# St. Gabriel's Easter Newsletter



Congratulations to our 6<sup>th</sup> Class girls who were confirmed on March 9<sup>th</sup>!







**Grandparents Day** 



To honour the very important role that the Grandparents of Ballyfermot play in our

pupils lives, both first classes invited them in to celebrate this very special day. To say that they were spoiled is an understatement.



The children made rice crispy buns especially for them and they went down a treat. They also played games with them and showed them their artwork.

When asked what was the importance of this celebration, most of the children replied saying that 'we wanted to make them happy and feel appreciated' and 'They do so much for us that we would be lost without their love'.

I think we should be proud of all the love that the children at St.
Gabriel's have for their Grandparents.



By 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ms Hefferons

#### **Green Schools**

This year St Gabriel's Green School Committee is focusing on achieving a Biodiversity Flag.

The meaning of 'Biodiversity' is easy to understand when we break the word down; "bio" refers to life and 'living things' and "Diversity" means just that; range or variety. The word refers to the huge variety and variation of life that surrounds us on planet earth. Maintaining a high level of diversity among plants, animals and all living things all around us is essential in keeping the environment healthy and fit for human life. This includes diversity within species, between species and diversity of ecosystems

The overall aim of the Biodiversity theme is for schools to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity and for students and staff to come up with ways to help biodiversity. This can be achieved through improving or preserving your local biodiversity whether it is in your school garden, at home, a green space in the city, your local beach, a river way etc. Schools will have the opportunity to play a vital role in promoting and preserving biodiversity both locally and globally.

Our committee also revisited themes of previous flags which we have already achieved. They did this by reminding classes to turn off lights, turn off taps fully and by putting the correct litter into the bins. The committee has displayed posters in all classrooms as reminders to everyone to keep our school green!!!!

Ms. Flaherty

# Random acts of kindness



We have very kind children here in our school. But one class in particular tried very hard during December to be extra kind to others and that was Ms. Hefferon's First Class.

They devised a 'Kindness Calendar' where they

carried out one specific act every day. For example, these acts involved cleaning another classroom, ensuring that our yard was tidy and they helping Infants to put on their coats! Now if that isn't putting others first I don't know what is and it is also setting a great example to younger classes.

We are going to have a super amazing school if children keep this up!! Well done 1st Class in Room 12!

## **Internet Safety**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of February speakers came to our school to give a talk on the importance of internet safety.

They advised us to keep our account private and location turned off. We were also told not to add strangers on Facebook or Instagram. We learned too, that, unfortunately people can be quite nasty online and if this happens just ignore comments, block them and report to an adult immediately.

We were very grateful for this insightful talk and now feel more equipped to deal with incidents should they occur **By Allie 6**<sup>th</sup> **Class** 



St Gabriel's participated in Seachtain na Gaeilge from March 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. Thursday was by far the most exciting day as it was 'Green day'. Each class had to learn three songs and three dances. A lot classes performed their acts at assembly.

We also had a 'Brát Bia' where we got to sample lots of torthaí & glasraí; like broccoli, carrots, celery, cauliflower, pineapple and grapes but to name a few.

To end this day on a fabulous note we had a céilí in the hall, it was great fun but we were exhausted after it! But one thing is for sure, learning Irish is lots of fun!!

By 6<sup>th</sup> Class



#### **Life Skills**

6<sup>th</sup> Class have been doing life skills since 4<sup>th</sup> Class. In life skills we learn about different things every week including: smoking, advertising, behaviour & other things.

Bernie and Kim guided us through the process. We did life skills for 10 weeks. Our class were the first to do life skills and complete the whole thing.

We really enjoyed the course. We hope that the other classes find it beneficial too.

By Donna Tyrell

We have been so busy this term in Ms. Smith's 3<sup>rd</sup> class. To celebrate World Book Day 2018 last week we visited the school library with Ms. Hefferon's 1<sup>st</sup> class and we read stories to them. We had lots of fun!

For engineers' week we made structures using just spaghetti and marshmallows. We worked in groups and we had to make a plan before we started. This was a really interesting activity.

Also this month we are celebrating being Irish and our Irish language. We have been making a big effort to speak Irish in class and around the school. We have been very busy learning songs in Irish.

Check them out on YouTube at home - Tar liom go hÁrainn, Amhrán na bhFiann and Bean Phaidín. Happy Easter to you all! noon on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March and reopen on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April.

-Week in May: The school will close on Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> and reopen on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Dates for Diary**

Family Mass for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils,
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March &
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at
12:15 in Assumption

2<sup>nd</sup> Class will be making their First Holy Communion on Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Happy Easter from 3<sup>rd</sup>



# **Upcoming School Closures**

-Easter Holidays: The school will close at 12