

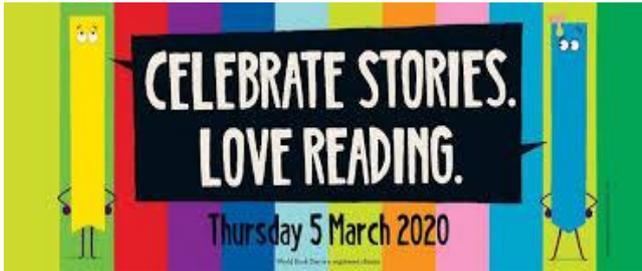
Saint John Bosco Senior Boys' School



Newsletter

January/February 2020

World Book Day



World Book Day takes place this year on **Thursday 5th March**. The school will celebrate with lots of reading and book based activities. Each pupil will receive a voucher for €1.50 which can be used as discount off a book purchased at our School Book Fair.

On Thursday 5th March, boys are allowed to bring costumes into school to dress up as a character from their favourite book.

There will be a prize for the best costume. No money needs to be brought in for this dress up day.

School Book Fair

The School Book Fair takes place this year on **Wednesday 11th March and Friday 13th March**. All pupils will have an opportunity to visit the Book Fair to buy books of their choice.

60% of the takings will be used to buy new novels for our school to further promote reading in the school.

School Contribution

Letters requesting Voluntary Contributions will be distributed to pupils during this week.

The Board of Management is very grateful to all families who have already contributed.

To date €8,890 has been received.

Your voluntary contribution is essential to the effective running of the school as Government Grants only cover a fraction of the costs.

Payments can be made by cash/cheque or by e-payments through link sent to parents by text. All cash/cheque contributions will be received by text and on-line payments will be received by email.

Our new Deputy Principal Ms. Niamh Brennan

We are delighted to announce that Ms. Niamh Brennan has been appointed to the role of Deputy Principal of our school. Ms. Brennan is a talented, skilled and experienced educator and we look forward to her enriching the culture of our school community in her new leadership role.

We gratefully and respectfully acknowledge the wonderful work and dedication of Mr. Noel Reilly who served as Acting Deputy Principal in the school while the selection process was administered by our Board of Management. Mr. Noel Reilly continues his role as Assistant Principal in the internal leadership team of our school community and we are most appreciative of his support throughout the selection process.

We strive as a staff to work together to ensure all our Boscoboy boys feel the powerful message our Patron Saint, St. John Bosco, when he said "It is not enough to love the children, it is necessary that they are aware that they are loved".

CALENDAR

Thursday 5th March:

World Book Day in Ireland (pupils can bring in clothes and dress up as their favourite Book Character)

Monday 9th March:

Ceremony of Light for Confirmation pupils and their parents at 7.00pm in the Church.

Tuesday 10th March:

First Penance Service for Communion pupils and their parents at 7.00pm in the Church.

Wednesday 11th March and Friday 13th March:

Our School Book Fair.

Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March:

School will be closed for School Holiday and St. Patrick's Day.

Saturday, 21st March:

Confirmation in the Parish Church at 11.00am

Wednesday 1st April:

School will be closing at 12.30pm to facilitate a Teacher Training Course (this early closing is not on our original calendar).



Team Teaching 6th Class

All classes have been supported with team teaching since the beginning of this year. In 6th class, we had team teaching in November and December where we covered difficult topics like decimals, ratios and fractions. Some boys even tried secondary school work! Then we started English story writing in our team teaching in the New Year, which was great for our character development, story setting and expanding our vocabulary. We learned how to structure an engaging narrative story. It was great because there were three teachers supporting us in three small groups. We loved the team teaching program!

Miroslav Alosins and Seán Freeney (Room 6)

6th Class Retreat

The Net Ministry team came to visit all 6th class boys for a retreat on Tuesday, 4th February. The day started off with games and we got to know the team, who were very interesting. Throughout the day, we played games, learned a lot more about our Confirmation and sang songs together with the team. We even went to the church where they sang some lovely songs to us. It was a fun day and a great memory to have made in 6th class together.

