

Newsletter April 2018

Welcome to Term 3 – we’ve had a brilliant start to our final term. This month our ‘Learn Together’ theme has taken us all the way to India! We’ve enjoyed learning about the customs, culture and traditions of this amazing and vibrant land. We’ve been making Rangoli patterns using sand and seeds/pulses and learned about how the Taj Mahal may or may not be sinking. 5th and 6th Class had the opportunity to video call Aisling who is taking part in a Rickshaw Challenge travelling from South to North India to raise funds for Pieta House.



Spring Fair

Our first Wexford ETNS Spring Fair was held in Clonard Hall on 22nd March. It was a huge success with large crowds joining us on the day. Our students were fantastic, having made a wonderful array of Spring crafts they then also put on wonderful performances. A huge thank you to all of our parent volunteers who helped out on the day. A special mention to our Dragon’s Den winners who had stalls of their own at the fair and who sold out in record time!

Lords of the Board: Aoife, Heidi, Tom, Alex, Michael and Szymon

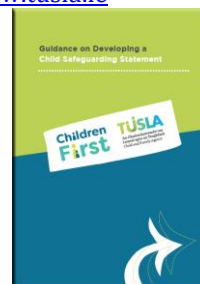
Juel and Zolyn: Juliet, Kaelyn, Ellen and Zoe

UCO: Yosra, Ruby, Eve and Jay



Child Safeguarding Strategy

As per Tusla guidelines a new ‘Child Safeguarding Strategy’ has been devised for Wexford ETNS. This strategy replaces our old Child Protection Policy. You can view a copy of the strategy in our school office or on our school website. Further information regarding child safeguarding is available at www.tusla.ie



Child Safeguarding Statement – New Procedures

In conjunction with our new Child Safeguarding Statement there are a number of changes to procedure being put in place in order to continue to safeguard children in our school. These procedures are in place to ensure that visitors to our school community are safe. A visitor to our school includes the following: parents; students; DES personnel; auxiliary staff; once-off visitors; volunteers.

Procedure to be followed by visitors to the school:

- All visitors must ring the doorbell to the front of the school and await access from the Secretary or another member of staff.
- Visitors must wait in the waiting area until the Secretary or another member of staff greets him/her.
- Visitors then proceed to the Office to sign the sign-in book stating their name, purpose of visit and time.
- Visitors must sign the sign-in book before leaving the school recording the time of departure and providing a signature.
- Between 1:30pm & 2:30pm children should not be returning to the school, or remaining in the yard. Children are asked to use the toilet before finishing at 1:30pm.
- Kindly note that the school toilets are for pupil and staff use only.
- As the central lobby is used for sensory breaks for some of our pupils, it is not appropriate for parents and/or children to access this area between 1:30pm & 2:30pm.


Thank you in advance for co-operating with our new school procedures.

Sport

Rackard League will be starting up again from week beginning 30th April. Unfortunately, we could not start back as early as we had hoped due to the weather and our limited facilities. Please ensure that students are appropriately dressed on training days in PE gear. Thank you to Aileen and Thomas for leading this.


Oxford Reading Tree

Thank you for returning the Oxford Reading Tree books following the text message sent to all parents. There are still a number of books outstanding from the collection. We would urge all parents and students to check at home (under beds/at the back of the sofa/playrooms/granny's house) and to return to the school – thank you!



Green Schools

We received a certificate for our participation in 'The Big Travel Challenge'. We have also received news from Green Schools Ireland that we have achieved our fourth Green Flag for Travel. This is a huge achievement for the school – a huge well done to everyone involved. A special thank you to our Green Schools committee supported by Aileen and Aideen.



Confirmation

Best wishes and congratulations to 5th and 6th Class students Alex, Juliet, Szymon, Eliza and Kaelyn who made their confirmation at Clonard Church on April 28th.


Dates:
 Primary Language Curriculum: School Closed – 3rd May: *Apologies for the short notice. This was an oversight on our part.*
 Mid-Term Break: 7th – 11th May, inclusive
 Junior/Senior School Tour: 21st June
 1st/2nd Class School Tour: 15th June
 3rd – 6th Class School Tour: 22nd June
 6th Class Graduation: Weds. 28th June
Sports Day: *weather dependent*
 12th/19th June: Junior Classes
 14th/21st June: Senior Classes

Clean Up Day

Thank you so much to all of the parents and students who gave their support, time and tools to help with our annual 'Spring Clean'. It was a very successful day and the school and grounds look fantastic!

Book Week

What a brilliant Book Week we had – due to the snowy weather we had to postpone our Book Week to the week of the 16th April and it was a huge success. We had our annual book fair, our 'We Are Writers' books arrived to great excitement and we had some very special visitors from 'Gilly and Rob' visit the school, who spoke to the students about their work in publishing! Sales of books at our Book Fair, including 'We Are Writers' has meant that our school will receive €1440.00 worth of free books! A huge thank you to everyone for supporting reading! On Thursday we had our book celebration day, this year based on the theme of Roald Dahl. The week ended with a fantastic showcase of costumes for our dress-up day. Thank you to Lianna for organising all the wonderful activities for the week.





BOM Report

The BoM Report for April is now available on the school website and on our noticeboards outside of and in our school reception.



School Reports

School reports will be sent home in mid-June. Please ensure you inform the school of any change of address prior to this.

In support of separated parents, please let us know if you require two copies of your child's report. Please note that reports can only be sent to parents or legal guardians.



Staffing Arrangements 2018/2019

We have been provisionally sanctioned an additional mainstream position and two EAL positions for the 2018/2019 academic year. This sanction is dependent on the school reaching an enrolment of 186 by 30th September.

Information regarding allocation of teachers to classes for the new school year will be shared in due course.



Summer Camp

We will be running our "Happy Campers" summer camp again this year. The camp will run for the first two weeks of July and is open to pupils and non-pupils. Please note that the camp is open to children aged 4 to 10 years.

Further information will be available in due course.



Collecting Children Early

If you are collecting your child early, you must come to the office to sign your child out. The secretary will then collect your child from his or her class.

Similarly, if your child is arriving late to school, they must enter the school by the main entrance and not the classroom door.

