

Newsletter No. 5 – January 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the new term. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break. The following points are for your attention:

1. Enrolments for September 2018:

This process has begun and an application form has been sent to all parents who filled out a 'Notification of Intention to Apply' form. These application forms must be returned to school on or before **Monday 5th February 2018** or the Application will not be considered by the Board of Management.

2. Dates for your Diary:

- a) School closes at 12.30pm on Friday 9th February for In-service Training.
- b) Mid-term Break: School closed Monday 12th to Friday 16th February (inclusive).
- c) In-Service Training: School closed on Monday 12th March.
- d) St. Patrick's Day: School closed on Monday 19th March.
- e) Easter Holidays: School closes Friday 23rd March at **12.30pm** & re-opens Monday 9th April at 8.40 a.m.

3. No Uniform Day:

Our No Uniform Day held on 22nd December raised € 312.00 for school funds. Thank you for your support.

4. General School news:

Congratulations to Ms. Hempenstall on her recent engagement. All at Gorey Central wish her and her fiancé many years of happiness.

5. Friendship /Safe Internet Week:

All classes will re-visit Friendship and Anti-Bullying themes covered in September during the week beginning the 5th February. During this week there will also be a special emphasis on Safe Internet usage.

6. The Junior Entrepreneur Programme:

5th and 6th class are progressing really well through The Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP). As part of step 3, Ms. McDermott and Ms. Furney arranged to visit a local business in the town and invited a local entrepreneur to speak to our classes.

On Thursday 25th January, they visited James Tomkins' garage to learn about his business and listen to his entrepreneurial story.

On Friday 26th January, Dave Lavelle from Eco visited 5th and 6th class to speak about being an entrepreneur and share his business story.

The pupils were all very excited about this and are very grateful to be surrounded by such wonderful entrepreneurs!!

Ms. McDermott and Ms. Furney

7. Blue Star Programme:

The Blue Star Programme is an education initiative for primary school students across Ireland. The idea of the programme is simple: to foster better understanding and knowledge of Europe and how it affects the lives of Irish citizens among Irish primary pupils through classroom projects and activities.

The children in 5th class have recently started work on this year's Blue Star Programme. They have chosen to focus on France this year and to learn as much as possible about its history, geography, famous landmarks and people, culture and language. They will also learn more about how the EU works and will hopefully have some very interesting visitors over the coming months! They will be sure to keep you updated.

P.T.O. →→→

8. Green Schools News

The Green Schools Committee met for the first time in January. Together we looked at our Action Plan for Water and discussed the role of the Committee members.



Committee Members 2017/2018: First Class - Issac Hughes and Lilli Cooper, Second Class - Ben Donovan and Tara Horan, Third Class - Melissa Rothwell and Glen Stephens, Fourth Class - Ashley De Wilde and Noah Byrne, Fifth Class - James Bailey and Riadh Willoughby, Sixth Class - Matthew Power and Kayleigh Redmond Tomkins.

The next few months will be busy, as the Committee and teachers plan for our Water Action day. The children were very enthusiastic and had lots of great ideas. Our Action Day for Water will take place on Wednesday 22nd March, which is also the UN World Water day. More details about the day will follow nearer to the 22nd.

Our Green Schools notice board is being updated and will soon contain lots of useful information such as Water tips, our Action Plan and Information on our Water Action day. Please feel free to have a look at our display board anytime you are around the School building.

We would like to remind parents that in the entrance to the school there are some boxes for the collection of used batteries. Please send in any used lithium batteries that you may have lying around your homes.

Finally, a big well done goes to Emily and Grace Poole who have changed the words to one of our favourite hymns 'Always remember never forget'. The girls have changed the words to reflect the Schools work on Water. Our new version is called 'Always remember never forget, never forget to turn off the tap!' Classes will learn our new song as part of our Action day.

Mrs. Poole, Mrs. E Leech and Ms. Rynhart

9. Gorey Credit Union Quiz:

On Friday 26th January, Gorey Central School entered two teams in the annual Gorey Credit Union Quiz. The Under 13s team was Erin McKillen, Lillah Shaw, Matthew Griffiths and Joe O'Shea. The Under 11s team was Ben O'Gorman, Sína White, Dylan Cooper and Eli Page. Both of our teams came fourth in their respective categories, a fantastic achievement against so many different teams. Congratulations to all children involved who represented their school so well!

10. Active Schools:

This school year, we have continued with our 'Wake Up, Shake Up' laps and activities for the pupils every Friday morning in the senior yard.

Since January, Gorey Central has begun to take part in the Super Troopers initiative. This is a homework programme to encourage students and their families to become more active through some short, fun activities every day. Don't forget to get your Activity Journal signed each week!

We will also be taking part in the '10 @ 10' challenges over the next two weeks, in partnership with Operation Transformation and RTEJr, to get active while having lots of fun every morning for 10 minutes at 10am.

Ms Jordan and Ms McDermott

11. Swimming:

Swimming for this year will be held in Forest Park Leisure Centre, Courtown for 2nd to 6th classes. It will take place in the summer term, after Easter. More detailed information will follow over the next few weeks.

Thank you

Mr. Bater