



## St. Paul's National School Easter Newsletter 2013



At the end of each term I wonder where the time goes and this term was no different! There is so much going on every week that it is getting difficult to fit everything in! Thank you to all our teachers for their efforts in involving the children in the many, many activities going on in the school. Confession, Confirmation, sporting events, choir, Cór Fhéile, Seachtain na Gaeilge... all require enormous effort and planning. The teachers continuously give so willingly and generously of their time after school and during lunch time to work with our children and I want to say thank you to them all for giving our children these opportunities, in addition to an excellent education!! I hope you all have a lovely Easter.

*Morag McGowan*

### St. Paul's First Confirmation Year

The schools' first ever Confirmation took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> February at 11am. All 43 of our children were extremely well prepared thanks to their teachers Mr Roe and Ms Kieran. The ceremony was delivered by Bishop Michael Smith and many of our 5<sup>th</sup> class children performed beautifully in the choir on the day. The Parents' Association hosted a party afterwards in the School Hall where family and friends could come along to relax. A special thank you to everybody who helped out on the day. Congratulations to the children who very kindly donated a total of €330 to Temple Street Children's Hospital and The Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Well done!

### Community Games Art and Handwriting Competition Results

Congratulations to medal winners Tyler Arkesteijn, Finn Mooney, Ava Nolan, Paul Tynan and Lucas Longi and to certificate winners Nathan Kelly, Joshua Lyons, Jamie McHugh, Darragh Grennan, Rachel Hue Conway, Fionn Nolan, Abby Hesse Mason, Regina McDonnell, Sean McNeill, John Redmond and Luke Tynan.

### Sport

It has been a very busy, exciting and successful sporting term for St. Paul's. As always **Olympic Handball** has been extremely popular with the boys and girls, with class leagues running throughout the year during lunch time. The Olympic Handball teams have had a great season so far and have shown great enthusiasm, dedication and teamwork. One of the sporting highlights of the year for the school is undoubtedly our hosting of the local qualifying tournament for the Meath Championships. Held over two days in our school hall, our U10 and U11 teams competed against Skryne NS, Robinstown NS, Gilson NS and Carlanstown NS, in a very sporting and enjoyable tournament. All our teams successfully qualified for the final stages of the tournament. The girls and boys U10 teams performed really well in the--tir finals with the girls winning their competition and the boys coming in second overall in the Meath Olympic Handball Finals. The U11 finals will be held after Easter. St Paul's was also represented on the soccer fields this term with our senior boys and girls teams competing in the **FAI five a side soccer** tournament in Navan recently. Both teams recorded victories in their respective groups and were very unlucky to miss out on knock on places in what is a very competitive tournament. **Gaelic football** season is also in full flow. All the boys and girls that have been out training at lunch time and after school in Ratoath GAA club in preparation for their various competitions. We are particularly proud of our girls team who played their very first match recently and competed extremely well in the **Mini Sevens** tournament earning a win against Rathbeggan NS along the way. Speaking of mini sevens, our boys team won their local area qualifying tournament and qualified for the county finals. They defeated St.Declan's Ashbourne, St Mary's Ashbourne, Cushinstown and drew with Duleek BNS to ensure qualification. The Finals were held in Dunganny on the 21<sup>st</sup> March. The team played brilliantly but lost by a narrow margin. **The Athletics Team** had a recent cross county event in Athboy. The team showed great spirit and finished on a high.



### Seachtain na Gaeilge

Ms O'Connor did a fantastic job hosting our Seachtain na Gaeilge which took place from 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March. A variety of activities took place at the school with the páistí. We finished the week on Friday with a Lá Glas. Photos can be seen on the school website.

Congratulations to Ms Crowe who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl Ellie in February.

Check out our website for Easter Bunny Photos!!

### St. Patrick's Day

We would like to thank the Parents' Association who arranged the school's participation in the St. Patrick's day parade. The theme of the parade this year was "Times Gone Past". Photos are up on [www.stpaulsratoath.ie](http://www.stpaulsratoath.ie)

### Cór Fhéile

The school decided to participate once again in Cór Fhéile this year. We had two acts performing - The performance choir lead by Ms Hession and Ms Kieran and Mr Roe's and Ms Kieran's classes were outstanding on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> March in the Tallaght Basketball arena. Our performance choir sang Trasna na dTonnta, Rolling in the Deep and Help!! Mr Roe's and Ms Kieran's children performed Greasaí Brog, Rock Meadley and Little Talks!! A huge thank you goes to the teachers involved and to the parents who supported the school on the night.

### First Confession and First Holy Communion

Second Class children made their First Confession on 7th March. The children were well prepared and very well behaved. We are all looking forward to the First Holy Communion on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May.

### Swimming

Swimming for JI, SI and 1<sup>st</sup> class and 3<sup>rd</sup> class children will commence on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

### Rugby

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> class children have just finished their 6 week rugby lessons. Thank you to Darren for coming to the school each Tuesday.

