Limerick City Gallery

What's inside?

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4th, 5th & 6th classes at Peace Proms



Student Council (SC)

Our Student Council members are Hailie, Miesko, Rosie, Loago, Lucjan, Blen, Holly and Igor. Our teacher link is Ms. Stackpoole.

The Student Council have put together a rota so the classes can enjoy using equipment at first break each day. They have been helping to tidy up the equipment each day and make sure that it is well looked after. Well done to our Student Council for making playtime better for everyone!

Dates for you diary

February 5th - Bank holiday, school closed

February 7th - 5th & 6th class rugby blitz

February 8th - Internet Safety talks for 2nd - 6th class

February 9th - Dance classes begin (all classes)

February 15th & 16th - School closed for mid-term

March 8th - School closed (polling station)

P.T.A. News

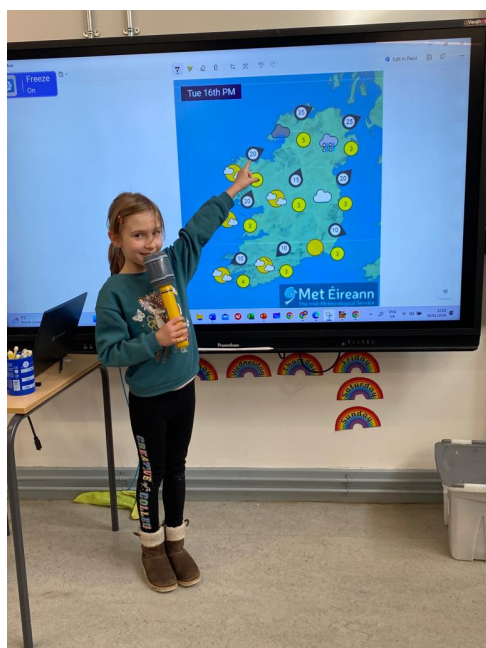
Thanks to the P.T.A. for arranging teas and coffees before the Carol service in December and also for arranging the raffle. They raised €670 and this money will be used to fund trips and additional activities for the pupils.

It is important to remember that the PTA can only be successful with support from all parents in our school community. Our goal is to create a vibrant, engaged and happy environment.

The next P.T.A. event will be a social event in the school and all are welcome to attend. Details will be sent next week.



Senior Infants and 1st trying their hand at being weather forecasters



Green Schools

Our new Green School team for this year is: Evelyn and Szymon (1st class), Freddie (2nd class), Aaron (3rd class), Zalharam (4th class), Iga (5th class), Sophie and Annabelle (6th class).

Here are ways to support the Green School Initiative:

- Every child should bring a towel to school everyday
- Bring a Reusable lunch box
- Use a reusable drink bottle
- Take any waste from lunch home.
- Bring used batteries in to our battery collection point outside the office

We really appreciate everyones effort to help us make our school more environmentally friendly. We welcome parent/guardian ideas too, so if you have an idea on how we can be a greener school, please get in touch!

New Board of Management term

School Boards of Managements sit for a four year term and a new Board term started on December 1st 2023 and will sit until November 30th 2027. The current Board members are as follows:

- The Very Rev'd Dean Niall J. Sloane (Chairperson, Patron's Nominee)
- Kate Gleeson (Secretary, school Principal)
- Ann-Marie Mullane (Staff Nominee)
- Neil Keane (Hon. Treasurer, Community Nominee)
- Deirdre Doogan (Community Nominee)
- Victor Brown (Parent Nominee)
- Ann Holmes (Parent Nominee)

Please note that all correspondence for the Board should be to the Secretary or Chairperson.

A note from Dean Sloane

Secondary Education Committee Grants (SEC):
PLEASE NOTE: Only the Rector (Dean Sloane) may sign the form, and, for him to do so, the children concerned must be parishioners and known to him (i.e. attend church regularly, etc). The grant comes from taxpayers' money and the wrongful signing of the form is fraudulent. All info at <https://secgrant.ie/>



4th & 5th class visit to Limerick City Gallery



1st class and their Lego creation