



St. Anne's National School

Roll No; 19317K

Newsletter February 2024

Enrolments

We are accepting enrolments for Junior Infants 2024/25 until 1st of March. Go to the "Enrolments" section of our website at stannesns.weebly.com to find our Annual Admission Statement, Admission Policy and Enrolment Forms. Alternatively, enrolment forms can be collected from Jenny in the school office.

Christmas Fundraisers

Thanks to all who supported our bucket collection at the Christmas Carol Service. Over €350 was raised for Crumlin Children's Hospital.

Greenschools News

Coill na nÓg is a native tree and hedgerow planting initiative delivered by Biodiversity in Schools and funded by a selection of county councils across the island of Ireland. Our School received 9 bare-rooted trees to create a mini-woodland or Coill na nÓg (Wood of the Youth). 3rd class, with the help of Nicky, our caretaker, planted oak, hazel, hawthorn, silver birch, rowan and alder trees on the 12th December 2023.

Last week the Greenschools Committee hosted an **Action Day** on 26th Jan '24 for our **Global Citizenship – Litter and Waste Flag**.

We are learning about the ways we are connected with people and communities around the world. Our aim is to be active citizens and to find ways to work together to create a more fair and sustainable world.

Junior Assembly Topics: Composting, recycling, Global Connections survey, Picker Pals-Litter Picking
Senior Assembly Topics: Global Goals, Fair Trade, Circular Economy, Yard Cleaning Committee.

Sustainable Development Goals

These are 17 goals and targets that outline a vision for the future, for people and the planet. These goals have the power to end poverty, fight inequality and stop climate change.

6th Class told us about goal no.6 which is all about ensuring everyone has access to Clean Water & Sanitation. We can all help by conserving water, spreading awareness and supporting organisations like Kersia and Impact Water Foundation. We will be doing fundraising in our school to help them provide clean water and proper sanitation facilities to ten schools in Kenya.

5th Class shared information on goal no.15 Life on Land. We heard about desertification and why it's important to take care of the environment.

4th Class "Before we have finished eating breakfast in the morning, we have depended on more than half the world!" They told us about Fair Trade which means people get fairly treated & fairly paid for their work.

3rd Class told us about the Circular Economy. We need to try to reuse things instead of throwing them away!

2nd Class informed us of their ongoing Litter Picking adventures with the Picker Pals. "The earth is our island and we all have to try and make the world a better place". Important message: **PLEASE DON'T LITTER!**

1st Class & Senior Infants looked at the connections we have with people all around the world. They looked at where drinks, food, clothes are made as well as connections with famous sports stars, singers and holidays around the world.

Ms. Lacey and Mrs. Clancy's classes reminded us about what goes in our recycling and compost bins. We are trying to **reduce** what goes in our rubbish bins.

Recycle as much cardboard, paper and plastic as possible in the classrooms and at home. Make sure it is clean and dry. As it is not practical to wash out yogurt cartons etc in the classroom, children are **bringing these home to wash and recycle**. **Compost** fruit cores etc. and pencil toppings. Please continue to collect used **batteries** and send them into school to be **recycled**. This is good for the environment and also helps the children's hospice LauraLynn.

We can all work together to make a positive impact on the planet and ensure a better future for all!

Our School's Green Code for GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP (with poetic licence!)

Green Schools	CHILDREN
Light up the world & clean the	It's
Oceans. Normal people	Time
Benefitting	Everyone
All	Zoned
Living Things.	In on
	Necessary
	Sustainability and
	Health
	In order to save the
	Planet!

A huge thank you to Cliona Connolly, Wexford County Council's Environmental Officer, for visiting our school on Thursday 1st February '24. She met the Greenschools Committee and heard all about their hard work promoting Global Citizenship-Litter and Waste. She was very impressed with all the work being done in our school! Maith sibh!

An environmentally friendly "Greener Cleaning" booklet is being sent home with this newsletter for each family. Happy Spring Cleaning!!

Spanish Lessons

Spanish lessons for pupils in 3rd -6th classes began on 31st of January and will continue for 8 weeks. Our tutor is called Ernesto from "Ola Languages" and we are delighted to have secured his services. The lessons are funded by a grant we applied for from the Department of Education before the summer holidays.

Active Schools/Health-Promoting News

Happy new year to you all from the Active schools .We began 2024 with **Step into January** and now hope to move on to Flipping February and Marathon March. In **Flipping February** we will focus on the dance with "Go Noodle" and "Just Dance" and the fundamental movement Sidestepping. We will also concentrate on tumbling head over heels. **Marathon March** will see us progress from walking in January to our running initiative for the year where we will try to improve our running ability. We are also bringing back the ever popular "**Walk it Wednesday**" with juniors walking around the school and seniors walking around the pitches. We also hope to do a Walk a Week for each class .This means that each class will have to commit to do at least one walk a week where one

child will be used as the tracker child for the class. Using their Fitbit, we will tally the steps for the walk and we hope to hit 50,000 steps a week for the school. A chart will be put up on the Active School board and each class will fill in their steps. For this term also, we hope to focus on an exercise a week to build strength and endurance.

We will begin with the plank. We hope every class will do a plank a day for a minute at least. The Active School Committee will announce the new exercise every week and it will be displayed on the Active Board. We will also run a competition in the coming months to decorate our board. Here's to another great year of good health and activity.

Bookfair 2023

The children really enjoyed the Bookfair in November and thanks to all the parents who supported it this year. We have a total of €4000 now with the Celtic Travelling Bookfair company. We have been able to buy new novels for all the classes, sets of books for the Book club and some non-fiction books for some classes.

Debating 2023/24

Our School debating is in full swing. 6th Class are doing tremendous work. In November, we had our first debate in the league against Murrintown. The motion was 'School Should be a 4 day week.' Both teams of Ruby Moore, Eoin Wadding, Doireann Geelan, Saoirse Drumm, Beth Arnold and Arwen O'Connor were amazing on the day and showed excellent debating skills. We then moved on to the next debate against Danescastle which was held on 24th of January. The motion was 'Farmers need to reduce their herds in Ireland to protect the environment.'" Our two teams of Logan, Elijah, Sadye, Ruby, Eoin and Doireann performed brilliantly and we secured a win and a draw against the two Bannow teams. Our next debate will be against Kennedy Park NS.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 5th of February- school closed for Bank Holiday
- Thursday 15th and Friday 16th of February- school closed for Midterm Break
- Thursday 29th of February- School closed - teacher training day in Primary Maths Curriculum
- March 18th- school closed for Bank Holiday
- Friday 22nd of March- school closes at 12 noon for Easter Holidays
- Monday April 8th – school reopens for Term 3