



Scoil Naomh Lorcán O'Tuathail

(St. Laurence O'Toole's National School)

Roundwood, Co. Wicklow. Tel/Fax: 01 281 8399 | Email: roundwoodns@gmail.com | Web: roundwoodns.ie

January 31st 2024

Our **TOCHAR** Values
We aim High

Teamwork,
Championing **O**thers,
Cinéaltas (Kindness),
Honour,
Eng**A**gement in learning
Resilience.

Dear parents/guardians,
We have had a busy week in Roundwood NS since last week with lots of exciting news and wonderful activities going on throughout the school!

Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day was a huge success again this year! We had a record number of grandparents, great-grandparents and some very special older people in the lives of our pupils. All our visitors were welcomed by members of the Student Council as they arrived at the school. Grandparents came together in the hall to have a catch up and some refreshments which were organised by our wonderful Parents Association. Our special grandparents were entertained by our school choir who sang two beautiful songs for everyone. Matthew Doyle recited a poem for Grandparents which really set the mood and reminded us all of what the day was all about. Well done Matthew!

Our grandparents were then escorted by the Student Council and 6th class pupils to their grandchild's classroom where they had the opportunity to speak with the classes. The day was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We look forward to next year already!

Thank you again to the volunteers from the Parents Association who gave their time to prepare the room and ensure that our grandparents had an enjoyable tea with us. Thank you to Ms Healy and the school choir for their entertainment. Thank you to all teachers for facilitating the grandparents in their rooms and the Student Council and 6th class pupils for their important roles on the day. Finally, thanks to Mr Flood who organised the day as part of Catholic Schools Week. His organisation and attention to detail ensured a wonderful day for everyone.

Cumann na mBunscol Awards

We were thrilled to receive word that Roundwood NS has been nominated for 2 awards in the 32 county National Cumann na mBunscol awards.

We are nominated in the category "Promotion of Gaelic Games and Culture". The children in 5th and 6th classes prepared a fact / piece of information each about the G.A.A. which was compiled into a book. School staff, aided by a number of the pupils, made a video

documenting all the school's participation in G.A.A. related activities since September 2022. Being nominated means we are now guaranteed a minimum of 3rd place in this section and our final placing will be revealed at an event in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath in early March. The other 2 nominated schools are from counties Antrim and Tyrone.

Unbelievably, we are also nominated in the category "Large School of the Year". The children in 5th class prepared a scrapbook which, again, depicts the school's participation in G.A.A. related activities since September 2022. The other 2 schools nominated in this section are from Co. Wexford and Co. Offaly.

Details of the prizes are below:

Promotion of Gaelic Games & Culture:

1st Prize €500; 2nd Prize €400; 3rd Prize €300
Plaque for each school also.

Category 6 - Large School of the Year:

1st Prize See below; 2nd Prize €500; 3rd Prize €500
Plaque for each school also.

Winning School in "Large School of the Year"

- Will be invited to Croke Park for a day where their award will be presented with a stadium and museum tour and lunch included.
- €500

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Flood and the PE Curriculum

team for all their work with the preparation for these awards. The dedication of Mr Flood especially has been a huge factor in our success and we are lucky to have him on our team! Well done again to everyone!

Cumann na mBunscol Table Quiz

Massive congratulations to our U11 and U13 Credit Union quiz teams who performed superbly last Friday night in the Ashdown Park Hotel, Gorey.

A total of 21 schools were in attendance. The competition was stiff, many of the questions were difficult (e.g. name the President of Israel and where are your saccules!) and we are delighted to say our U13 teams (Daniel Corneliusson, Kelan Lawlor, Leon Giffney, Lochlann Tracey and Lily Lawless) finished in a fantastic 3rd place just 1 point behind the 2nd placed school. Our U11 team (Mark Ichim, Amelia Power, Conor Carpenter, Matthew Doyle, Roisín Donelon and Michael Fanning) finished in a fantastic 1st place.

The top teams from each age category progress to the regional finals to be held in early March which includes the U11 team from Roundwood NS. Well done to all our fabulous pupils on both teams!

Photos with the President

Some of our pupils were lucky enough to meet our President Michael D Higgins in Roundwood Stores last week. President Higgins took the time to speak with the children and get some photos taken - a true gentleman and a wonderful opportunity for our pupils who got to

meet him in person! Check our website for photos.

