

March 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Board of Management are currently trying to recruit bus escorts. If you know someone who is interested in applying for a position, please ask them to email me or if you can take a flyer and post on a notice board in your local shop or parish centre, that would be greatly appreciated. Copies of this flyer are available from the school office. Buses cannot run without the services of a bus escort and unfortunately this is becoming an increasing issue this school year for families and the school.

Our school is aware of the National Attendance Campaign and strategy. Parents are asked to ensure all absences are explained using AladdinConnect or your child's school journal.

Our school was selected for the 'Blue token' fundraising scheme in 2 Tesco supermarkets from 26th February- Ballyfermot and Roselawn, Blanchardstown. Please support us if you are shopping in either of these stores.

HSE vaccinations for the HPV, Tdap and MenACWY will take place for eligible pupils on 11th April

The Revised Parental Complaints procedures came into effect on 1st January 2024. A copy of these will be available on our school website.

I acknowledge all the following activities that our pupils have been involved in over the past number of weeks and the engagement and commitment from staff and In School Management Team:

Preparations for the Sacraments of First Forgiveness, Holy Communion and Confirmation- Congratulations to all students who received the Sacrament of First Forgiveness on 7th March and to those who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday.

Well done to our school choir for their activities and rehearsals.

We are delighted to continue our journey as a 'Restorative Practice' school. Staff are availing of continued professional development in this area.

Music Week and acts hosted by St. Benedict's class last week (11th-15th March)

Our school's successful application for a €10,000 grant towards Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Learning from the Department of Education, Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit.

All continued activities as part of the Creative Schools' Initiative

The Green Schools' Inspection which took place on 20th February

The visits from the three Dublin City librarians on 19th, 20th & 21st February and from a sensory story teller on 4th March.

Well done to our pupils who took part in the All-Ireland Quiz final in Portlaoise. They placed joint fourth place.

Swimming lessons and all sporting opportunities organised

Mental Health Week/ Antbullying 'Cinealtas' Week and all activities organised

Texaco Art Competition and preparations

St. Peter's class and the promotion of the Trocaire Lenten campaign

QQI moderator visited the school on Thursday, 8th February to assess completed modules. Well done to all staff involved and to the pupils on this achievement.

Pupils will receive their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement certificates this week as will those who completed level 3 QQI modules. A very well done.

Our school's participation with the NCCA in the consultation of the draft Senior Cycle Levels 1 and 2 Programme- specifically the draft Programme statement and curriculum components in Numeracy and Literacy.

Parent/Teacher meetings will be held tomorrow, 20th March.

St. Vincent's class are hosting a BakeSale/ Daffodil Day this Thursday 21st March and monies raised will go to the Irish Cancer society.

Pupils wore green to school last Friday and monies raised will go to the Trócaire Lenten campaign. Thank you to the Student Council for organising this event. They have also arranged for pupils to wear their own clothes to school this Friday, 22nd March as we close at 12 noon for the Easter holidays.

We are currently reviewing some of our school policies, specifically the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk assessment, the Antbullying Policy and the Healthy Eating Policy. These policies are available on our school website www.stmichaelsholyangels.com and we would welcome any feedback as we review these policies.

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Sharon Gorevan