Gavin Browning and Seán Doyle (Room 11)

Sheldon the Tortoise on Tour

Room 12 were really happy to welcome Sheldon the school tortoise to our class in January this year. As Sheldon responds to noise vibrations, the whole class made sure they were quiet.

Everybody took responsibility of looking Sheldon and making sure he was okay.

Everyone had fun playing with Sheldon and we would love to have him back again!

Sheldon has been to room 12, prefab 3 and room 9 so far. He hopes to move around the class over the coming months!

**Peter Smyth & Bobby Mc Carthy
(Room 12)**

February Fitness Challenge

Room 10 have taken on the "February Fitness Challenge" this month. The boys are running a mile daily in a mission to get fit and feel good! "I think it helps people get better at running and jogging". **Calum Hughes**

"When we first did it, I didn't really sprint a lot but now I can sprint two out of the eight laps!"

Tips from 4th class; "Buddy up and talk to people while you're running." **Alex O'Connor**

"If you jog you can keep going and save more energy".
Nectarie Bejinariu

Well done Room 10!

Internet Safety Week

On 11th February, our class promoted "Internet Safety Day" around the school. We had a colouring competition, a poster competition and we watched HTML heroes in our class. We were very lucky, because we all got an "Internet safety day" wristband and shared good tips with our school about staying safe online.

We learned about "Stop, Block and Tell" and only playing with our friends online. We hope that all of the boys in our school now will play safely on the internet.

The winners of our competitions were announced at our February assembly and their names will be on our school website!

**Tom Duffy, Cillian Lynch and Zalmain Khan
(Room 7)**

Health and Safety Reminders

- **Nuts, or products containing nuts, are not allowed in the school as some pupils have severe nut allergies.**
- **For health and safety reasons pupils are not allowed to wear bracelets, rings, earrings or any other piercings in the school.**
- **Dogs are not allowed to be brought on the school campus.**
- **Cycling on the campus is not permitted.**

Credit Union Schools Quiz

On Friday January 31st, Saint John Bosco's Senior Boys' School were again invited to join the annual All-Ireland Credit Union School Quiz.

The event took place in The Carlton Hotel in Tyrrelstown. Year on year the event is becoming bigger and more competitive. Around 150 school children participated in this stage of the quiz with many of their teachers, parents and friends there to support them. Our bright quiz enthusiasts consisted of 4 teams from classes 3rd to 6th.

It was a long, tough but fun night of quizzing and in the end all of our teams did their school proud. One of our team's came very close to victory, having finished 2nd overall in the senior quiz, winning a runner-up plaque and a gift voucher for Blanchardstown.

On the 2nd Place team were;
Alex Maguire, Daragh Stenson, Jack Barrett and Pierce Kavanagh.

We are very proud of all the boys who took part and are looking forward to competing again next year.

The boys two took part in the quiz were;

Under 11 Team

Olan Bradley, Ben Carroll, Tom Casey, Tadhg Gao, Nansen Liu, Tom Mc Mahon, Adam Mc Manus and Conor Raftery.

Under 13 Team

Karl Andrade, Jack Barrett, Fionn Dollett Mc Cann, Frankie Flynn, Pierce Kavanagh, Oisín Keenan, Alex Maguire and Daragh Stenson.

Credit Union Pupil's Saving Scheme

Our local Credit Union have a **Pupil's Saving Scheme** in operation in our school.

Every Tuesday morning a representative from the Credit Union call to the school to document and collect savings from pupils who have a Pupil's Saving Account. The main aim of the saving scheme is to encourage the children to adopt a regular savings habit and thereby to sow the seeds of good financial management for the future.

If your son would like to join the Credit Union you can collect an application form from the school secretary or you can call to your local Credit Union to collect one. After completing the application you must go to the Credit Union to set up the account.

Pupils receive their own saving book where their savings are recorded every week.

Pupils can save as little as €1 each week and receive dividends on their savings.

Digital Detox Lent 2020

As part of our school wide mission to encourage our children to take greater care online and develop healthy tech user habits we are trying to encourage the boys as part of their Lenten fast to give up some screen time and online gaming time in favour of participating in more physical centred activities through sport or music or dance.

