

# Scéalta 21

## News & Information for St. Mochta's National School Community

6<sup>th</sup> February 2019

### Internet Safety Talk for Parents!

As we are aware, it is very important that you know what your child is doing on-line and this talk, organised by our PA, can give guidance on how you can protect your child. The speakers include Darren Dunwoody (Microsoft) and Garda Colm Treacy. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend this talk. This is a great opportunity for parents to inform themselves and we hope you can attend. Many thanks to our PA for organising this event.

### Credit Union Quiz Update

Bright young brains from National Schools around Dublin 15 pitted their wits against each other at the local Credit Union Quiz held in the Carlton Hotel, Tyrrellstown on Monday night last. With prizes up for grabs in both U11 and U13 categories, the atmosphere was bitingly tense as 45 teams, over 180 children and more than 30 schools competed against each other, watched on by a three hundred strong audience waiting in eager anticipation to see who was crowned Quiz champions. We are delighted that huge congratulations are in order to our Under 11 team from St Mochta's NS for claiming the top prize and were outright winners in the Under 11 category. The winning team comprised of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class pupils namely: Owen Hughes, Morgan Dunning, Rachel Griffin and Conor McCann. We are all delighted with their success and very proud of them.

The children were presented with trophies and will now advance to represent the Dublin 15 region in the chapter final taking place in early March. Huge congratulations also to the three other teams from our school who narrowly missed out on a runner up place. A fantastic feat. Comhghairdeas sibh uilig.

This was a wonderful achievement for the school and great credit to the children themselves, their parents and coordinators Mr. McAdam and Ms. McGloin. We wish them the best of luck in the next round. Keep Quizzing!

### Localise Volunteering for All Award

Following the information emailed home yesterday, as you know the school is participating in the Localise '**Volunteering for All**' Award. If we succeed, St. Mochta's National School would become the first primary school in Ireland to achieve the award. Localise youth volunteering challenges young people to come together and make a difference at home, in school and in their local community, by being of service to others. As part of our involvement, all girls and boys from **1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Classes** are asked to participate. The on-line survey was sent home as part of an email yesterday. Thank you for your support.

### **We need your help – Aldi Play Rugby!**

Thanks to everyone who has brought in their stickers so far! As you know, the school is participating in the Aldi Play Rugby initiative to encourage kids across the country to live active and healthy lifestyles. We have the opportunity to win various prizes. If you shop at Aldi and spend over €30 , **please accept the Aldi Play Rugby Stickers**. Your child can bring the stickers to school and help us fill our poster – we need 300 stickers! This promotion started last Monday and will run until 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

### **Reduced Yard Space after the mid-term**

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, for the builders to continue with our new school build, our current yard space will need to be reduced. Over the mid-term, the hoarding on the yard will be moved reducing the yard space. Any yard lines effected have been moved and the classes impacted have already been practicing lining up on their new lines.

### **Sacraments**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Class children preparing for their First Communion will attend their First Penance and Reconciliation at 11.00am in St. Mochta's Church as follows:-

• <u>Class</u>	• <u>Date</u>
• Mr. Brennan	• <i>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February</i>
• Ms. Brennan	• <i>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February</i>
• Ms. Kelly	• <i>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February</i>
• Ms. Reynolds	• <i>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February</i>

Parents are welcome to attend this ceremony. **Should you wish to take your child home afterwards, please note this has to be done from the school. Therefore, the children will return to the school and at that stage you can sign your child out if you wish.** We wish all the boys and girls the very best as they prepare for this occasion and take the opportunity to thank our teachers for all their work.

- An e-payment link for €25 towards the cost of the Retreat and the rental of the Confirmation Robes was emailed to the parents/guardians of all Confirmation Candidates. Thank you to those who have paid already. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please pay this fee before the mid-term break. Many thanks.

### **Question of Funding Letter**

This letter, appealing to parents/guardians to make a voluntary contribution was emailed to all families this morning. All contributions are gratefully received. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Message from the Fundraising Committee**

#### **Lots done, a little more to do**

With your support, we've raised over **€70,000** of the €100,000 target to provide our children with the increased playground they deserve. Our most recent success was winning the

€5,000 Version 1 Community Grant. It got us thinking..... maybe there are other grants out there we could apply for or perhaps your company supports charities under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy.

If you are aware of any grants we'd be eligible for or can nominate St Mochta's School as a charity under your company's CSR policy, please email our Fundraising Committee at [stmochtasfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:stmochtasfundraising@gmail.com). The Fundraising Committee will complete and submit grant applications or help complete submissions for charity nominations, all you have to do is let us know about them. Thanks for your continued support.

### **Photograph Orders**

The final date for orders is today. County Photos will be collecting orders first thing tomorrow (Thursday) morning. If you still plan on ordering, please ensure your order is handed into Reception directly on Thursday morning.

### **Garda Vetting**

From time to time, we need help from parents to ensure that we can organise activities outside of the school e.g. walking children to/from the church, school tours, etc. We invite parents to become Garda Vetted through the school. Please call into reception for the relevant forms. Garda Vetting can take up to 2 months to process.

### **School Closure – Mid Term**

School will be closed from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February inclusive for the mid-term. Normal school hours apply on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. School will reopen on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 8.50am.

### **Dates for your Diary**

- For your information, the HSE will call to our school from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February to complete Vision & Hearing Testing for Junior Infants.
- Book week will take place at the school for the week from 4<sup>th</sup> March. Further details will issue shortly.
- Entrance exams for 6<sup>th</sup> Class students who will be attending Coolmine Community School will take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March next. Please contact Coolmine directly for further information if necessary.

### **Good luck to Alex**

Best of luck to Alex Martín who will be representing St. Mochta's National School in the Irish Minor Schools Swimming Championships in the National Aquatic Centre, Dublin this Sunday. We wish him the very best.

### **Community Notices**

- **Support Meeting:** Anam Cara South Dublin the organisation that supports bereaved parents' is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Monday 11 February at 7:20pm in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght, Dublin 24. This is a free event and open to all bereaved

parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to: [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before Friday 8 February or call the Information Line on 085 2888 888.

- **Tigers Afterschool Care** still have places available from 1.30pm to 6.30pm. If you are interested, please contact the Manager, Amanda Jones, at 086-1704001 for further details.
- **NYP (Neighbourhood Youth Project)**  
The NYP will be hosting workshops over the next 6 weeks covering topics such as social media, gaming, security & safety online, addictive behaviours, confidence building and decision making. The workshops take place on Thursday mornings from 11am to 12.30pm. For further details, please contact Mary or Moira on 01 8205253.
- **New Secondary School for the Blanchardstown Village/Blanchardstown West Area**  
A new school to cater for a region designated as **Blanchardstown Village/Blanchardstown West** has been approved. It will be an 800-student school and it is intended to open in September 2020 with enrolment due to start around October 2019 (TBC). No site has been identified yet. DDLETB are currently collecting expressions of interest in this new school via the following link <http://www.ddletb.ie/post-primary-patronage/>