



# SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

St. John the Baptist PS 02890614546

## February 2019

### Catholic Schools Week 2019

Mrs. Harriott and all the staff would like to thank everyone for their enthusiastic support for Catholic Schools Week.

We were very grateful to the many visitors who came to school to share their experiences with the children. The children were not shy in asking questions of our visitors; Sister Maire (Adoration Convent, Falls Road), Brendan Dineen from Clonard Youth, Marie from Trocaire and Ciaran from the Welcome Organisation.

Grandparents Day was a great success.

May we take this opportunity to thank all grandparents and extended family members who joined the children in activities in the classrooms ranging from making St Brigid's crosses with Mr McCrystal, quizzes with Ms Heatley, Bingo with Mrs. Harriott and lots of fun in P.1 & 2.

Special thanks go to Mrs Harriott and Patsy for organising the week of events. We would like to give our P.7s a special mention. They were fantastic guides on Grandparents' Day. Many of our visitors commented on their wonderful manners and what great ambassadors they were for the school!



### The Wonderful World of Owls

On Tuesday 5th February Primary 5 had real treat when Mike from the World of Owls visited.

He introduced the children to Bowie the Barn Owl or Tyto Alba, to give him his Latin name. We also got to meet Harley, an Eurasian Eagle Owl!

The owls were so impressive. They flew around the assembly hall. It was amazing because when owls fly they don't make a sound. That's what makes them such effective predators.

However, the best part was when some lucky girls and boys got to hold Harley! They had to wear a special glove because his talons were very sharp. He was so beautiful when you saw him up close. The children learnt lots of fascinating facts - including the fact that owls are nocturnal, there are only three species of owls living in Ireland. Also only one species of Owl says tu-whit- tu-whoo; that's the Tawney Owl!

At the end of the presentation P.5 got to see some reptiles and beetles- and even got to hold a Bearded Dragon!

Thank you to the Wonderful World of Owls! We enjoyed every minute!



### Holidays 2018/19-

#### School Closures for Pupils

**Mid-Term Break** – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

School closed for St Patrick's Day- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March

#### Dates for your diary

**Service of Light and Commitment-**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March @5pm St. Michael's Church

**Confirmation** – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 11am



If you are entitled please remember to register for Free School Meals. Contact office for details – 90 614546

## Mr Pollock – Black board Award Nominee!



We are immensely proud of Mr Pollock who was nominated for the Blackboard Awards. Mr Pollock an outstanding young teacher who is committed to achieving the best outcomes for our children in all areas of the curriculum. His achievements in promoting sport in the school in the school have been remarkable. He has truly been an inspiration to the children – developing their sporting skills, resilience and promoting physical and mental well-being.

**We are also delighted to announce that the school has now been awarded GAA 5 STAR Status!**

### Thank you Parents!

A massive thank you to all our parents for supporting all our sponsored events. This has enabled us to purchase much needed new Gymnastics equipment!



## Drama with Mrs Smyth from St Louise's

Over a series of Wednesdays our P.4s are participating in Drama sessions run by Mrs Smyth from St Louise's Comprehensive College.



This is a wonderful opportunity for the child to develop their confidence and drama skills. We would like to thank Mrs Smyth for giving so generously of her time.

### Handball Champions!

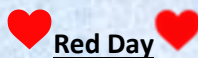
Congratulations to Oran Stevenson (P.7) winner of Antrim Singles Handball Championship. And well done to Conor Stewart(P.4) his doubles partner.

Oran and Conor competed together in the 'Antrim handball doubles Championship.'

Oran won the 'Antrim Primary Schools' Singles Title.'

Oran now moves on to represent the school and county in the 'Ulster Singles Championship.'

Aspire, Believe, Achieve!



**Red Day**

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we will be having a non-uniform day to raise money for school funds.

The children will pay a voluntary contribution of £1 and wear red to school on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February.**



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