



*Parteen National School  
Parteen  
Co. Clare  
[www.parteenschool.ie](http://www.parteenschool.ie)  
[parteenoffice@gmail.com](mailto:parteenoffice@gmail.com)  
(061) 340457  
Principal: Gerard Ruane  
Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian*

*4/3/16*

### *School Community Newsletter*

#### ***Uniform***

*As per the BOM Agreed Report, the Uniform Policy is now finalised and is available in the Policy Section of the website. Please comply with the policy.*

#### ***All-Weather Pitch***

*Planning Permission has been lodged for the all-weather pitch. A map of it is available in the Newsletter Section of this website. This, all going well, will be a massive addition to the play facilities. When this is complete, two classes will be able to play on the tar and two classes will be able to play on the all-weather-pitch at each break giving everyone more space. Also, some of the after-schools sports will be able to take place there. Please note that it will be fenced-in and locked so it will not attract people in around the school after-hours.*

*The BOM will be paying 50% of the cost of the pitch and the Parents Association will be paying the other 50% over two school years. The Parents Association are putting huge work into the upcoming Fashion Show which will take place on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> in the Strand Hotel. We will be asking each family to purchase two tickets for the*

*fashion show. They are available to buy from the office at a cost of €15 each. Please bear in mind that we worked hard to secure full funding for the school extension from the Department of Education and Science so no fundraising was necessary for it. Please get behind the fundraising for the pitch!*

*The school run will take place on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and the Parents Association will also be selling tea/coffee and cakes on Sports Day this year. Money raised from both events will go towards the pitch.*

### ***Extension***

*The extension is progressing well and the latest update is that it will be ready for us to move in the week after Easter.*

### ***Class News***

*The classes have written about some of their recent learning activities. Please see the Class News Section of this website to read about many of the fabulous learning activities going on in each classroom, many of which you may never hear about! This will give you an opportunity to reinforce some of the activities with your child.*

### ***Catholic Schools***

*Well done to both Second Classes who made their First Confession last night. Thank you to Catherine for the booklets, Fr. Tom for the lovely ceremony, Carmel and Deirdre for their assistance and to Mr. Collins and Ms. Coughlan for their huge effort in preparing the children and the displays in the church.*

*We wish 6<sup>th</sup> Class the best of luck for their Confirmation ceremony on March 15<sup>th</sup>.*

*Thank you to all teachers who celebrated Catholic Schools Week with their classes this term. Thank you to Ms. Curtin and the grandparents who came in to talk to Ms. Curtin's 5<sup>th</sup> class.*

### ***Scratch***

*Thank you to Mr. Collins, Ms. O' Dwyer, Mr. Hickey and Ms. O' Kelly for leading the Scratch Computer lessons which were enjoyed by children on Friday evenings.*

### ***School Band***

*Ms. O'Kelly and Ms. Neylon are setting up a traditional Irish music group. This is open to pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class. Children must be proficient in their instrument as these will not be music lessons for individual instruments. They will learn some common tunes so that they can perform as a group. These sessions will take place every Monday from 2:40-3:40. They will confirm the start date once they know who is interested. If interested please send a note to Ms. O'Kelly or Ms. Neylon as soon as possible and mention what instrument your child plays. Places are limited so classes will be filled on a first return basis.*

### ***French and Spanish***

*Ms. O' Rourke's French classes and Ms. O' Kelly's Spanish classes continue after Easter with the new groups. French will be offered on Mondays and Thursdays and Spanish will be offered on Thursdays. Thank you to both teachers for these lessons. Dates are as follows: Mondays - April 7<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Thursdays - April 11<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

### ***Choir***

*Well done to the choir who came third in this year's Limerick Choral Festival. Thank you to Ms. Parkinson and Ms. O' Keefe and to all the parents who brought their children to the Redemptorists Church on Friday March 26<sup>th</sup>.*

## **GAA**

*Thank you to Pater Casey and to Sarah and Eoin from Parteen GAA for their coaching sessions – great fun was had by all. Hurling and Camogie training will start after Easter. More details to follow.*

