## **Coralstown National School**

Coralstown,

Mullingar,

Co. Westmeath



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Principal: Mary Daly

Deputy Principal: Fiona Fox

## March 2020 Newsletter

**Board of Management:** We would like to welcome the members of our new board of Management. Chairperson: Fr. Thomas Gilroy; Bishop's Nominee: Mrs. Mary Moriarty; Principal: Mrs. Mary Daly; Teacher Nominee: Mr. Micheál Forde; Parent/Guardian Nominees: Ms. Sineád Scully & Mr. Alan Wright; Community Nominees: Ms Deirdre Yeates & Mr. Francis Murtagh.

**New Teacher:** We would also like to welcome Ms Marian Corcoran to the staff of Coralstown N.S. Ms. Corcoran replaces Ms Flynn who is currently on Maternity leave.

**Swimming:** Swimming lessons have now started and will continue until April.

**Eason Spelling Bee:** Well done to Bronwyn Wright, a pupil in 5<sup>th</sup> class, who represented Coralstown N.S. in the Westmeath 2020 Spelling Bee on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**Soccer Tournament:** We also wish our 6<sup>th</sup> Class Soccer team 'Good luck' as they compete in the Westmeath round of the FAI's school soccer competition on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**Confirmation & First Communion Mass:** The children from 6<sup>th</sup> class & 2<sup>nd</sup> class who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion this year, will have a special Mass on this Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 a.m. in St. Agnes Church, Coralstown.

**First Penance:** Children from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class will receive the Sacrament of First Confession on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March in St. Agnes Church, Coralstown at 7 p.m.

**Bake Sale:** The Parents Association of Coralstown N.S. are holding a Bake Sale in Coralstown N.S. after Mass on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March also. Thank you in advance to all the Parents/Guardians who bake the many 'yummy' cakes, buns, biscuits, etc. and to the many people who come to purchase the baked goods. Your support is much appreciated for this event.

Parents Association: The next Parents Association meeting will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00 pm

**Lá Glás:** We hope to have our annual Lá Glás on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March as part of the events for Seachtaine na Gaeilge. We will have a no-uniform day on the day @€2 per pupil – the proceeds of which are to help out Fleadh Committee 2020.

**Primary Language Curriculum:** This school year 2019-2020 all schools are taking 2 half days to complete further work on the introduction of the new Primary Language Curriculum. On Friday  $13^{th}$  March Staff will be taking their first ½ day to work on the new Primary Language Curriculum. This means children will be released at 12.00 pm. instead of the usual 1.30 & 2.30 p.m. As always 'thank you' for your co-operation in this matter.

**St. Patrick's Day:** Reminder: we are taking Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March as a holiday along with St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**Confirmation:** The children of the Parish will receive the sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Tom Deenihan on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. We wish the 6<sup>th</sup> class well on this special day.

**Enrolment Policy Review:** Following commencement of certain sections of the Education Act 2018 schools are required to make changes to their Admissions/Enrolment Policy. **These changes do not apply for admission to the 2020/21 school year.** All Parents/Guardians will shortly receive a Draft of our Enrolment Policy with the proposed changes.

Homework Policy: At a recent PA Meeting there was a very interesting discussion regarding Homework. We are hoping to invite Professor Brian Tubbert, who lectures in Froebel College of Education, Maynooth to speak to Parents/Guardians, Staff & Board of Management about Homework & it's merits or not. This meeting will take place in early May. We will confirm details when we receive them. Following this meeting we will review our Homework Policy.

**Badminton:** Badminton which started in January has now come to an end with the Tournament which was held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Well done to Paddy Geraghty & Michael Taggart from 6<sup>th</sup> class who were worthy winners of the 2020 Tournament. Thank you also to Mary Donovan for all her work with the children.

**Art:** Ms Andrina Finch recently visited the school and the children in the First Communion Class and the Confirmation Class made beautiful Art Plates which are a beautiful memento of these special days. Thank you to the PA who funded this venture.

**Mindfulness:** Mindfulness classes which started at the end of January for all children in the school will shortly be coming to an end. We would like to thank most sincerely the Parents Association who are financing this project from the proceeds of 'The Scarecrow Party' at Halloween. Parents/Guardians will shortly receive a 'Tip' sheet which will enable you to continue the work/practice of Mindfulness in the home.

## **Dates for your Diary:**

Eason Spelling Bee: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March FAI Soccer Tournament: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Confirmation/1st Communion Mass: Sunday 8th March

P.A. Bake Sale: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March First Confession: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March Lá Glás/No Uniform Day: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

½ Day Closure: Friday 13th March

Closed: Monday 16th March & Tuesday 17th March

Confirmation: Thursday 19th March

Parents Association Meeting: Tuesday 24th March @ 8.00 p.m.

First Communion: Saturday 4th April

Is mise le meas,

Mary Daly, Príomh Oide

Please remember Coralstown N.S. is a nut free school. Please ensure no nuts in any form are brought into the school.