

Scéalta 12
News & Information for
St. Mochta's National School Community
22nd November 2017

Science Week

- Friday 17th was a very exciting science day at St. Mochta's National School. Each class level held a number of different activities and experiments. We hope every child enjoyed their day. Special thanks to all of our teachers for preparing such an exciting day!
- Our annual airplane competition for 3rd to 6th Classes took place on Monday and yesterday. There was great excitement and support for everyone during the competition. Congratulations to the winners who are listed below:

<u>3rd/4th Classes</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Length</u>
<u>Place</u>		
1 st	Jaycee Jon Tubalado <i>(Mr. Kenny's)</i>	13.5m
2 nd	Adam Cunningham <i>(Ms. McLoughlin/Ms. Griffin)</i>	11m
3 rd	Brian Plower <i>(Ms. Aherne)</i>	10.5m
<u>5th/6th Classes</u>		
<u>Place</u>		
1 st	Joshua Calamai <i>(Mr. Mullarkey)</i>	18.3m
2 nd	Dylan Maher <i>(Mr. Terry)</i>	15.6m
3 rd	Jamie Tucker <i>(Ms. Fitzgerald)</i>	14.5m

Thanks to Mr. Brown for co-ordinating Science Week in our school.

Parent Teacher Meetings

All letters regarding Parent/Teacher Meetings were sent home in the school bags last week. School finishes today at the usual times. **Tomorrow**, school will finish at the usual time of 1.30pm for Junior and Senior Infants. For all other classes, school will finish at the following times:-

<u>Class Level</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Gates Open</u>
1 st & 2 nd Classes	Thursday 23 rd	2.05pm
3 rd to 6 th Classes	Thursday 23 rd	2.15pm

Please collect your child at the time above so that the meetings may start on time. Many thanks for your co-operation. Kindly note each parent has been allocated 10 minutes. If you need to discuss any issues with a teacher for a longer period, you can arrange another appointment with the teacher at your Parent Teacher Meeting.

Confirmation

All 6th Class children preparing for Confirmation attended mass yesterday at St. Mochta's Church. Thanks to their teachers for helping to prepare the children and to the parents who helped walk the children to and from the church.

The Confirmation Enrolment Ceremony takes place at 7pm next Monday 27th November at St. Mochta's Church.

FÍS Film Award

We are extremely proud of our FÍS Film Award and would like to congratulate Mr. Terry and his 6th Class from last year. If you would like to see our winning video, please click on the link <https://vimeo.com/237748014>

Voluntary Contribution Letter

The voluntary contribution letter was emailed to all families last week. A link for payment will be re-emailed towards the end of this week. Many thanks to all those who have made a contribution to-date.

A few reminders:

- **Heavy Rain Mornings**

Wet morning procedures apply when the rain is very heavy. All pupils and parents can enter the school as normal at Gate 3. On arriving at Gate 2, parents leave as usual. All pupils walk through St. Mary's Corridor (except Ground Floor of St. Josephs). Junior & Senior Infants walk directly to classes. All other classes line up in the hall. Any children located on the GROUND FLOOR of St. Josephs (all 3rd classes & Mr. Kenny's & Ms. Aherne's 4th class) walk directly to their classrooms. Please follow these guidelines to ensure the health and safety of all. Many thanks for your co-operation.

- **Drizzly Mornings**

Kindly note that where there is a light drizzle falling, wet morning procedures do not apply. We encourage you to send your children to school with a suitable coat and they will remain in their lines in the yard until school starts at 8.50 am.

- **Frosty Weather**

Please note that on frosty mornings the yards need to be salted before school can commence. This may result in a delay opening the gates at 8.30am. We apologise for any inconvenience and we appreciate your understanding. Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing for cold weather.

- **Lost Property**

Please note there is a large quantity of coats, jumpers and tracksuit tops in our lost property area. If your child is missing any item of clothing, please check as any items left will be given to charity shortly.

