



Scoil Náisiúnta An Dea Aoire
The Good Shepherd National School
Whitehall Road,
Churchtown,
Dublin 14.

Tel: 01-2989475

Fax: 01-2960267

www.goodshepherd.ie email: school@goodshepherd.ie



Green-Schools

Dear Parents/Guardians,

11.02.15

We are all looking forward to the Mid-Term break - your children (and staff!) have worked really hard since Jan. 5th.

CREDIT UNION QUIZ

A Junior & Senior team from Good Shepherd N.S. took part in this Quiz on Friday, January 30th. They proudly represented their school and though they weren't overall winners on the night they weren't far behind! Well done Alice, Conor, Ethan, James, Josh, Kacey, Katie & Patricia.

BAKE SALE/COFFEE MORNING

A huge 'Thank You' to our wonderful Parents' Association, to those families who baked and to all who supported our cake sale on Thursday last. We made the fantastic sum of €1,122.86. Special thanks to Ms. Hazel Keogan who co-ordinated the event. It was particularly nice to see our younger pupils spending their money wisely - they really enjoyed the experience. We will use some of the money raised for more books for our wonderful readers. We will also get plastic chairs for the small hall for breakfast club, big breakfasts etc., because, as you know, the toast always falls on the buttered side! As usual we will list all the shops, bakeries and companies who support our various projects in a newsletter after Easter. *There are a number of containers left in the small hall - if you are missing yours please call in and collect it.*

PARENTS/GUARDIANS ROOM - REMINDERS

Please note that the following are available in the Parents' Room (Room 21):

- [Copies of our Child Protection Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy.
- [A sample of our uniform tracksuit bottoms with re-inforced knees and a sample pair of uniform shorts.

Please do not remove any of the above items from Room 21.

ALTAR SERVERS

Some of our past pupils are Altar Servers at Mass but currently none of our present pupils are involved. If any of your children are interested in becoming Altar Servers, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, please contact Fr. Dermot at 2984642.

GIVE TOGETHER INITIATIVE - BANK OF IRELAND

Bank of Ireland Group, through its Give Together Initiative, has contributed €250 towards our fundraising. This initiative was created to support any of their employees who wish to volunteer their time or support causes that are important to them. This contribution came through Patricia Moran, an employee of the bank - she is a past parent and is still a great supporter of our school. Many thanks Patricia and Bank of Ireland - go raibh míle maith agaibh.

SHROVE (PANCAKE) TUESDAY (Feb. 18th) & ASH WEDNESDAY (Feb. 19th)

This year the above days fall during our Mid-Term break.

- [We will miss the great smell of pancakes that usually fills the school on Shrove Tuesday but now that your children are off on that day they will have lots of time to help you prepare this traditional feast!
- [For Catholics, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of **LENT**, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. We will all be trying to be so good (even better than usual!) during the 40 days of Lent. We may make some sacrifices by giving up treats and/or do kind deeds for our families and friends.

We attend Mass on that day where special ash is placed on our foreheads in the shape of a cross as a sign of repentance.

Principal: Sheila FitzGerald

principal@goodshepherd.ie

Roll No: 19939V

GOOD BEHAVIOUR AT BREAKTIMES "NO HOMEWORK PASS"

These blue stickers will be in your child's diary on Wednesday, 25th February (for the period 5th January - 13th February 2015). If your child did not receive one please talk to him/her about good behaviour on the yard or contact the class teacher or myself for more information. As usual, Junior classes who don't have a diary will get a blue certificate and a little treat on Friday 27th.

NESTING BOX

As you know, we have a nesting box with a camera in the patio. While a few birds visited to check it out last year, none decided to make it their home! We hope for better luck this year. Ms. Hannigan and Senior Infants are keeping a close eye on the monitor in their classroom. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we saw a nest, eggs and then baby birds appearing on the screen!

NATIONAL TREE WEEK 1st - 8th MARCH (Seachtain Náisiúnta na gCrann)

National Tree Week, organised by the Tree Council of Ireland since 1985, is a week long programme of events to celebrate trees. It helps to remind people of the role of trees in providing food for humans, birds, bees and other wildlife. The range of food from trees includes fruit, nuts, seeds, oils, leaves, roots and bark.

This year's event will be sponsored by the ESB in association with Coillte and will be known as **ESB TREE WEEK**.

Here are some more thought-provoking facts and figures about our oldest living treasures... trees!

- Two mature trees produce approx. 520 pounds of oxygen per year - enough oxygen to support a family of 4 for a year.
- One tree can absorb as much carbon in a year as a car produces while driving 26,000 miles.
- Each average-sized tree provides significant savings in energy conservation and reduced pollution.

ESB Tree Week will be launched on Sunday, 1st March, in Castletown House, Co. Kildare. The Tree Council of Ireland will be giving away 2,000 free trees on the day. There will also be wood turners, bee keepers, gardeners, activities for children and free posters.

For more information see www.tree.councilofireland.ie

"SEACHTAIN" NA GAELIGE 1st - 17th MARCH

Seachtain na Gaeilge - Irish Language and Culture Week (it's really 2 weeks!!) is an international Irish Language Festival and one of the biggest celebrations of our native Irish language and culture. It takes place each year in Ireland and in many countries throughout the world. As usual, we will have a lot of extra activities organised in the school for Seachtain na Gaeilge.

- During Seachtain na Gaeilge we would encourage you to speak some Irish at your child - it is a good chance to practise your own 'cúpla focal' and it is important to celebrate the richness of our Irish culture.
- Google **Seachtain na Gaeilge 2015** and you will get 'gach eolas faoi na himeachtaí go léir' (information on all events in Dublin and throughout the country).



home with

SCHOOL FINANCES

Participation in our Book Rental Scheme (14/15) was practically 100% - thank you. However, please check that you have paid all other contributions - the extras on your child's booklist and swimming money. Many thanks to the great majority of you who are fully paid up or are paying by instalments. We still have a small number of families with outstanding payments so please get this money in to us, as we will be doing another financial audit shortly.

Your continued co-operation in all the above matters is greatly appreciated - *Go raibh maith agaibh.*

Principal

Sheila FitzGerald,

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday - Friday (16th - 20th Feb)

Monday, 16th & Tuesday 17th March

Thursday, 26th March

Mid-Term Break

School & Bank Holiday

Easter Celebration & Raffle

School Closed

School Closed

School 11.15 - 12.30 pm.