## **5<sup>th</sup> Class trip**

*Ms. O' Donovan's 5<sup>th</sup> class will visit Ardnacrusha Power Station on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and Ms. Curtin's class will go on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. They should wear their school tracksuit, walking shoes and bring a good lunch and rain gear as they will walk there and back. They will leave at 9.30am and be back by 2pm. Please send in a note if you do not want your child to attend.*

## **Hockey**

*Hockey training with Ms. O' Donovan and Ms. Ryan continues until Easter. There will be a blitz next Thursday in Parteen GAA with Scoil Íde. Thank you to both teachers for organising this Blitz and for all the training.*

## **Rugby**

*The boys and girls of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class who partake in after-school rugby training on Thursday afternoons are progressing well. Training will conclude at Easter as hurling / camogie training will commence after the holidays.*

*The children have been learning how to scrummage, to perform line-outs, make 'line breaks', 'sweep defend' and the playing positions on a rugby team. At the end of each training session a full game takes place. Some of these games have been intensely competitive akin to what one might see in Lansdowne Road or Thomond Park!*

*The girls of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes recently participated in a Munster Rugby organised tournament at Thomond RFC and in the coming weeks the boys will play in a similar tournament in LIT.*

*The school's rugby team are coached by Ms. Curtin, Ms. O'Dwyer, Ms. Neylon, Ms. Finnegan, Ms. Gleeson, Mr. Hickey and Mr. Crowe.*

### ***Reading Buddies***

*'Reading is cool, at home or at school'. Children love to hear a good story or indeed read it independently for themselves. 5<sup>th</sup> class pupils have teamed up with both 2<sup>nd</sup> Classes and Ms. Finnegan's 3<sup>rd</sup> Class are teamed with Mr. Hickey's 1<sup>st</sup> Class for Reading Buddies. Each younger child is paired with an older 'reading buddy'. The older children listen to the younger children read and model reading for them. All four classes are really enjoying it. Thank you to the class teachers for organising it!*

### ***World Book Day***

*All pupils were given a book token to celebrate World Book Day which was March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This token can be used as part payment towards a new book in any book store.*

### ***Literacy Lift-Off***

*Literacy Lift-Off will finish in Ms. Neylon's before Easter and move into Mr. Hickey's 1<sup>st</sup> Class after Easter. Thank you to Ms. Guckian, Ms. O' Kelly, Ms. Gleeson and Ms. Neylon for organising this.*

### ***Mata sa Rang***

*The Mata sa Rang Programme is now up and running in Senior Infants. This is a team-teaching approach to maths with an emphasis on Number. Thank you to Ms. O'Rourke for starting this initiative and to Ms. Sheehan and Ms. Gleeson who are implementing it.*

### ***Air-Traffic Control***

*Both 6<sup>th</sup> classes recently enjoyed a trip to Air-Traffic Control in Shannon. It was a very interesting trip and thank you to Emma and Martin Hogan for facilitating it.*

## *Attendance*

*January*

*Boys 92.8% Girls 95.4%*

*February*

*Boys Girls*

*Reminder: Absences must be explained. Any absences over 20 days are automatically referred to the NEWB.*

## *Play Equipment*

*Ms. O' Dwyer has organised the purchase of the final set of toys and play equipment for the infant classrooms. €1985 of the €3320 raised was spent since last summer and this final order brings the total spend to €3030. The remainder of the money will now be used for storage equipment and a few toys that still need to be purchased. This supports the implementation of Aistear in the Curriculum. Thank you to Ms. Prendiville who organised the purchase of toys last summer and to Ms. O' Dwyer, Ms. Neville and Ms. Sheahan who organised the rest of the orders.*

## *Staffing*

*Ms. Prendiville is still on leave from Parteen N.S. and Ms. Sheahan will continue in Senior Infants for the remainder of the school year.*

## *Easter Holidays*

*School will close at 12.10pm for JI-2<sup>nd</sup> and at 12.15pm for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.*

*Kind regards,*

---

*Gerard Ruane*

---

*Mairéad Guckian*