



Principal's Newsletter

7th February 2020

Dates for your Diary

Monday 10 th February - Friday 14 th February	Friendship/Culture Week & Cyber Safety Workshops
Monday 17 th February - Friday 21 st February	School closed for Mid-term Break
Wednesday 26 th February	Start of Lent & Annual Trócaire Campaign
Thursday 5 th March	Volleyball Championship ALSAA 6 th Classes
Friday 6 th March	School Swimming Gala
An Luan 9ú Marta - An Aoine 13ú Marta	Seachtain na Gaeilge
Monday 16 th & Tuesday 17 th March	School closed for St Patrick's Day
Tuesday 24 th March - Friday 27 th March	'Mary Poppins' 5 th & 6 th Class
Friday 3 rd April	Last day of second term

After a busy run-up to Christmas we arrived back in January refreshed and ready to face all of the challenges and opportunities of a new term, new year and new decade.

3rd Classes were in the final stages of preparation for the **Laudate Festival** and on 30th January raised the roof of the church of St Pius X at the Laudate Festival.

 Catholic Schools Week 2020
26 January – 2 February 2020

Living in Harmony
with God's Creation

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This was part of the annual celebrations of **Catholic Schools Week** which was launched on Sunday 26th January at 10 o'clock Mass in our church. Girls and boys from our 3rd Classes joined in the celebrations with the Children's Choir.

We were also delighted to welcome over **100 grandparents** into our school on Friday 31st January.

Grandparents' Day has become a landmark day for our girls and is as keenly anticipated as the visit by Santa.

Thank you to all our wonderful grandparents for taking the time to visit Hollypark.

27th January marks **Holocaust Memorial Day**.

On Sunday 26th January our **5th Classes** presented their solemn and moving story of the Holocaust - **The Crocus Project** - in our Parish Church.



We are very grateful to Fr Kieran, Maeve Davidson, Tom Fortune and the entire Parish Team for their support of this very worthy endeavour.

We were also delighted to be invited to present The Crocus Project in St Pius X GNS & BNS.

And on Holocaust Memorial Day itself two of our students -

Alexa Broderick and Chloe Drury Byrne

were invited to talk about The Crocus Project on RTEjr.

Tuesday 4th February was **History Day** in Hollypark.



Our girls created wonderful posters and fabulous costumes and took part in a fun history quiz.

The **School Choir** is currently preparing for **Córfhéile na Scolieanna** which will take place in early March.

The choir continues to flourish having recently competed in and won the

Best Primary School Choir in the prestigious **Lyric FM Choirs for Christmas** competition.



Well done to all our girls who work so hard and show such tremendous commitment.

Our **School Debating Team** also continues to do well. Last week they faced Maelruin NS proposing the motion;
World Hunger will be Eliminated by 2030
which they won.

The team has now progressed to the semi-final of the Concern School Debating Challenge where they will be up against Colmcille SNS debating the motion:
Young People Should be Allowed to Vote at 16.
Congratulations to the team on their achievement team so far:

- ☆ Anna Pegum
- ☆ Ava Bailey
- ☆ Ailsing Barker
- ☆ Jennifer Rourke
- ☆ Joanne Kenny
- ☆ Sarah Cowman

And our **Quiz Teams** also performed very well in the first round of the **Credit Union Quiz.**

Our Junior Team finished in the top five while our Senior Quiz Team came first and have now progressed to the next round in this highly competitive competition.

Congratulations to:

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|---------------------|-------------------|
| ☆ Shannon Sun | ☆ Tara Walsh |
| ☆ Grace Zane | ☆ Sarah Cowman |
| ☆ Clíodhna McNamara | ☆ Elissa Mara |
| ☆ Eibhlín McNamara | ☆ Jennifer Rourke |

Our Athletic Team is in training for Abbotstown.



Our 6th Class girls will be competing in the Volleyball championships in ALSAA on 5th March.
And our Basketball team will be competing in the Basketball championships at the end of March - date still to be confirmed.
We are also looking forward to the School Swimming Gala which will take place on Friday 6th March.

Mary Poppins rehearsals are in full swing.



We will be in touch soon with details re tickets.
We very much appreciate the donations from so many parents to help fund the musical.

Well done to all our girls who continue to walk to school.
Many girls are now approaching **100 walks** which will total **5 Homework Passes**.
Girls who achieve 100 walks will be awarded a special **Walking Bus Badge** which they
can wear with pride as they continue
to collect still more stamps towards more Homework Passes.



Huge thanks also to our parents who continue to support our **WOW** initiative
by not using the **Drop-Off Zone**.

Renovations continue in the school.
Thank you to all our parents and pupils for your patience and flexibility
during the remedial works.
It will be worth it all in the end to have warmer classrooms
and a fresher-looking building.

We are now looking forward to celebrating **Friendship/Culture Week** in Hollypark
which will take place next week in the run-up to the mid-term break.

Thank you to all of our families who supported our **In My Shoes Appeal**.
All the shoes will be shipped directly to Africa and will have a second life there.

'United In Friendship Together We Strive!'

