

NOTE: TEACHER SHORTAGE CRISIS

There is still an ongoing shortage of substitute teachers available for day to day cover for absent teachers. In such cases the school has no other option but to place pupils in other classes on days when their teacher is absent, as necessary. This matter has been raised with the Department of Education

IMPORTANT

Address & Telephone Numbers for pupils In cases of accidents or emergencies or if your child is ill during the school day, the school must have up to date addresses and telephone numbers for all pupils. Please make sure that you update the school office as necessary



Teaching & learning



We are currently in our second year of evaluating the teaching of English, with particular focus on the teaching of comprehension strategies, as part of the School Self-Evaluation process. Your child is currently working on the 'Making Connections' comprehension strategy and may chat about it during their story time at home.

The 'Narrative' is the writing genre for all class groups this month. All pupils are creating wonderful stories with a distinct 'beginning', 'middle' and 'end'. They are enjoying the process of choosing characters and creating problem scenarios and solutions and are increasing their use of storytelling language.



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PARENT ADVICE CLINIC 2020

Health Service Executive

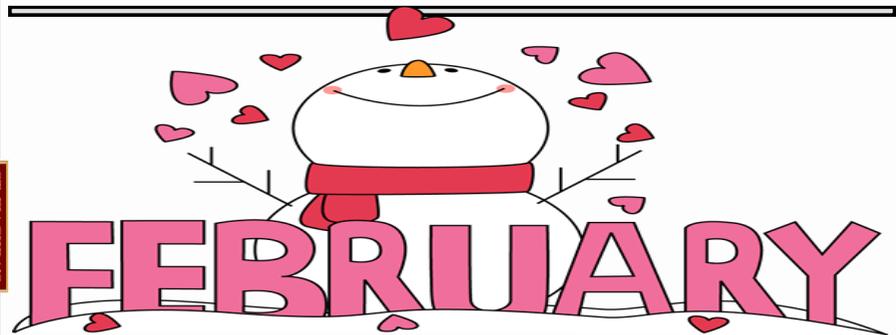
Are you concerned about your child's functioning in Co-ordination, Fine/Gross Motor Skills, Self Care or Sensory Skills? Come along to an Occupational Therapy advice Clinic and speak to a therapist about your concerns

WHEN: The last Monday of every month from 2pm -5pm

WHERE: Summerhill Primary Care Centre (tel. 01 9211572)

HOW: Please phone the clinic in advance (01 9211572) and book a 30 minute consultation

Nuacht -Litir : Feabhra 2020



Please note the following School Closures

School will close on Friday April 3rd at 11.40am for Junior & Senior Infants and at 12pm for 1st & 2nd classes
School will re-open on Monday 20th April 2020

Grandparents Day

We wish to thank the Grandparents and Great Grandparents who came along in such large numbers to our 1st whole -school celebration of Grandparents Day in the school on February 7th. There was a wonderful sense of community spirit and a great sense of fun for the pupils as we opened the doors to our Grandparents who were waiting on their 'lines' to be let in, many offering apologies for 'not having their homework done' while others wanted to know when was yardtime!

The visits to the classroom were a great success. The pupils learned so much from the valuable time our visitors spent with them in their school environment and are still talking about the stories of the past that were shared with them on the day. I know that this live history lesson will remain with our pupils as a highlight of their schools days in St. Fiachra's JS.

A special word of mention to our choir of 1st class pupils who sang so beautifully during the prayer service in the hall and reduced, as I was told on the day, many of our Grandparents to tears. The cup of tea and biscuit also went down a treat so thank you to the members of our Parents Association who helped to serve refreshments in the hall.



St. Fiachra's JNS



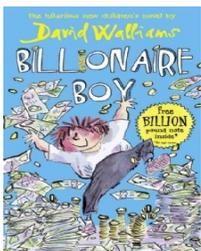
School Calendar 2020/2021

Return to school date - Monday August 31st 2020

Remainder of holidays for school year 2020/21 will be communicated shortly

Billionaire Boy

1st class pupils enjoyed a wonderful trip out on February 6th to the Olympia theatre to see a performance of 'Billionaire Boy' by author David Walliams.



Board of Management

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

Internet Safety Week

February 10th—14th was Internet safety week.

Pupils shared inspiring messages to all classes over the intercom daily.

World Book Day

Thursday March 5th

If they wish, pupils may dress up as a character from their favourite story

Mass during Lent 2020



The season of Lent began on Wednesday February 26th. It is traditionally a time of fasting and prayer.

This year Fr. Robert will celebrate mass in the church on school mornings from 8.20am for the duration of the season. Mass will end in good time for anyone attending school at 8.50am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Services for first confession will take place in the church on the following dates:

March 10th @ 6pm Rm 18, Rm 19 & Rm 22

March 11th @ 6pm Rm 20, Rm 21 & Pf 12

PE - Dance

Having just finished the Gymnastics strand of PE, all class groups are now working on 'Dance'. Weekly practice is well under way for the 'Céilí Mór' next month. All pupils will have learned a number of Ceilí dances under the guidance of teacher Mrs Nolan.

Dancing with the stars

Pupils from 2nd class were treated to a surprise visit from 'Ryan & Guila' from TV show Dancing with the Stars on February 13th. Ryan & Guila performed a Jive on the day. We also had some performances from some of our very own talented pupils and staff members. All performers scored a perfect '10' from all of our junior judges.



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



Four children from Second class were invited to a Water Workshop presented by Irish Water and the green School programme. They learned all about the importance of water and the many ways we can help to save water at home and in school. They also had good fun taking part in some water experiments which they happily shared with the green school committee when they returned to school.