

April 2017

Dates for your diary

- School closes for Easter holidays on Friday next, April 7th, at 12.30 pm (non-uniform day - €2 suggested amount. All money collected is used for the children.)
- School re-opens on Monday April 24th at 9.20am
- First Holy Communion May 6th
- Communion photographs May 10th
- Internet Safety Day May 11th (information meeting for parents 7pm)
- Sports Day – June 8th (weather permitting)
- Summer holidays June 30th at 12.30pm



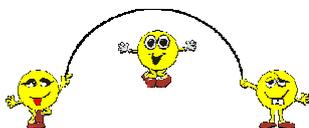
Dear pupils, parents and guardians,

It's hard to believe that it is nearly Easter already. It has been a very busy year so far and I just want to let you know about some of the things that have been happening in our school since Christmas.

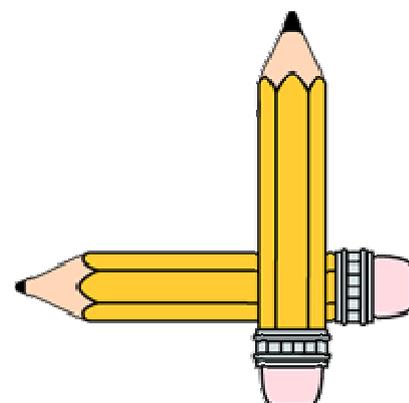
- Hearing tests for Senior Infant pupils took place on Jan. 18th and 19th.
- A very enjoyable Variety Show took place on 26th and 27th of Jan. Many thanks to the Parents Association for their continued hard work.
- Our “**Active Schools Committee**” is working very hard in an effort to win our 2nd Active Flag.
- We held Skip'n'Rope workshops on Jan. 30th and 31st.



We purchased new skipping ropes and set up a skipping area in our senior yard.



- I want to thank you all for supporting our “**Walk on Wednesday**” initiative. The children love it when their class wins the “**Golden Boot**” for their efforts.
 - Blackout Day** – Feb. 16th. We are applying for our 2nd Green Flag/Energy Flag and pupils have been working hard to conserve energy. On this day, all unnecessary energy using equipment was switched off.
- We also had a visit from the **Guzzler mascot**. Later in the day pupils from the Senior School came and set up experiments in the hall to show our children electricity at work. This allowed valuable interaction to take place between both schools. Blackout Day was a great success and provided a vivid reminder of how much electricity is used. On this subject, our electricity bill for Sept. - Oct. was €1316.49 but the bill for Dec. to Feb. (following the electrical upgrade within the school and the energy saving initiatives) was €603.91. I hope this level of savings continue. Well done to our Green Schools Committee.
- March 3rd – all teachers attended CPD (Continual Professional development) around the introduction of the New Language Curriculum which will be implemented from Sept. 2017.
 - First Confessions** were held on March 13th and all pupils from 2nd classes had a celebration on March 14th. A big thank you to our very well behaved pupils who sang their hearts out on the night. We are all very proud of you. Thank you also to the teachers and to the Parents Association who supplied the party bags.



SCHOOL NEWS

April 2017



You may also be aware that teachers in San Carlo Junior school are promoting healthy eating among the children.

We are just completing the “**Food Dudes**” programme and are in the process of updating our “**Healthy Eating Policy**”.

Thank you again for your support for this initiative.



Pupils in 1st and 2nd classes have been availing of hurling skills training on a weekly basis since March 14th. This initiative has been delivered to the children thanks to Confey G.A.A club.

They supply the instructors, hurls and helmets and we are very grateful for their support. The children look forward to the break in routine and, hopefully, we will have a blitz in May, following the communion. You will be notified in time should you wish to attend.

CPR and First Aid Training was undertaken by teachers in the school in March.



CPR

April 3rd – Pupils from our Junior Infant classes enjoyed their first school trip to the library where they listened to a story and had an egg hunt. They also got a little knitted chick to take home. Thank you to the staff of the Library and to the ladies from the Knitting Club who went to so much effort to ensure that our little children enjoyed their first outing.

April 3rd and 4th – our Active Schools Committee organised an Easter Walking Trail for the children and the pupils enjoyed following the various clues to arrive at the secret destination.

Relaxing of the “No running” policy – because we are an “Active School” and because the numbers of pupils attending our school has decreased significantly since the days when we had 800 pupils, we have decided, in consultation with our Board of Management and Parents Association, to relax this policy. We have put many initiatives in place prior to this step being taken. These include putting toy boxes on the Junior yard, setting up the skipping zone in the Senior yard and giving toys to promote physical activity to our senior pupils such as hoops, bean bags and giant Snakes and Ladders. Teachers will still police both yards carefully to ensure that no rough play or exclusion goes unchecked and our “**Time out**” zones will still be in operation.

If you have any concerns about this or any other issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

Happy Easter to you all and I hope we get some nice weather to be able to get out and about.

As always, thanks for your support, understanding, patience and good humour.

Catherine

Catherine Diggins
Principal

