



MÁRTA 2024

NUACHTLITIR



Your monthly news from Sacred Heart National School Rath

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Couch to 2K

On Sunday February 11th, we hosted a 2k Fun Run in the school. It was the culmination of 5 weeks training for the pupils in each class. It was wonderful to see so many parents, past pupils and extended family members in attendance, with many putting on the running shoes themselves and completing the 2k. Many thanks to our Parents' Association for providing the refreshments afterwards. We'd also like to acknowledge the support we received from Laois Sports Partnership. We will continue to encourage the children to engage with regular exercise. Please visit the school website (rathns.ie) to view more photos from the day.

World Book Day

We will celebrate World Book Day on Thursday, March 7th. The children have the opportunity to bring one of their favourite books to life by dressing up as a character from the book. It's one of the days the children most look forward to each year. It is part of our continuing efforts to motivate and encourage the children to read. The website <https://www.worldbookday.com/about-us/ireland/> contains a family section where you, as a parent, can source fun activities, reading recommendations, audiobooks, interactive games and lots more. It might be something you'd like to do this week with your child.



Gaeilge / Seachtain na Gaeilge

Is féile Ghaeilge í Seachtain na Gaeilge, atá ar an gceiliúradh is mó dár dteanga agus dár gcultúr dúchais a bhíonn ar siúl in Éirinn gach bliain. We in Rath N.S. will be celebrating it also in our school and we plan to engage the children in fun language activities. Beidh 'Lá Glas' againn chomh maith ar **Márta 15**. The boys and girls can wear anything green to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge agus Lá Fhéile Pádraig.

Márta (March)

Seachtain 1 - Tá mé ibponc! /Tá cabhair ag teastáil uaim! (I'm worried / I need help)

Seachtain 2 - Tá mé críochnaithe! An bhfuil tú críochnaithe? Tá/ Níl mé (I'm finished / are you finished / Yes/No)

Seachtain 3 - An ndearna tú / Rinne/ní dhearna (did you do/make?)

Ceist coicíse: Cathain a bhfuil do bhreithlá? (when is your birthday?)



Sport

Football: After-school football coaching with Courtwood GAA continues on Fridays with pupils from 3rd - 6th Class. 1st and 2nd Class have football during school time on Fridays also. Many thanks to all the coaches and volunteers from Courtwood GAA for facilitating this.

Volleyball: Well done to our 6th Class pupils for competing so well in their recent blitz day in Portlaoise College. Thank you to Mr Walsh for coaching them and introducing them to a new sport.

Tag Rugby: Tag rugby with Cathal Bannon from Portarlinton RFC / Leinster Rugby will commence in the coming weeks.

Hurling / Camogie: Hurling and camogie training continues as the children in 4th, 5th & 6th classes prepare for their respective Cumann na mBunscol competitions. Pupils in 3rd Class are welcome to train also.



Internet Safety

We marked Safer Internet Day in the school recently. Safer Internet Day aims to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all, especially for children and young people. Remaining safe and being responsible online should be a priority for all parents who have children with access to the internet. Many thanks to Garda Brian Kelly for taking the time to speak with our senior classes on this topic. For more information, please visit the webwise website. It contains lots of useful information and tips for parents
<https://www.webwise.ie/parents/>



Sacraments

Rang 2 and Rang 6 are currently preparing for their respective sacraments in the coming weeks and months. We wish both groups the very best. Please make note of the dates and times below:

Rang 2

First Holy Communion - Saturday April 27th at 11:30am in Sacred Heart Church, Rath.

Rang 6

Service of Light / Reconciliation - Monday March 11th at 6:30pm in Sacred Heart Church, Rath.

Confirmation - Wednesday March 13th at 11am in Sacred Heart Church, Rath.

Sam Maguire Visits Rath

We had a very special visitor in the school last week - The Sam Maguire Cup! Hopefully some of our pupils will be returning with it in years to come after Laois win the big one. We live in hope. There are more photos on the school website.



Hot School Meals

As per previous correspondence, the Department of Social Protection is commencing the rollout of the Hot School Meals Scheme to non-DEIS (disadvantaged) schools. Our school has been invited to take part in the next phase of this rollout. Whilst acknowledging that there are reservations and concerns regarding the scheme, after carefully examining the feedback from staff and parents, the board of management took the decision for the school to opt in. The Lunch Bag have been chosen to supply the hot meals and further details will follow in the coming weeks. As a school, we will endeavor to work with the suppliers to ensure the quality of the food is high and that healthy eating guidelines are being followed at all times.

Xaverian High School New York

We had the privilege of welcoming the Xaverian High School band from Brooklyn, New York to our school last week. They are touring Ireland at the moment, and through our harp tutor Siobhán Buckley, they offered to perform for the pupils in Rath. They treated us to a fantastic performance. There are more photos on the website.



Quiz Team

Well done to our super quiz team who finished runners up in the inaugural Laois Today Schools Quizcast. Micheal Nolan, Aoife Murphy and Michael Behan represented the school brilliantly in the cauldron atmosphere of the Dunamais Arts Centre. Four teams reached the final and our team were pipped narrowly into 2nd place in the final round by St. Colmans. N.S., Stradbally. It was a great achievement and we're very proud of them. Thank you to Steven Miller and all the team in Laois Today for providing our pupils with this wonderful experience.



Parents' Association Noticeboard

Bake Sale: The Bake Sale took place on Friday 9th February. A very big thank you to everyone who baked, there was a wonderful array of bakes which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Many thanks also to those who helped on the day. A total of €836 was raised on the morning. Míle buíochas for your continued support.

Fun-Run: Congratulations to all who took part in the fun run on Sunday February 11th. It was a lovely morning out for all the family. A big thank you to all the staff in the school who trained and encouraged the children for the past number of weeks.

Confirmation: Confirmation will take place on Wednesday March 13th at 11am. We will hold a reception in the school hall for Rang a Sé, their families and sponsors after the ceremony. If you are available to help out on the day, please let a committee member know. Your help will be very much appreciated. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all the cailíní and buachaillí the best of luck as they continue to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. We hope you all have a lovely day.

Next meeting: The next meeting will take place on Monday 15th April at 8pm in the school. We would love to see you there.



RATH NS

EASTER

CAMP

25TH - 28TH

MARCH

10AM TO 2PM

A SAFE AND FUN WAY FOR YOUR CHILD TO PLAY AND MEET THEIR FRIENDS!

PLEASE ENQUIRE WITH MR. WALSH OR MR. DELANEY FOR FORMS AND BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

ACTIVITIES:

- FOOTBALL
- BASKETBALL
- VOLLEYBALL
- SOCCER
- DODGEBALL
- TAG
- RUGBY
- ROUNDERS
- GAMES

and more!

Dates for Your Diary

- March 7th - World Book Day
- March 11th - Service of Light (Rang 6)
- March 13th - Confirmation
- March 15th - Lá Glas
- March 22nd - Break for Easter Holidays. **12:30pm finish.**



