

Gorey Educate Together National School

Scoil Náisiúnta Foghlaim le Chéile, Guaire

Principal's Newsletter 24th March 2015

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School Photographs: Please see attached order forms. Copies of class photographs can be pre-viewed at the school, (see noticeboard by Infant classrooms.) Parents will receive a text when photos are ready for collection. (This may take several weeks.) There is no obligation to purchase any photograph. The school receives a % of all sales. **Return envelope + exact payment to the school office by Wednesday 15th April.** Thereafter, order directly from the photographer.

Lost & Found: Please remove all clothing and personal items from the school before the end of term - check the Lost & Found shelves and the classrooms. Leftover items (without name tags) will be sent for recycling.

July programme for children with autism: Full details of the 2015 programme are yet to be announced by the Department of Education.

School-based programme (for schools with special classes) At present, the school is offering places to the children enrolled in our special classes. Thereafter, vacant places (if any) will be offered to children in our mainstream classes, (younger children first.)

Home-based programme (for children with autism diagnoses and attending mainstream classes, who cannot access a school-based programme) Parents should visit the July Programme section on www.education.ie to register their interest.

Monday 23rd March: Afterschool swimming — final session. Many thanks to our staff volunteers.

Tuesday 24th March: Afterschool Kung Fu — final session. Many thanks to our volunteer organisers and supervisors!

Tuesday 24th March: Heritage in Schools science workshops continue, (all classes.)

Wednesday 25th March: Soccer coaching with Mikael Allain continues on Wednesday mornings. Current classes: 1st Class and our Special Classes. Suitable footwear must be worn.

Wednesday 25th March: Football Association of Ireland 5-a-side competition, Gorey Showgrounds. The school will enter several teams in the event.

Friday 27th March: End of Term. Classes finish at 12.15 (Infants)/12.30 (1st-6th.) No after-school supervision session. School buses depart at 12.30 - infants using buses and infants with older siblings will be supervised until 12.30. School reopens Monday 13th April.

Milk: This year's School Milk Scheme ends on Friday 27th March.

School Calendar 2015-2016

Term 1

School reopens to pupils at 8.50am, Tuesday 1st September 2015

School closes Friday 23rd October and reopens Monday 2nd November

End of Term, school closes Tuesday 22nd December

Term 2

School reopens to pupils at 8.50am, Wednesday 6th January 2016

School closed Thursday 18th and Friday 19th February

End of term, school closes Wednesday 16th March*

Term 3

School reopens to pupils at 8.50am, Monday 4th April 2016

School closes Friday 29th April and reopens Monday 9th May

School closed Monday 6th June

End of term, school closes Thursday 30th June

* See school website for full 2015 and 2016 calendars.

April is Autism Awareness Month. To play our part in raising awareness, the school will again run a **'Blow Bubbles 4 Autism'** event.

We again hope to raise funds for a local Autism charity. Children in 5th class will run a 'bubbles shop' at school. The shop will open from 12 noon on Friday 25th-27th March 2016. (The children would store their bubbles in the classrooms until the event on the 27th.)

As a local supermarket is sponsoring 413 bottles of bubbles (this was organised for us by a parent volunteer - thanks!) **all** money raised in our 'bubbles shop' will go to a local Autism charity.

Any available parents are invited to join us on the 27th. (We won't have spare bubbles for parents or younger siblings - bring a bottle, if desired.) Donations on the day are also very welcome!

'Blow Bubbles 4 Autism'

12 noon start
Postponed
Friday March 27th

Gorey Educate Together NS

Event postponed until Term 3.

(Sponsor needs a little more time to organise so many bubbles!)





Science Workshops with Michelle Maher for all classes are now underway, courtesy of the school's PTA.

Topics include: Chemistry, States of Matter, Acids & Bases, Electricity & Light.



Hello Parents/ Guardians, Recently, the Green Schools Committee gave you some tips about saving water at home. We hope that you are remembering to be water wise and are putting these into practice.

In this newsletter we have some tips about how to save water in your garden. It is now coming to that time of year when flowers are growing and lots of gardening is starting to take place.



Green-Schools

Here are some of our water saving tips for your garden:

If you must water your plants, do it in the early morning or evening when it's cooler. Forget the hose and always use a watering can fitted with a rose.

Grass can survive for long periods without water and will quickly recover when the next rain showers arrive. Raising lawnmower blades to a higher level will help stop grass from scorching in warm weather. Leaving the clippings on the lawn protects roots and returns nutrients to the soil.

Recycle your green kitchen waste in a compost bin. Compost provides valuable nutrients and helps retain moisture in the soil.

Don't use a hose when cleaning paths, patios and driveways. Use a shovel and brush instead.

Using mulch such as wood chips, bark or gravel will help prevent water evaporation and will suppress weed growth, saving water and the need for weeding. These are especially valuable for shrubs, flowerbeds and new plantings.

Rainwater is excellent for your garden. Collect it in a water butt fed from your gutters, but always make sure to securely cover large containers for safety.

Regularly weed and hoe your garden, to ensure that watering helps your plants and not your weeds.

Regularly check your outdoor taps, pipes and plumbing fixtures for leaks.

Have fun saving water in your garden,

The Green Schools Committee

6th class: Ava and Finnán,

5th class: Mikey, Ella, Dara M, Peter,

4th class: Ben, Connie, Anisah,

3rd class: Cillian, Samara, Fionn, Hannah,

2nd class: Tobiah, Sarah, Aaron, Abbie

BEFORE



AFTER



The school's new-look website is now smartphone and tablet friendly!

Many thanks to Chris Minias (parent) for all his work.

Visit www.goreyeducatetogether.ie for newsletters, photos, school calendar, policies and more...