



# Scoil Naomh Molaise

## Nuachtlitir

5ú Márta 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

I hope you are well.

The Board of Management had its most recent meeting on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> February. In this news email, I share with you many of the topics discussed.

### Dates for the Diary:

Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	School closed for the Referendum
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Public Bank Holiday
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	Easter Holidays – half day
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School re-opening – Term 3

### Ethos:

- Pupils in 2<sup>nd</sup> class will make their First Confession on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 1:30pm in Church of Mary Immaculate, Grange. Parents/Guardians and family members are welcome to attend the ceremony.
- First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- Confirmation will take place on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

### Curriculum / Extra Curricular

- Seachtain na Gaeilge runs from 1ú – 17ú Márta. All classes will engage in a variety of events in the school over the coming weeks. Please keep an eye on our website [www.molaise.com](http://www.molaise.com) to see the fun learning taking place.
- Swimming Lessons (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>), Irish Sign Language Classes (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) and Blast Drama Workshops (5<sup>th</sup>) are going very well. The children are thoroughly enjoying these experiences. Thank you for your support in running these programmes.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> classes enjoyed clay modelling with artist, Kathryn Maguire, recently as part of the Creative Schools Project. Fiona, our Creative Associate will be back in the school later this week to discuss what we will be doing in the next phase of the project.

- The Stay Safe Programme which forms part of the Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum is being taught in all classes this term.
- 6th class children continue their Junior Entrepreneur Projects. Last Thursday, we welcomed some local business people to the school – Michael Farrell (5 Star Fun), Lorna McGowan (Grange Pharmacy) and Martin Feeney (Atlantic Sheepdogs). In their groups/individually, the children presented their business ideas to the 'Dragons'. They made use of sample products, brochures and video presentations to promote their businesses. It was wonderful to see how confident and proud of themselves they were after finishing and getting feedback from the Michael, Lorna and Martin. We are very grateful to the 'Dragons' for giving of their time so freely last week.
- We celebrated Friendship Week last week. This forms part of our Anti-Bullying Policy and is an important week in the school calendar to highlight and promote kindness, respect, tolerance and friendship. All classes engaged in a variety of activities including art, music, story, discussion, random acts of kindness challenge etc. The week culminated in a whole school assembly in which we all sang the Bruno Mars' song 'Count on Me'.
- Mr Coyle has established a hugely popular Tuesday Chess Club. There are currently 36 children from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class, learning to play or improving their skills. In a few weeks, 2<sup>nd</sup> class will have the opportunity.

### Sports

- Unfortunately, our boys and girls' teams were unsuccessful in the second round of the Mini 7's Competition recently. We look forward to Cumann na mBunscol starting nearer to Easter.
- Sixteen of our senior girls participated in the FAI Schools Soccer Competition last Wednesday at McSharry Park. The girls did very well in their three matches and enjoyed the day out!
- Very well done to Noah, Cathal, Michael, Lily, Amelia, Ellen and Caoimhe who represented the school at the GAAmigos competition in Cleveragh last week. A great display of skill was on show and everyone enjoyed the event. Maith sibh!
- Gergely, Orán, Daithí, Matthew, Vincent, Emma, Lily and Nieve from 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes will represent the school at a Schools Swimming Gala in Sligo Sports Complex on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 10am-2pm. The children will participate in 25m freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle relay. Go n-eirí an t-ádh libh!

### Parental Involvement

- The Parents Association are running the annual Duck Race after the parade on St Patrick's Day. Sponsorship cards went home with children last week. My sincere thanks to the PA for organising this and to the many people/businesses who have donated prizes. In the event of adverse weather conditions, the PA have a contingency plan – ducks will be drawn at random!
- The Parents Association have also drafted a note for the school community to highlight all of the school activities that are funded or supported by the PA. The PA is appealing to more parents to get involved.
- The school is to be closed on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, as it will be used as a polling station. The PA have asked that the school request that alternative venues be considered in the future. This has been done on numerous occasions in the past and the BOM has been told that there is no other suitable venue locally. However, we will submit a request ahead of the next elections.

## Our New Extension

- Work is progressing well on our new extension. It is anticipated that the project will be complete in July. We look forward to having two new big and bright classrooms for September. Our thanks to the school community for your patience while the work takes place.

## Health and Safety

- Parents/guardians are asked to use the car park across from the Church or the car park behind the school. Please do not park in the bus area (along the main road) in the morning or at the 1:50pm or 2:50pm collections. We have a collective responsibility to ensure the safety of the children when coming to and leaving the school grounds.

## In other news...

- Ms Burnside is running an Easter Camp in the school from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-2pm. All children aged 6-10yrs are welcome to attend. Registration forms will be given out this week. This camp is very popular and places are limited.
- Teachers will be sharing with you details of their class school tours very soon. A payment link will be on Aladdin this week. We want to give parent/guardian(s) plenty of notice of these trips. You are welcome to pay in instalments if that is preferable.
- We have been informed that there will be no Robotics Club this Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March. Robotics will resume on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

*Louise O'Connor*

Príomhoide