



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

February 21st 2024

Our **TOCHAR** Values
We aim High

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

Dear parents/guardians,
I hope that all families had an enjoyable mid term break. It was great to welcome all children back to school this week and we look forward to longer and brighter evenings. Please ensure your child brings a coat to school on wet days as we try to let children out to play in the yard even in light rain - getting some fresh air during the school day is so important for them.

Roundwood Historical Society Table Quiz

The annual Historical Society Table Quiz took place last night in the school hall. There was a great turn out from our school, St Kevin's NS, Laragh and Rathdrum BNS.

A huge congratulations to the following children who placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd on the night.

1st place: Matthew Doyle, Amelia Power, Conor Carpenter, Mark Ichim

Daniel Corneilson, Charlie Connolly, Brandon McCann

3rd place: Roisin Donelon, Michael Fanning, Kelan Lawlor, Cian Molloy

A big thank you to Pauline Heatly (BOM and Member of Roundwood Historical Society) for her organisation of the event. Also a big thank you to Mr Flood for his efforts with preparation of the children for the event. A great night for all involved!

First Confession

Our 2nd class pupils are busy preparing for their First Confession which will be held in the Parish Church next Monday night at 7pm.

BOM Update

A meeting was held to elect the parent nominee (Father) for the Board of Management. The nominee is Oliver Donelon. We wish Oliver the best in this role and thank him for the support of the school.

BOM 2023-2027

Chairperson: James Quirke

Patron Nominee: Pauline Heatly

Principal: Sinéad Sharkey

Teacher Nominee: Trish Brady

Community Representative: Áine Mulvey

Community Representative: Des Swords

Parent Nominee: Joanne Neville

Parent Nominee: Oliver Donelon

Food Dudes are Back!

The Food Dudes Programme began in the school this week. Food Dudes is Ireland's national healthy eating programme for primary schools. It

works by positively changing children's attitudes towards eating fresh fruit and vegetables. This is achieved by combining three key elements - repeated tasting, rewards, and role modelling - on a recurring 3-year cycle.

The programme has changed slightly from previous years. This year, for Junior Infants to 1st Classes the programme consists of portions of fresh fruit and vegetables being provided over an intervention period of 16 consecutive school days (Phase 1). 2nd to 6th Classes will also be tasting fruit and vegetables but as they have already been introduced to Food Dudes they will be tasting for 5 days. There are super rewards for the children including lunch boxes etc. You can find more information at: <https://www.fooddudes.ie/parents-hub/>

Now is a great time to start a conversation at home about how important healthy eating is. This will help your child continue to build a healthy diet and healthy eating behaviours and to encourage them to bring fruit and vegetables to school in their Food Dudes lunchbox every day.

Leabhar Power

Leabhar Power our celebration of all things Literacy will run from 26th - 7th of March. Our book Fair will be in school from the week of the **26th - 1st March**.

Each class will visit the book fair twice during this week, with an afternoon for parents to visit on **Thursday 29th of February from 2:00pm- 3:30pm**. The school benefits from additional money towards books as a result of profits from the book fair.

Leabhar Power will host a variety of activities from book trails, peer reading, mystery readers, book fair, **World Dress up day (7th March)**, class buddy reading, art activities, classroom activities and talks from authors.

Last year was the first year St. Laurence O'Toole's hosted **Mystery Reader**. Mystery Reader is when a parent comes to read a book to the class as a surprise! If you would be interested in being a Mystery Reader please contact your child's class teacher before the **Monday 26th of February**. The class teacher will organise a day and time over the Leabhar Power weeks for you to be a Mystery Reader.

Annual Book Fair

The annual Book Fair is taking place next week from Monday 26th February until Friday 1st March. The children will visit the Fair with their classes to explore the wonderful world of books on offer. Please visit the link below for a guide to the books that may be on offer at the fair.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.ie/travelling-books/the-books>

Parents can buy gift vouchers online ahead of the Book Fair to avoid handling cash. Vouchers can be purchased until midnight the day before your Book Fair is

collected. Find out more on [our gift vouchers page](#)

Fair ID - 1301209 - should you be asked for the same if pre-paying online.

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to help out at the fair.

Run Around Europe

The school will be taking part in the Active Schools competition 'Run Around Europe'. Each class will aim to go for a run every day for the next month. We will add everyone's distances together to reach different locations around Europe. **We would ask that all students wear their tracksuits/ runners for the next few weeks to accommodate our Run Around Europe.**

Congratulations

Well done to Emily O'Connor who took part in the Interschools Horse riding Jumping Competition. Emily cleared the round and came home with a 4th place rosette. Great work Emily - keep it up!

Ireland Reads Day on Saturday, the 24 th of February is almost here!

The aim is to get everyone to 'get lost in a good book' on the 24th of February, Ireland Reads Day – whether that's reading a book, a newspaper, a comic – whatever works. There are lots of events taking place in libraries across the country too so please visit **www.irelandreads.ie**, or check in with your local library.

Ireland Reads is a campaign from Irish libraries, Adult Literacy for Life, Children's Books Ireland, Age Friendly Ireland,

booksellers, publishers and others to get the whole country reading. This is an initiative of the government of Ireland funded by Healthy Ireland.

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 3: Saturday 24th February @ 7pm

Dates to note:

First Confession

Monday 26th February @ 7pm

Service of Light

Monday 15th April @ 7pm

School closure - Referendum

Friday 8th March

Confirmation

Friday April 19th 2024

Communion

Saturday 11th May 2024

Sports Day (An Tochar GAA Complex)

Wednesday 19th June

Graduation for 6th class
Thursday 27th June at 11.30am

Parents Association

What's On this Week from the PA?

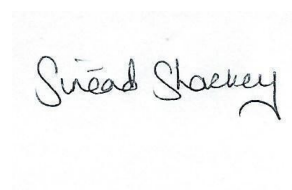
Upcoming Events

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.

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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.