



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

March 6th 2024

Our **TOCHAR** Values
We aim High

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

Dear parents/guardians,

The school is buzzing at the moment and we are excelling in all that we do! Our school motto is We Aim High and we are certainly achieving this aim at the moment! This Friday night some staff will attend the **Cumann na mBunscol Awards Ceremony** on behalf of the whole school. As noted before, we will be receiving two awards in the categories of Large School of the Year and Promotion of GAA and Culture. These are national awards and to be nominated for prizes in two categories is a phenomenal achievement for our school here in Roundwood. What a school and what a community to be a part of!

Credit Union Quiz Winners!

For the 2nd year in-a-row, Roundwood NS has qualified for the All Ireland final of the Primary Schools' Quiz in the RDS, Dublin. Last Sunday at the Riverside Park Hotel in Enniscorthy, our U11 team won their

regional final to qualify for the All Ireland final on the 7th of April. They finished an astonishing 8 points ahead of the 2nd placed school from Co. Kilkenny. We congratulate the children involved on their wonderful achievement and are really looking forward to supporting the children in the RDS in a few weeks time.

Congratulations to **Mark Ichim, Conor Carpenter, Amelia Power** and **Matthew Doyle**. We also highly commend our substitutes **Roisín Donelon** and **Michael Fanning** who also worked equally hard and who have shown great dedication attending quiz practice sessions and learning facts at home. Well done to you all! A big thank you also to Mr Flood who has been busy preparing the children for the quizzes - all the hard work for

Important - School Closure

The school will be closed for all pupils on **Monday 29th April** for teacher training for the Primary Maths Curriculum.

World Book Day Dress Up

All children are invited to dress up tomorrow, Thursday 7th March for World Book Day. Please do not go to any expense - some of the best costumes are to be found at the back of the wardrobe! The focus of the day is to think about literacy characters which are important to children. Even one aspect of a character is enough - a hairstyle / hat etc.

Book Fair

Our book fair is continuing on until tomorrow if children would still like to purchase books.

Lá Glas

On 15th March, we will have our annual Lá Glas. On this day, children are encouraged to come into school dressed in green! It's always a fun day. This year's Lá Glas is a PA Fundraiser in aid of Local Men's Shed who have been involved in many projects within the school.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to **Jessie O'Connor** in 6th class who won a bronze medal in the Leinsters (800m) and last week got the star award from Wicklow Athletics for being the best female athlete in the U13-U16 category. An amazing achievement for an amazing athlete - Well done again Jessie!

Anti-Bullying Strategy

As part of our anti-bullying strategy, pupils from 1st to 6th classes are asked to complete sociograms. These occur twice yearly in classes but more frequently if the teacher feels there is a need to. The information from these sociograms helps us to ensure that all pupils are coming to school in a safe environment and that supports are in place for all. **We do not tolerate bullying in any form in our school** and we rely on our children to help us to understand what is going on within classes. Please see our Anti-Bullying

Policy on our website for further information.

GAA Blitz Boys

Our 5th and 6th class boys attended a GAA blitz in Bray Emmets. A great day was had by all. These inter-school blitzes are a wonderful opportunity for pupils to develop their GAA skills. A big thank you to the parent volunteers who attended on the day to make the day possible.

Class Distribution 2024-25

The Department of Education has released the staffing schedule for the 2024/25 school year. We are beginning our class distribution procedure as per our policy which can be viewed on our website www.roundwoodns.ie. Details on class groupings for the next academic year will be finalised at the end of term 3.

Home Learning Survey - see attached document

Engaged in Learning

This month our An Tochar Value is focusing on our value of **Engagement in Learning** and what that means or looks like in our learning spaces. At our last assembly Ms. Kelly showed us the pictures below and asked everyone in the assembly hall **'How many students are engaged in their learning in these pictures?'** Many students and staff counted all the students with their hands up or the students looking at the teacher, as they thought these students 'looked' to be more engaged than the others. The truth is that we don't know! Some students might have their hands up, as they have a message to tell the teacher or

they want to go to the bathroom or they have a pain in their tummy. The truth is, engagement in learning looks different for each of us, as we are all different types of learners, who learn in different ways through our senses. Some people learn through touch, some through movement, some through seeing and others through doing. The importance of our value of **Engagement in Learning** is that we understand **WHY** we are learning something new. As a community we aim to build a love of learning for our students/ children, so that they wish to improve for themselves and begin to see learning as a lifelong process, that doesn't begin and end when the school bell rings. After all at St Laurence O'Toole's **We Aim High**

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.**

After Schools Club - Choir

Ms Healy will be running an after school choir for children from 1st-6th class beginning after the Easter break. The choir will give children an opportunity to come together to sing a variety of different genres of music and have fun! Please contact Ms Healy on singaloud24@gmail.com for more details.

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 7th March - 7pm

Dates to note:

Leabhar Power

World Dress up day **7th March**

School closure - Referendum

Friday 8th March

Service of Light

Monday 15th April @ 7pm

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

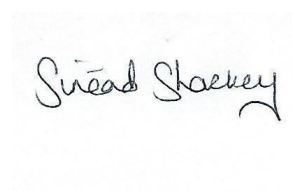
Please click on the following link or check

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.

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 (DDL) 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.