

January Newsletter 2020

Confirmation Enrolment Mass

The pupils from 6th Class who are making their Confirmation on the 28th of April will have their enrolment Mass on Sunday 2nd of February at 12 noon.

Gaelic Football:

The boys and girls of 5th and 6th class have started back playing Gaelic football for the new decade at lunch time on Wednesdays. The girls and boys mix together for the drills and mini-games until being divided up into teams for backs and forwards and goal kicking. The skills and coordination on show have vastly improved since the beginning of the year and both teams will be strong contenders in any competitive games they are involved in as the weather improves towards the summer. Well done to all participants!

Rugby:

The children in the Tubber Road from 3rd to 6th class have been taking part in rugby on Tuesday mornings with a qualified and experienced rugby coach. The children have been enjoying playing interactive passing and handling games, as well as taking each other on in competitive games of touch rugby. Despite the rules being difficult to grasp and numerous, the children have embraced the code with open arms and are learning with every session. Well done, boys and girls!!

Church Gate Collection

The Annual Church Gate Collection takes place over the 7th and 8th of March. If anyone is free to help over that weekend at Mass times please contact the school. Your help would be much appreciated.

Attendance

A gentle reminder for all pupils to be on time coming to school every morning. It is very disruptive for everyone when children are late arriving for school. Please also ensure a note is sent to the class teacher if your child is absent from school. The school attendance policy is as follows: When a child has reached 5 days absent the class teacher will make a phone call to the parents. A letter will be posted to the child's parents at 10 days absent. At 15 days absent a meeting will be arranged with the Principal. At 20 days absent a referral will be sent to the Educational Welfare Officer. This is in line with DES policy.

Enrolments for 2020/2021

Enrolment forms are available for pupils starting in Junior Infants in September 2020. Please contact the school if you require a form. If you know of anyone who would be interested in enrolling in Gort NS it would be much appreciated if you could ask them to make contact with the school.

School Closures

Mid-Term Break	Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st February 2020
St Patrick's Day	Tuesday 17 th of March 2020
Easter Holidays	Monday 6 th of April to Friday 17 th of April 2020 (inclusive)

Sacraments

First Confession	Thursday 12 th of March @ 1:15 in St Colman's Church Gort
Confirmation	Tuesday 28 th of April @ 11:00 in St Colman's Church Gort
First Holy Communion	Saturday 9 th of May @ 11:00 in St Colman's Church Gort

Christmas Food Appeal

A letter of thanks was received from the organisers of the Christmas Food Appeal. Over one hundred hampers were distributed in the community. They would like to thank the pupils, parents and staff of Gort NS for their support.

Irish Dancing

Irish Dancing resumed on Tuesday 14th of January for another ten weeks for Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st Class and 2nd Class.

PLC Training

The teaching staff of Gort National School attended training on the Primary Language Curriculum on the 15th of January 2020.

Musical

Pupils from 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes attended the musical "We will rock you" in Gort Community School on the 16th of January. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for the pupils and it was great to see so many of our past pupils on stage.

Peace Proms

Once again a group of children (from 3rd – 6th Class) made the trip to NUIG on Sunday 26th of January to perform in the Peace Proms. The children sang and danced brilliantly. They got to see the orchestra, watch the dancers and to hear some fantastic solo singers. It was a lovely musical experience for all involved. Thanks to Mrs Grehan, Mrs Gantley, Mrs Cummins and Ms Stanford for accompanying the children on the day.

Burren Beo

Burren Beo are working with 5th class every Thursday morning for nine weeks. The children are really enjoying learning all about their locality, the local monuments and the geology of the area. We are very lucky to have been chosen in this very worthwhile project and look forward to completing our Aitbheo Place Book and graduating as Place Heros!

Credit Union Quiz

Best of luck to both teams who will be taking part in the Credit Union Table Quiz in Sullivans on Friday 31st of January. The children have been coming together to work on their quiz questions and facts. Go n-éirí go geal leo!

Parking and Access to Convent Building

Please do not drive into the bank car park as this is for bank staff only. Please do not drive into the staff car park. Please park on Queen Street and walk your child in to the school. It is very dangerous and parent's cars are blocking access for others when they drive in.

Election 2020

As canvassers visit your homes prior to the election it would be timely to remind them that our new school building in Gort NS is a priority.