

## History & Heritage..



Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, was a very proud day for all of us in Good Shepherd N.S. Sergeant Karen Walsh and Sergeant Leonie Walsh from the Air Corps came to visit our school as part of the lead up to the 2016 – centenary celebrations. They spoke to us about the history of our National Flag and how to care for it. Well done to John (4<sup>th</sup> class) who read paragraph 4 of the 1916 proclamation.

Well done Patricia (6<sup>th</sup> class) and Cian (Junior Infants class) who received the flag and a copy of the proclamation on our behalf. All schools will hoist the National Flag at the same time next March.

### Dáil Visit

On Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils visited Dáil Éireann as guests of Alan Shatter. The pupils were taken on a tour of the chambers of the Dáil before engaging in a frank Q & A session with Mr. Shatter, T.D. As you will see from photos on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class page on website everyone had a great time. Well done all and ‘thank you’ Alan Shatter, T.D.



### Bronze Age Handling Box

We are so proud of our 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class who helped launch the Bronze Age Handling Box for the National Museum of Ireland in Kildare Street on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. This Project was developed by the National Museum of Ireland, in collaboration with Teacher/Education centres and St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra. As part of this project high quality replica museum pieces are available for teachers and pupils to use when learning about the Bronze Age in Ireland.

Jan O’Sullivan T.D., Minister for Education & Skills officially launched the project on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December last at the National Museum of Ireland. Our pupils were recorded using the replica objects in class. Check out the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class pages on the website for photos!!

## Music & the Arts



Members of the school choir from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> visited the National Concert Hall with Ms. Lynch, Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Nulty & Ms. Rafferty on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November. The National Concert Orchestra entertained everyone with Musical Adventures from film and TV. An enjoyable trip was had by all.

### BizWorld

5<sup>th</sup> Class was a hive of activity on November 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>. BizWorld joined us again this year – striving to develop pupils’ business acumen. The theme this year was Safety. Two companies were formed by the children. Businesses to encourage Cyber Safety and Road Safety were developed. Pitches were addressed to the ‘Dragon’ from DúnLaoghaire IT. Thanks to Kate Goodbody (our BizWorld Tutor) and our visiting ‘Dragon’ Siobhán Gallagher from IADT.

### KNEX Challenge

KNEX Challenge – during Science Week we also ran 2 very successful KNEX design & build competitions. Teams from 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> class competed in our Junior Competition. Well done to our winning team, Jake, Damaris, Samuel and Garry who successfully constructed a rocket and launch pad from KNEX.

The Senior Children (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) had an even more challenging model to build. They built a 1 metre high tower with revolving restaurant on top. Well done to Aaron, Alexandru, Augustinas and Nathan our senior KNEX champions – check out

[www.goodshepherd.ie/science/week2015](http://www.goodshepherd.ie/science/week2015) for photos.



## Science



Science week was a huge success again here in the school. Children from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class worked with Amgen Biotechnology Scientists from UCD. We learned about DNA, its role in the body, and that it exists in biological matter. After donning lab coats we worked like real forensic scientists extracting DNA from a banana. Thank you Elaine Quinn, Science Office, UCD Outreach, Robert Schwamborn, Raul, Rosemary & Alex for the day and Amgen Biotech for sponsoring the experience...



### Sports

As many of you know, we welcomed the Sam Maguire trophy to the school on 11<sup>th</sup> November. The children were delighted to meet hero Nicky Devereaux from our local GAA Club, Ballinteer St. Johns. Thanks to all in Ballinteer for organising Sam’s visit.

3<sup>rd</sup> Class have really enjoyed working with Transition Year Students from one of our feeder secondary schools, De La Salle in Churchtown. It was fantastic to see some of our past pupils back in a coaching/mentoring capacity, especially Daniel, Luke & Seán.

Application Forms for Junior Infants 2016 – 2017 are available from the school office. Please contact Ms. English for same.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs. Dec 17<sup>th</sup> ‘A Christmas Celebration’ 11am in the school

Tues. Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Holidays School closed 12.15pm

Tues. Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Memorial Mass Good Shepherd Church 7.15pm

Wed Jan 6<sup>th</sup> School re-opens 8.50am

