

Scoil San Treasa

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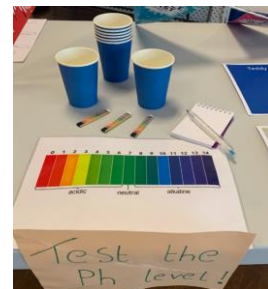
Nuachtlitir - April 2022

Nuacht Scoile

- **Science/STEM**

There is a great buzz and enthusiasm around Science throughout the school, which complements and extends the range of inquiry-based learning already in evidence in our classrooms.

Science Blast: Some of the classes took part in the ESB Science Blast Competition, which involved classes coming up with a scientific question, making a prediction and then researching their area and presenting their findings to judges. The younger classes had an opportunity to visit the exhibition in the hall on Tuesday of this week.



Science Foundation of Ireland (SFI): This year the whole school will engage and compete for 'The Badge of Excellence', awarded by SFI to schools, in recognition of having previously achieved a Plaque for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and also for demonstrating excellence in efforts to raise awareness of, and excitement about STEM among the whole school community. An area of our website has now been specifically allocated to the area of STEM which we will build and develop over time.

Primary Science Fair: Pupils in both sixth classes have presented their projects for the 'Primary Science Fair' 2022. Their projects addressed the following topics: • *How do Isotonic drinks affect performance in sport?* and • *'The effect of Music on concentration'*.

Well done to all of the pupils and their teachers on their work and research on these very worthwhile and interesting projects.

- **Incubation Project - Chicks**

The incubation/hatching project in 2nd class which spanned several weeks has generated great excitement and prompted much learning in the school. It is a delight to share in the children's anticipation and enthusiasm. There certainly has been much 'new life' in the foyer (in every sense of the word!) in recent weeks.



- **Music/Ceol**

The orchestra are busy practising their repertoire every Wednesday morning in the school hall and it is great to hear instrumental music echoing through the corridors of the school once again. No doubt, those involved put much time into additional practice in the course of the week. Pupils in fifth class are working on the repertoire for the Peace Proms choral initiative. Their endeavours will culminate in a large-scale performance involving several schools later in the year.



- **Biodiversity/Gardening**

Plans are in place for a further series of Biodiversity/Gardening workshops in the third term with pupils from the Junior classes engaging in the programme once again this year. Classes are using the outdoor classroom and this area behind the school will not be mowed again until September, so as to encourage the growth of a meadow which will include Bee Orchids, Cowslips, Black Medick, Achillea, Oxeye daisy and many more wildflowers already there waiting to grow. For more information on this dry grassland habitat area - <https://sstreasa.ie/latest-news/dry-grassland-habitat-sst-grounds>

- **Book Buddies**

Over the past few weeks the pupils from 5th and 6th classes have visited the Junior and Senior Infant classrooms and read books together in our book buddies initiative.

- **Sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation**

Pupils in 2nd class received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 30th March and continue to prepare for their First Holy Communion which will take place on Saturday 14th May. We wish them every blessing at this time. Pupils in 6th class celebrated the sacrament of their Confirmation on Friday 24th March. It was a delight to hear the pupils in the choir willingly using their talents for the benefit of others during the Confirmation ceremony. A special word of thanks to the teachers, parents and those in the parish for the valuable input of time, energy and expertise. Míle buíochas.



- **Sport**

A wide range of sporting activities continues. Well done to the senior girls who won the Division 2 Hockey League Final on Friday 1st April, the boys hurling & football team and the girls football team who have played matches over the last few weeks. Maith sibh go léir! Senior Infants are enjoying their hurling coaching (fundamental movement skills) every Thursday with Niall Corcoran from Kilmacud Crokes.

The senior tennis teams have been very active and it is wonderful to hear all the positive comments about their fine level of sportsmanship. We wish all those involved in the wide range of sporting activities in the school well.



Pupils in 5th class are currently partaking in the Cycle Right Safety Programme. Cycle Right is the National Standard for Cycle Training and provides practical cycle safety and skills training to promote competent and confident cyclists. Cycle Right is produced and supported by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, the Road Safety Authority and Cycling Ireland, with input from central and local agencies and other groups. This will take place on the Plásóg over the next 6 weeks.