We would also like to encourage the boys to think about starting a new hobby or develop a new skill or perhaps to find more time to read or play more traditional games such as chess, draughts or LEGO. As part of their Lenten mission we also hope to encourage the boys to help more with household chores and to take care of younger family members.

Can you help us promote tech free Tuesdays and Tech NO Thursdays?

Maybe make plans on a Saturday to watch a TV programme or a Movie together rather than being in different rooms, on different screens.

Healthy tech use is one of the great challenges for our society today. Hopefully we can work together as a community to help teach and develop healthy tech user habits and values.

Information about Allianz School Insurance

If your son has been included in Allianz School Insurance Scheme this school year the following information will be of interest to you:

If your son has an accident and you bring him to A&E or VHI Swiftcare you will receive a receipt after payment. You should send this original Receipt with an Allianz Claim Form (available to download from their website or available from the school secretary). Blanchardstown Hospital also has a new Children's A&E section.

When you have completed the form please bring it in to the school secretary's office who will complete the school's section and return it to you.

You then need to take a copy of the form and the receipt and send it directly to Allianz who will arrange to pay you back your hospital payment.

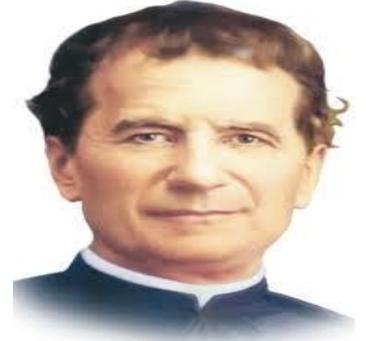
Please note what type of Insurance you purchased in September (€9 – 24 hours cover or €6 - school day only). If you purchased school day cover, no accidents after school or during the weekends will be covered.

Feast Day of Saint John Bosco

Friday 31st January

Saint John Bosco was born near Turin, Italy, in 1815. When he was just two years old his father died, and so he was brought up by his mother, Margaret. Margaret had great faith in God and she passed this on to John and his two brothers. The family was very poor however, and even as a child, John had to work as a shepherd to support them. When John was twenty years old, he decided that he wanted to become a priest, and he was ordained in 1841.

As a priest, John dedicated himself to looking after boys who were poor, unhappy or didn't have anyone to care for them. He wanted to teach them and to give them skills that would help them to live a happy life. However, many of the boys found it very hard to learn and it was often difficult for John to get their attention. Earlier in his life, John had learned how to juggle and to do magic and tricks, and so he used these skills to help the boys to learn and to concentrate. Soon, more and more children were coming to John Bosco for help. In March 1846, John Bosco rented an old barn which he turned into a home for boys who needed somewhere to live. This was John Bosco's first school.



Do not lose any time! Do good, do all the good you can and you will never regret doing it". Don Bosco

Merit Awards

The following boys were deemed to have earned Merit Certificates in January.

2nd Class:

Tom Carroll, Cillian Lynch, Alex Moore.

3rd Class:

Dáire Farrelly Givens, Deiras Urbonas, Adam Bedford.

4th Class:

Dónal Delaney, Cole Lacken-Wynne, Han Hao Xuan.

5th Class:

Kevin-Constantin Stavarache, Fionn Britton, Adam Lynch, Seanán Rogers.

6th Class:

Saul Byrne, Alex Voakes, Séan Doyle.



The following boys were deemed to have earned Merit Certificates in February.

2nd Class:

Harrison Wildman Lawlor, Zalmain Khan, Séan Fegan.

3rd Class:

Rares Mihai Birhala, Erwan Stoquert, Ollie Meehan.

4th Class:

Olaf Glowacki, Theo Bourke Nolan, Tadhg Mc Donnell.

5th Class:

George Harold, Kayden Cullen, Wojtek Marciniak, Josh Sheridan.

6th Class:

Oisín Keenan, Cillian Campion-Wigglesworth, Seán O'Toole.

Well done and Congratulations to all the boys!