



Dear parents and children,

The school term is in full swing and everyone is working hard. The month of January was very wet and the children were very patient as they spent a lot of time indoors. We are looking forward to Spring and lots of dry days.

As the weather improves please remember to try to walk to school on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Remember that the front of the school is a no parking zone. This is in the interest of safety. There is still a problem on rainy days with parents dropping their children at the front of the school. I can only ask again for parents not to do this as it is too dangerous and causes traffic chaos.

Thank you for your consideration re the importance of being on time for school. I have noticed lots of children endeavoring to get to their lines before the bell rings. Well done. Keep up the good work!

More parents are needed to volunteer to undergo Garda Vetting. Parents are needed in the communion classes and for various sporting events. A copy of the form will be sent home with all children involved in these activities. The forms are then sent back to the office (if you decide to get vetted) where they are treated with total confidentiality. I then forward them to the Garda Vetting office and they are returned to me. A parent cannot volunteer to take other children in their car without having undergone Garda Vetting.

Mairéad Murphy

School will closed on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February for half term.

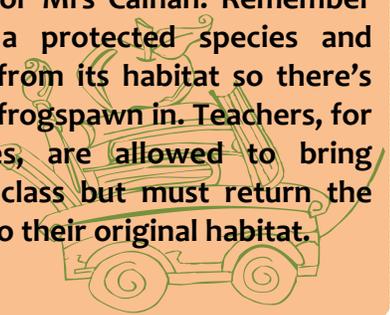
Read on and see what has been happening this month.

The children in 6<sup>th</sup> class visited the Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS. They had a great day visiting the robot show and talking to students from all over the country who were exhibiting their experiments. Hopefully some of the children may be inspired to enter the Young Scientist Competition when they go to secondary school.



#### Discover Science and Maths Award

We are working towards our fourth award. As part of the work this year we need to log on to the Greenwave website and log our sightings of frogspawn. So if anyone sees frogspawn please note date and location and give the information to either Ms Farrell or Mrs Calnan. Remember that frogspawn is a protected species and cannot be removed from its habitat so there's no need to bring the frogspawn in. Teachers, for educational purposes, are allowed to bring frogspawn into the class but must return the tadpoles or froglets to their original habitat.



## Catholic schools week

The theme for the week was 'We are a community in Faith'. The children learned about St Brigid and how she helped people in her community. Some classes learned the old tradition of making St Brigid's Crosses. Thanks to Ms Moore's and Ms Coyle's daddies for the treats! The school invited members of our communities to visit the school last Friday where they spoke to the children about the work they do, about school in the past and about their voluntary work in the community. It was a lovely afternoon. Thanks to the parents' committee for keeping everyone in tea and coffee. A special thanks to Joyce Denver for her delicious buns.



Read more

about this on our website.

**The yellow flag:** The yellow flag committee is working away and has formulated their action plan. A meeting was held in January. At this meeting we examined the results of the questionnaire that we sent out re racism. The results were very interesting and thankfully positive in our favour. However there were some comments to say that a small number of children have experienced racist comments on the yard and we as a community are actively discouraging this. The children are reminded at assemblies that any negative comments to another person are unacceptable and that if any child has a problem they must tell someone who in turn must tell the school. At least then we can act. We organised a workshop for the senior children entitled 'Give Racism the Red Card'. Lots of good ideas were suggested in the questionnaires by you. One that was common was to host a cultural day in the school. The date and format of this is to be decided.



## Google for Doodle

The school took part in the google for doodle competition and we received a certificate for our involvement. We are awaiting the results. The children's designs were fascinating.

**Cricket:** Congrats to Justin Kavanagh who has been picked to play cricket for Leinster. A great achievement!

## Show Racism the Red Card.

A workshop was held for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class to look at the meaning of racism. The children learned through fun activities and discussion that racism is unacceptable. The children were great and so positive in their contributions. Well done. They will now take part in an art competition to show what they learned.



**Shrove Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> of February:** As part of the parents' committee's fundraising they will give each child in the school a pancake next Tuesday. A contribution of € 1 will be gratefully received. It is important to say that all children will receive a pancake and that the contribution is voluntary. The children will love this and I know there will be great excitement on the day. I would like to thank the parents' committee for their cheque of €2,750 to the school. This money will be used for a variety of purposes. You can read the list on the website under the heading parents' page.