### Internet Safety

Our 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class students were given an internet safety talk by Garda Aisling which was a very useful exercise. Some parents had expressed concerns regarding Internet Safety in the home and so, a very worthwhile and interesting talk by Garda Aisling was arranged on the subject for parents of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Congratulations to all the children who missed no days this term

Sophia Read, Katie Doherty, Lauren Mavimpi Kimbondo, Megan Murray, Emily Pullen, Gavin Daly, Robert Hayes, Dylan Wright, Isabel Byrne, Mia Grattan, Lauren McKenna, Molly Murray, Eva Murray, Aoife O'Beara, Seán Coleman, Pearse Conway, Kevin Cunningham, Tom McCormack, Dennis Olaru, Dylan Taylor, Katie Burke, Saoirse Carrigan, Ruby Coatsworth, Katie Grogan, Éinin Murphy, Ava Prendergast, Harry Bogan, Oran Corboy, Alex Knowles, Ross McNally, Evan Sherry, Grace Kelly, Genna Keogh, Cara O'Sullivan, Danny Bush, Conor Keating, Charlie McCue, Jonathan McDonnell, Mark Ward, Ella Clarke, Mia Foley, Conor Daughton, Kyle Donohoe, Saul Harris, Charlie Jackson, Conor Shirley, Bobby Smith, Ciara Coroner, Ruby Daly, Tazim Ibrahim, Zara Lynch, Aaron Bizzell, Matthew Braiden, Conor Ferguson, Charlie Hodgins, Jonathan Kaya, Darragh Lyons, Ronan Prendergast, Céilim Ryan, Caitlin Carrigan, Danielle Connolly, Lauren Dolan, Sara Paval, Laiqa Saeed, Tyler Arkesteijn, Ryan Dunne, Darragh Larkin, Joshua Lyons, Jamie McHugh, Eoin Read, Sophie Cameron, Lauren Clancy, Abi Colgan, Chloe Kenny, Amy Kinsella, Eline Lund, Katie Smyth, Sarah Thomas, Adam Brady, Ben Devine, Liam Fraser, Kiran Joseph, Alex Kinsella, Seán Mulvaney, Noah Reilly, Taigh Walsh, Anastasia Baczkowski, Ella Byrne, Sarah Fox, Saoirse Lynch, Corína Wade, Luke Colgan, Ross Farrell, Lee Gallagher, Seán Harte, Hannah Cronolly, Charlotte Hue Hurley, Mia McGreevy, Bronagh O'Sullivan, Andrea Styles, Naoise Tyrrell, Sonny Byrne, Liam Corbett, Brandon Doran, Ilya Ignatov, Dara Kavanagh, Sean Phelan, Lucas White, Alicia Cunningham, Rebecca Fennessy Manley, Meg Johnson, Leyla Kaya, Erin Smith, Ruairí Braiden, Conor Harte, Wafiq Ibrahim, Alan Kearns, Seán Kennedy, Adam Leeson, Jack Tormey, Ryan Walsh, Oliver Walter, Shauna Cantwell, Rachel Hue Conway, Grace Lan Conway, Niamh Gibson, Lauren Grattan, Helen Jenkins, Robyn O'Callaghan, Zoe Preece, Leo Bergin, Reuben Byrne, Seán Corbett, Eoin Drysdale, Daire McCourt, Michael Ohoka, Oscar Robinson McCarthy, Danielius Simonavicius, Elizabeth Martin, Erin Prendergast, Ciara Coleman, Senan Byrne, Ryan Foley, Seán Goggin, Christopher Haskins, Alex Hesse Mason, Will Lanigan, Harry Reilly, Vincent White, Aimee Doherty, Becky Lee Finch, Lauren Hu, Karen Mavimpi, Aoife Rutherford, Samuel Carroll, Max Daly, Mintaras Matijosaitis, Josh Mulcahy, Aaron Prendergast, Adam Sherry, Erin Byrne, Ella Clancy, Katie Cotter, Emma Dunne, Blessing Duruanyawu, Adam Cameron, Nathan Kelly, Paul Tynan, Leah Barniville, Eve Drysdale, Laura Jenkins, Emily Keeley, Ábha McBride, Laoise Murphy, Evan Cantwell, Matthew Hayes, Emily Foster, Ella McGoldrick, Julia Read, Yasmin Kaya, Garrett Coey, Ryan Doherty, Adam Jackson, Cian Temple, Katie O'Reilly, Ameera Saeed, Genevieve Sload, Bogdan Baturon, Ross Coatsworth, Karlin David, Andrew Maguire, Mathieu Sevestre, Finn Turner, Leah Caffrey, Aoife Dardis, Rachel Doherty, Varsha Joseph, Lauren Kelly, Tracy Kimbondo, Emma Moore, Dylan Devine, Cain Fagan, Adam Goggin, Luke Huynh Hurley, Mollie Kennedy, Lara Power, Sophie Scattergood, Evan Eiffe, Max McGreevy, Daniel Ohoka, Radu Olaru, John Redmond, Lillian Brady, Aoife Cunningham, Niamh Larkin, Darragh Harte, Conor Phelan, Frankie Read, Alexandra Ghiorgi,ta, Emma McCamley, Riona Murphy, Harry Haskins, Roisin Tierney, Harry Bailey, Cillian Byrne, Conor Daly, Conor Knowles, Jared Molphy, Cian O'Keefe, Royale Ohoka, Jamie Reynolds, Colm Sevestre.