- Dropping lunches and school bags

There has been an increase in the number of lunches and school bags being dropped into school during school times. With the large numbers in the school, it can be time-consuming delivering these to the relevant classes. To help reduce these deliveries, please take an extra moment in the morning to ensure your child has everything he/she needs for the day.

- Collecting early

All children should be at school for the whole school day. Exceptions are made for medical appointments and urgent family situations. Please avoid collecting your child from school unless necessary. We have noticed a recent trend of children leaving early on Fridays and are concerned about this. We remind you that children must be present for a full school day. We strongly discourage early collections during the school week.

Christmas Fair

- St. Mochta's is really looking forward to our last Christmas Fair in the old school! We hope all families will support the Fair and enjoy all the events and activities organised by our wonderful Parents Association.
- Please return your sold and unsold raffle tickets to the class teacher or school reception. There is a limited amount of ticket books still available from the school reception. Many thanks for your support.

Westmanstown GAA

Many thanks to Declan Jennings from Westmanstown Gaels who has finished his GAA skills sessions with our 1st Classes. Declan can be contacted on 085-8006101 for further information and all new members welcome.

Parents Association

Class calendars: On Tuesday 28th November class photographs will be taken for the Class calendars. These can be ordered from the school- details to follow in due course.

CHRISTMAS FAIR(we'll) TO THE OLD SPORTSHALL!! - Sunday 3rd Dec

Volunteers are still needed in order to be able to run the following areas:

Face painting	▪ Cube room
▪ Games	▪ Sweet Shop
▪ Bottle stall	▪ Cake stall
▪ Café	▪

If you have a specific area of interest or are happy to be placed as needed please email your availability to- parentsassociation@stmochtas.ie Even if you can just do a short stint your help is much needed and appreciated.

Monster Raffle – please ensure all raffle stubs/ money are returned to teachers/ school no later than **Friday 1st** – as the draw will close on **Friday 1st December at 4pm! Be In It To Win!** Tickets to visit **Santa** on sale Monday 27th – Friday 1st Dec (see below)

11 MORE SLEEPS TO GO-HO-HO!

Christmas Fair 2017 – Sunday 3rd December from 1pm to 5pm

Visit Santa at the Christmas Fair

Tickets to visit Santa will be on sale by the Parents Association volunteers at the school, in the car park beside **Gate 3**, on the 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th Nov and 1st Dec 8.30am, 1.20pm & 2.20pm. Tickets cost €5 for one child and €10 for a family of two or more children.

Please book early as this can book out quickly.

Donations

Despite there being NO TOY and BOOK rooms this year we will still be looking for donations for our **Bottle Stall** and **Cake Stall**.

- Volunteers will be collecting items for our **Bottle Stall** at Gate 3 @ 8.30am, 1.20pm & 2.20pm each school day from - Mon 27th Nov - Fri 1st Dec. There will also be one evening collection on Thurs 30th Nov from 7-8 pm. **Bottles** of wine, spirits and minerals and **Hampers** will be raffled on at the Christmas Fair.
- We would also appreciate **Spot Prizes** and any unused Christmas decorations to help decorate the hall
- We welcome donations for the **Cake stall** on the morning of the fair Sunday 3rd December– buns, biscuits, tarts, scones, flans, brownies, cakes, small Christmas cake/pudding etc... home baked or shop bought.

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Kindly note, due to a number of children having severe NUT allergies in the school, we would ask that you please do not use any nuts or nut products in your baking. Thank You!

'Guess the Jar'

The student council will be visiting each classroom from Mon 27th with a '**Guess the Jar**'. The infant classes will 'Guess the number of **JELLY BEANS** in the jar', while 1st class and up will 'Guess the number of **COINS** in the jar'. €1 for 2 guesses. Nearest guess wins the jar

Volunteers on the day are crucial to the success of this great event

We currently need LOTS more volunteers to ensure that the event runs successfully. Help with the set up on Friday afternoon 1st Dec or Saturday 2nd Dec. Or volunteer on Sunday 3rd Dec to help run a stall, if only for a few hours, or with clean up after the fair.

If you can help please see a member of the Committee or email Fiona at- parentsassociation@stmocht.ie