

Newsletter No. 7– March/April 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The following points are for your attention:

1. Jersey Day/ No Uniform day:

We will be having a Jersey Day/ No Uniform Day in aid of school funds (€2 per pupil) on the day of the Easter Holidays, Friday 7th April. On this day pupils do not need to wear their school uniform. As it is also Active Schools Week we are encouraging pupils (and staff) to wear sporty clothes.

2. Tidy Towns Initiative

Pupils in Gorey Central School have been invited to take part in a **Tidy Towns Initiative**. This will begin shortly and will run until the summer holidays. Pupils from 3rd/4th/5th/and 6th will be involved, on a weekly basis, in helping to keep the street area, near Gorey Central School, litter free. This will also tie in with our Green School Flag for Litter and Waste.

In recent years Gorey Central pupils have been involved with other Tidy Towns projects such as the **Magic Compass Garden** opposite the school and also with the **Apple Garden** near the Fire Station.

3. Book Fair:

The Book Fair is arriving in Gorey Central School soon to sprinkle a little reading magic.

There will be **over 200 titles** for you and your child to choose from. With prices starting from **only €3.40**, there's sure to be a book for everyone. You can browse some of the highlights before the Book Fair on www.scholastic.ie.

The Book Fair will be available to visit from Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th May between 1.30pm-3pm in Gorey Central School Hall.

Don't forget that every book you buy will help us to get **FREE BOOKS** for our school!

4. Spelling Bee:

Following an in-school heat Lillah Shaw (5th class) represented Gorey Central School at the County Wexford Spelling Bee final which was held in Bunscoil Loreto, Gorey recently. The county winner was Ashley Bolton from Bunscoil Loreto. Lillah performed very well within the competition and we are all very proud of her. Well done Lillah!

5. Eric "the Birdman".

On Friday 24th February all pupils in Gorey Central were treated to an exciting visit from Eric Dempsey, a.k.a "the Birdman". Mr Dempsey visited our school as part of the Department of Education's Heritage in Schools initiative. He introduced the wonderful world of birds to the pupils through hands-on presentations which included feathers, beaks and nests, as well as through wonderful original images.

Mr. Dempsey is one of Ireland's leading bird experts and he is the author of many best-selling books. He is also a team member of the popular 'Mooney' show on RTE Radio 1 and has made numerous TV appearances. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed his visit.

6. Active School Week:

Active School Week is taking place in our school from the 3rd - 7th April. This is an excellent opportunity for our school to encourage pupils to take part in physical activity. During this week teachers will plan physical activities based around the strands of the PE curriculum. Pupils will be taking part in extended PE classes, active homework, 'wake up, shake up' morning activities, DREAM time, mini-marathons & lots, lots more. In addition to this, pupils will also receive "taster sessions" from outside sporting partnerships such as badminton, rugby and others.

P.T.O. →→→

7. Wake Up Shake Up Together

Physical activity promotes a healthy lifestyle which includes the development of social, emotional and physical aspects within children's lives. It is therefore important that children enjoy the physical activities they partake in.

What better way for a child to enjoy exercise than with their parents!

It is for this reason we have decided that, starting on Friday 7th April from 8.40-9am, and for each Friday thereafter, we would like to invite parents into school to partake in 'WAKE UP, SHAKE UP' with their children. This pupil activity has been a regular fixture in our weekly calendar for the last two years. During this activity pupils complete a short (but not too strenuous) 15- 20 minute exercise class with Mr. Bater. The exercise class includes a gentle stroll, stretches and a short exercise-based story.

'Wake Up, Shake Up' has been a huge success in our school and, with your support, could become a very fun and interactive way that pupils, their parents and the school could become more active together.

However, 'Wake Up, Shake Up' is weather dependent and will **not** take place on any day that it is raining.

Thank you.

Mr. Bater (Active School Co-ordinator).

8. Swimming:

Swimming begins on Tuesday 2nd May for 4th class (Ms. Rynhart's class).

Swimming begins on Wednesday 3rd May for 2nd class & 4th /5th (Ms. McDermott's class).

Swimming begins on Thursday 4th May for 3rd class and 6th class.

Swimming lessons will run for six weeks.

*The cost is €30 per child. Please send this in to your child's teacher in a named, sealed envelope by **Friday 31st March** (preferably cheque, made payable to Gorey Central School).*

Parents must have their child at the pool for 8.50am. Please do not leave your child until parent helpers have arrived to supervise. Bus transport will return the children to school by approximately 10.20am. In the past many parents have carpooled when attending swimming lessons and this has proven very successful.

However please note that it is the PARENT'S responsibility to organize this.

NB: Pupils will be supervised at the pool, in the changing areas and on the bus back to school by their class teacher and a number of other school staff.

A number of additional PRE-ARRANGED garda-vetted parent helpers will also be in attendance in the changing areas of the pool to supervise and assist.

Therefore it is not expected that parents attend swimming lessons.

Thank you.

Mrs. S. Horan
Principal.
