

Library

Thank you to all who recently donated books to the library. We still need more so please if anyone has books at home that are no longer needed we would really appreciate them.

Lost and Found

There are a lot of items at present in the lost and found bin. Can you please check here if your child is missing any items. Also please continue to label everything.

Parking and Traffic

The Nursing Home very kindly leave us avail of their parking spaces. Please do not park on yellow lines outside the home as this is very close to the patients rooms and affects their privacy. Also do not walk through the shrubbery to cut over to the school please stay on the paths at all times.

Can people please use the spaces outside the school as a **stop and drop only**. If you need to get out of your car to walk a child to the gate then please park outside the Nursing home or one of the other designated areas. Also please do not stop in the middle of the road to leave your children out of the car as this causes all the traffic to stop and causes a traffic jam. If you have to stop please pull in and leave your children out.

If we all adhere to this it will improve traffic flow especially in the mornings and make life a lot easier for us all!!!

Kids Corner

Q. What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

Hot cross bunnies!

Q. How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?

Egg-xercise and Hare-robics!

Q. Why did the Easter egg hide?

He was a little chicken!

Q. What's the best way to send a letter to the Easter Bunny?

By Hare mail!



**Parents Association
St. Mary's National School,
Ballygunner.**

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Newsletter
Issue 44 – Easter 2016.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been an extremely busy, yet short Spring term here at St. Mary's N.S. I don't recall St. Patrick's Day and Easter holidays 'merging' before! I wish to thank you all for your continuing support.

I wish to acknowledge all our school staff. Our staff is the single and most important asset to our school. Their commitment and hard-work ensures that our pupils are always striving towards their full potential. Please remember teaching staff are available by appointment via Anne Quealy our school secretary on 051 878388.

We continue to evaluate and review our work. This year we are focusing on Science and one of the highlights has been visits by parents who work with science on a daily basis. Many thanks to you all!

Our new Board of Management 2015-2019 was established last November and on behalf of Mr. John Goff

Chairperson I wish to thank our parent representatives Mrs. Mary Ivory and Mr. Larry Power for accepting their nominations to the Board.

Our 2nd and 6th class pupils and their teachers continue to prepare for the sacraments of Communion (Saturday 14th May) and Confirmation (Friday 27th May). I wish to extend a sincere thank you to Fr. John our School Chaplin. He is a frequent visitor and a key member of our school community.

I wish to acknowledge the ongoing work on the following: School Garden, 1916 Proclamation Day, 1916 Rising Projects in senior classes agus Seachtain na Gaeilge. There has been wonderful collaboration between pupils, parents and staff.

Sincere thanks to our Parents Association who continue to work tirelessly in support of our school. We are now in year four of our School/Parents Association Library Plan. There were two very successful fundraisers recently. 1c and 2c coin collection and a quiz night. We intend to spend the proceed of Christmas raffle 2015 on new furniture for pupils, where needed, before the end of Summer term.

I wish to compliment our pupils on all their hard work and achievements this term. There were many notable successes. Special mention goes to our Girls Basketball team who won the Waterford Primary School League recently.

Finally I wish you all a very happy St. Patrick's Day and Easter holiday. School re-opens on Monday 4th April

Killian O'Reilly
Principal Teacher

Parent's Association News Update

Hi All ,

Firstly may I say a big thank you to all who supported with the recent fundraisers. The coin collection was a huge success and the quiz was a very enjoyable night, combined we raised close to €2800. , Of those funds, €1200 will go to resource materials and the remainder will be spread over the teachers "wish lists" that they submitted to us .

To give you an example of what they need I will name but a few...digital clocks for classrooms, 150 small white boards , PM readers, numeracy resource books etc etc etc .. the list goes on!

We are delighted to be able to say we will be donating €5000 to the school for the update of the school chairs, no more wooden chairs will be in sight and we will proudly donated €1500 to the school Library and for this we thank you.

Dates For Your Diary 28th April School Walk

This Year it will be a little shorter, for safety reasons and for ' little feet' to take part , please join us if you can. This is a €2 event and all children will receive a medal at the finish line , please then join us at the hospitality tents for refreshments.

15th April Jack Meade's

8pm Social night Dinner and music provided Tickets €10.00 (would be great to see as many as possible) if you cant make tickets will be available at the school.

Ballygunner Fun Fair

50 stalls hot and cold food , sports

events , children talent showcased etc etc. June date to be advised. We will send home separate details on this event with the Amazing Band THE BOTTLE BROTHERS!!!!!!

Thank you again for all your support all funds raised will be put to great use the lists and needs from the school will keep coming and we will do our best to fulfill them , but only with your support . (If you can help in any other way please don't hesitate to contact me on 087 2417156)

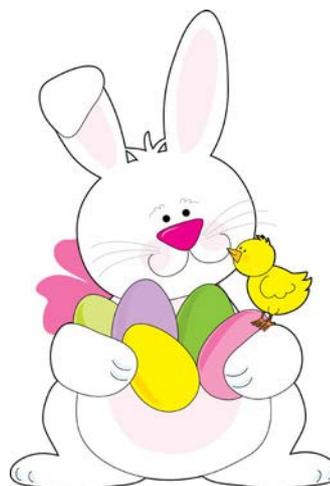
Happy Easter to you all

Adrienne & all the members on the Parents Association.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl sa scoil seo againne ón 10ú lá de Mhí Márta -17ú lá de Mhí Márta. Beidh comórtais, tráth na gceist, am scéalaíochta, céilí agus ceolchoirm ar siúl i rith na seachtaine. Tá súil againn go mbainfidh na páistí sár thaitheamh as na h-imeachtaí go léir.

Maith sibh! Bean Uí Ghloinn



Waterford Institute of Technology, Music Week, 2016

‘Choral Day’ 3rd class, St.Mary’s,Ballygunner Wednesday 9th March

The children in 3rd class took part in the ‘School’s Choral Day’ in the WIT Auditorium on Wednesday , 9th March. The main theme of this year’s choral programme was ‘1916-Cherish All Children Equally’ and it was linked to a sub-theme of friendship and unity. The children have been working with Julie Quinlan from the WIT Music School every Thursday morning over the past eight weeks.

The ‘School’s Choral Day’ concert was streamed live at 11am on Wednesday. The web address for the live stream is www.wit.ie/webstream. The children were very excited about the performance. If you would like to see the concert please connect to the live stream. A great day was had by all!

Bina Glynn, Fionn Smith and Áine Barrett

Primary Basketball

The annual Basketball tournaments took place this month for the girls and boys of 5th and 6th class.

The boys played their matches at the CBS Tramore and won their pool so got through to the final on the 10th March in Kingfisher. They played fantastically and will try their best to triumph in the final.

The girls played their matches in the Mercy Secondary School on the 8th March. They competed against many other schools around Waterford and

succeeded in winning the outright competition on the day, they played 6 matches to get to the final and showed excellent skill and determination to win the title. Well done girls!

Ice Hockey

5th Class Ms Tallon would like to wish Matthew Quinlan the best of luck as he travels to Boston, USA and Toronto, Canada this week to represent Ireland playing ice hockey. Matthew was selected to travel with the Irish Ice Hockey Association as part of their Junior Development Team. Well Done Matthew and we look forward to hearing about your trip when you return! 😊

Green Schools



During the past 15 years our school has worked hard on the 6 main themes of Green Schools and we have successfully won the 6 Green Flags. We are not working on any theme at present but will continue to encourage pupils to reduce, reuse and recycle. Our recycling of batteries, ink jets and used stamps will continue as usual in the main school entrance hall. Well done and keep up the great work everyone!