- **Seachtain na Gaeilge:**

Baineadh an-taitneamh as Seachtain na Gaeilge agus táimid fíor-bhródúil as daltaí na scoile. Céilí na bPáistí was an enjoyable event with our boys and girls doing us all proud. Many pupils from all classes shared their musical talents in the school halla for their classmates during Seachtain na Gaeilge. *Bhaineamar uilig an-taitneamh as an gceol.* All pupils were treated to a ‘taispeántas ceoil agus damhsa’ (music and dancing exhibition) in the halla by Mr Whitely (Uileann Pipes) and Ms Lawlor (Irish dancing). The ‘*lucht éisteachta*’ were most appreciative and this added much to the event overall. Our *Tráth na gCeist Ollmhór* for the pupils from fourth, fifth and sixth class was a great success and a practical and entertaining way of putting the *cúpla focal* to good use.

Although *Seachtain na Gaeilge* has passed, we continue to encourage pupils (and others in the school community) to use their *Gaeilge* when *thart timpeall na scoile*. Our pupils are enjoying ‘*Crannchur na Gaeilge*’ – an occasional raffle for pupils who have been noted to make a special effort to use Irish informally in the course of the school day.



Website

Over the past few months the school website has been revamped and upgraded. Over time, we are steadily adding to the resources on our website which help parents to support their children’s learning. We encourage parents to dip into this material regularly. For example, you may find the NCCA (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment) tip sheets and resources to support your children's learning and development helpful. These are to be found under the tab ‘Useful Links’.

Vetting

The ongoing input of parent volunteers is a valuable asset to the school. Should you think that you might be interested in volunteering in some capacity in coming months (library, knitting, orchestra, tours etc.) you are encouraged to arrange to have a Vetting application submitted via the school. Processing these applications takes some time...so it is best to get your application in early. Please get in touch with the school secretary -

secretary@sstreasa.ie

The Board of Management advises parents that if a person has already been vetted by the school, then they do not need to be re-vetted under the new process unless such time has passed that warrants the applicant to be vetted again. In line with recommendations, the re-vetting timeframe determined by the Board of Management of Scoil San Treasa is every three years. It is planned to get in touch with persons whose vetting falls outside this timeframe, on a rolling basis.

Uniform

A considerable amount of lost property has built up in the school, made up mostly of coats and jackets. For your convenience, this will be on display at the school gate on **Thursday afternoon (1:10pm-1:30pm & 2:10pm-2:30pm)** and **Friday morning (8:40-9:00)** of this week. Please check to see if any of the items belong to your child/ren. During the holidays, please take the time to check that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. This becomes very important during the summer term when children are more likely to remove their jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt and forget to take it with them when they move around! Please make sure that your child has sufficient items of school uniform to see them through the third term.

Standardised Tests

Standardised tests in Literacy, Numeracy and Spelling will take place as usual during May for 1st -6th classes. School reports will issue in mid-June as normal.

Parents Association

Well done to the hardworking Parents Association who recently raised €635 from the Spring 'Used Uniform Sale' on Thursday 31st March. Their ongoing support for the work of the school is very much valued.

School Calendar

Should your child not be returning to Scoil San Treasa in the 2022-23 school year, please let us know in writing, without delay. This is important in terms of facilitating the smooth running of the school and in terms of addressing the needs of those for whom enrolment applications have been submitted for the various classes. Thank you in advance for your valued cooperation.

The school calendar for 2022-2023 has been approved by the Board of Management and is published on the school website under the 'Our School' tab. Following the announcement that March 18th is a public holiday, the BoM approved a school closure on Friday, June 3rd, in lieu of the closure previously planned for March 18th.



St Vincent de Paul

The Mount Merrion Society of St Vincent de Paul provides many supports in the local community and these are also extended to the school to offer discreet and confidential support to families should the need arise within our own school community. Please contact the Principal directly should you require more information on these supports.

Easter holidays

The school will close for the Easter holidays on Friday 8th April and reopen on Monday 25th April. The following collection times will apply on Friday 8th April:

- Junior and Senior Infants – Collection time @ 12:00 midday
- 1st – 6th Class – Collection time @ 12:10pm *All collection points remain the same as normal.*

We extend Eastertide blessings and every good wish to you and your families as we continue to pray for peace in our world. May you enjoy a safe and happy Easter break.

Le gach dea-ghuí,
Frances Mullin

