

Grandparents

Grandparents are for stories

About things of long ago

Grandparents are for caring

About all the things you know...

Grandparents are for rocking you,

And singing you to sleep.

Grandparents are for giving you

Nice memories to keep

Grandparents are for knowing

All the things you're dreaming of

But most importantly of all, Grandparents are for love

Zippy's Friends is a school based social emotional learning programme for 5-7 year olds.

The fundamental concept behind the programme is very simple – if we can teach young children how to cope with difficulties, they should be better able to handle problems and crises in adolescence and later life. Zippy's Friends has been evaluated and found to improve children's coping skills, social skills, emotional literacy, improve the class climate and reduce bullying.

At present, Mrs Nolan & Ms Barrett are currently teaching this programme to three of our classes and we are looking forward to rolling it out further over the coming years.



PSYCHOLOGY ADVICE CLINIC

Health Service Executive

Are you concerned about yourself, a child or another family member and would like some

advice? Come along to a Psychology advice Clinic and speak to a Psychologist about your concerns

WHEN: The 2nd and 4th **TUESDAY** of every month from 9.30am-12.30pm

WHERE: Vernon Ave Health Centre, Clontarf (tel. 8539500)

HOW: Please phone the clinic at 9am on day of advice clinic and book a 30 minute consultation that morning

Nuacht –Litir : Eanáir 2020

January



St. Fiachra's JNS

Please note the following School Closures

Welcome back to School and Happy New Year to all our school families. Please note that St. Fiachras JS will be closed for February Mid-Term from **Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2020** School re-opens on Monday 24th February at 8.50am.

The 2019/20 school calendar is available on www.stfiachrasjns.ie



SOCIAL PERSONAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

The Stay Safe Programme is taught in St. Fiachras JS in accordance with Department of Education requirements. Stay Safe lessons will be taught to pupils in all classes this term.

The programme has been updated by the Dept. of Education and the revised lessons will be taught.



Catholic Schools Week 2020 starts on Sunday 26th January until Sunday 2nd February. This years **theme** is '**Living in Harmony With God's Creation**'. Many classes will be involved in events to celebrate aspects of our Catholic School Ethos during the week .



We look forward to celebrating 'Grandparents Day' on Friday 7th February.

We were delighted to be able to donate the sum of €740 to Focus Ireland from the proceeds raised of our Santa Dash at the end of the last term.

Thank you to everyone who kindly contributed to this worthy cause.

Reading buddies

Our 1st class pupils are looking forward to coming together with 4th class pupils in St. Fiachra's Senior school for paired reading in the coming weeks. This is always a very enjoyable experience for the pupils and one of the highlights of their school year.



Board of Management

The next meeting of the B.O.M will take place on Monday, March 2nd @ 7pm in the school.

The B.O.M updated the schools Code of Behaviour Policy at the meeting dated January 20th 2020.

Staff news

We wish to congratulate teacher Mrs Flannelly and her husband on the birth of their baby boy Donagh, last month.

Standardised Testing

Senior Infant pupils completed the Middle Infant Screening Test (MIST) on January 14th.

This assessment focuses on reading, writing and listening skills and assesses the pupils attainment in basic literacy concepts

First Class pupils completed the NNRIT (Non Reading Intelligence Test) on January 16th.

This is a group test which is presented orally by the teacher, enabling general ability to be assessed independently of reading. The NNRIT test assess aspects of language and thinking that are not necessarily represented in measures of pupil attainments, and help to pinpoint low-achieving and slow-reading pupils who may nevertheless have high underlying ability.

Primary Language Curriculum

The school based Primary Language Curriculum Planning day held on Friday 24th January focused on the teaching and learning of English & Irish at all class levels

ENROLMENT FOR JUNIOR INFANTS for September 2020 class took place from 27th—31st January. Any parent who missed these dates should come to the school to complete the enrolment application form and present the necessary documentation. The final date for receipt of completed applications for Junior Infants Class 2020/21 is Friday 7th February. Please consult St. Fiachras JS Enrolment Policy (www.stfiachrasjns.ie) for further information. The school will notify parents by letter by the end of February of offers of places for Junior Infants Class.

All applications for enrolment will be dealt with strictly in accordance with the school enrolment policy of the BOM

Rainbows offers a 9 week listening, group support programme for children from age 7 years following a bereavement or parental separation.

Start Date : 22nd April 2020

Venue : St Fiachras Junior School

Time: 1.30 - 2.30

**Contact: Ms Rynne 01 8472367
or rainbowsfiachras@gmail.com**

Green School news



Last week January 20th – 24th we celebrated Green Week here in St Fiachra's. The pupils were helping our school and the environment by recycling, saving energy and saving water.

We now have recycling collection points for batteries, ink cartridges and empty popcorn bags. This year we are also engaging with TerraCycle Ireland. We had some visitors from the OWLS Nature Programme. Red Squirrel came to visit First Classes to chat to the pupils about the native birds that we see every day around the school. Mouse came to visit the Second Classes to explore our theme of water. He even brought in some animals that live in fresh and salt water!