Model in our midst

Well done to Sam Daly, 3rd class, who is currently modelling the Paul Costello Communion Range for Boys. Such an achievement - well done Sam!

Reader with Me

Our Read with Me Programme with Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd classes is still going very well. A big thank you again to all parents and grandparents who are giving of their time to read with our pupils. Our Junior Infants will be beginning their paired reading after mid-term break.

Communication with the School Policy

Our updated Communication with the School Policy which includes the new Parental Procedures as set out by the INTO and Management bodies, is now available on our website. It can be found under Policies on www.roundwoodns.ie.

Child Safeguarding Review

Our annual review has been carried out by the Board of Management. Our updated Child Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment and Notification of Review is available on our website www.roundwoodns.ie for you to view.

Home Learning Policy

Please click on the link to complete a short survey on our Home Learning Policy.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3CMwbWliJaxhYAY8e_BEtTmXarWbAuQSUeVf9I99jji_jdQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Spanish Students

Rockbrook International in Rathfarnham are looking for families to host some Spanish boys (11-12 years old) attending Roundwood NS. Short 4 week stay from 21 Feb – 20 Mar 2024. We also have a full day plan every Saturday from 10.00 -19.00 (with a local bus service organised). Our rate is **€220 per week**. Please call/WhatsApp Michael as soon as possible on **086 4663869** for more detailed information.

WEE Battery Collection

Thank you to all families who have sent in batteries - the school is filling up and we are excited to think that we may be in with a chance of winning this competition! Keep on bringing in your old batteries!

Confirmation Connect

The following are the dates for parent in-person sessions for Confirmation which will be held in the school hall.

Thursday 22nd February - 7pm

Thursday 7th March - 7pm

Mass 2: Saturday 27th January @ 7pm

Mass 3: Saturday 24th February @ 7pm

Dates to note:

First Confession

Monday 26th February @ 7pm

Service of Light

School closure - Referendum

Friday 8th March

Monday 15th April @ 7pm

Confirmation

Friday April 19th 2024

Communion

Saturday 11th May 2024

Parents Association

What's On this Week from the PA?

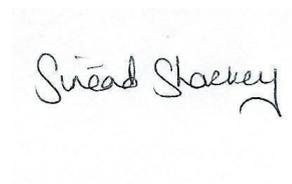
Upcoming Events

Please click on the following link or check out our website to read the Parents Association Constitution:

<https://www.roundwoodns.ie/our-school/parents-association/>

Roundwood's Parents Association is a member of the National Parent Council (NPC). The NPC offers a wide range of free parental webinars that can be watched at any time. See the link <https://www.npc.ie/> or phone **01 887 4477** for additional information.

Is mise, le meas,



Sinéad Sharkey
Principal

SCHOOL NOTES

Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

If you have any concerns of a Child Protection nature, Ms Sinéad Sharkey is the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in the school. Any concerns can be brought

directly to Ms Sharkey. If Ms Sharkey is not available, Ms Kim Kelly is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) and will deal with any issues in the absence of Ms Sharkey.

Please note that our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be viewed on our website www.roundwoodns.ie

Communication with the School

If you have any concerns or queries in relation to your child or the school, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. Teachers can be contacted via the Contact page on our website or alternatively, you can contact the school office directly to make an appointment to speak with the teacher. Please see our Communication with the School Policy on our website www.roundwoodns.ie.

If you are trying to contact the Board of Management on an issue, please send a letter addressed to the Chairperson of the BOM at the school address or, an email to chairpersonbom@roundwoodns.ie.

Please note that the Parental Complaints Procedure is to be used in the first instance for any issues relating to teachers. Emails will be checked prior to Board of Management meetings throughout the year.

School Policies

For copies of any of our school policies, please refer to our website. All policies can be downloaded from the website. If you require a hard copy, please contact

the office directly and we will provide you with one.

Road Safety outside School

Staff have been requested not to park on the Lough Dan Road as cars cover the safety signage on the road. Can all parents please not park on the road either as it is unsafe to cover the road markings. Dropping children off and collecting from this area and the area adjacent to the staff car park is also dangerous and we would ask parents to park safely in the village or Roundwood Inn.