



5th March 2018

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

What a terrific few days the children have had in the snow! Lots of stories this morning about snowmen taller than themselves and 'sliding on cushions in plastic bags' and snowball fights etc.! As a 10th anniversary school memory, we couldn't have asked for better! Please send in any nice photos to the school office as we intend to make a 'wall' of the 10th year of the school and all the events that took place! Already some children are writing songs and making posters for competitions in honour of our 10th year!

The school will be closed for staff training on Friday, the 9th, although the school office will remain open, should you wish to sort out payments etc. with Liz or Aideen.

St. Patrick's Day

Next week is a full week, while the following week is another short week, due to the 19th being a Bank Holiday for St. Patrick's Day. Caroline and the P.A. are organising our school's entry in the Greystones Parade this year, so please make contact with the P.A. and prepare the 'Space' theme for entry. Our school has been assigned number 22 and everyone will have to be in position by 11:30 a.m. at the very latest. Position 22 can be found outside the South Beach car park.

Easter

Easter holidays will commence at the end of that week, very early indeed this year. We would like to give a HUGE thanks to Cora and Misha's Grandmother who knitted 250 little chicken chocolate egg covers (and included the eggs) for fundraising for the school. You will see a photo of them in our Easter newsletter. Thank you June!

Green Schools

The Green School Committee organised a fantastic Action week which kicked off on the 19th of February. Every class got involved and participated in projects, awareness campaigns and energy workshops. Students were encouraged to walk, scoot, cycle or car and stride to school and the committee were delighted to see a huge improvement in energy efficient travel amongst all the year groups.

The action week ended with 'The Greenie Awards 2018'. The Green School Committee hosted the awards show at Friday's assembly and the 'Golden Boots' were awarded to:
Emmett's 2nd class for Most Improved Class

Laura's 4th for Best Overall Class

Teacher Luke for Best Teacher (he cycles a long distance to school)

Congratulations to all the winners and we hope that the community will continue their efforts walking, scooting and park and striding to school. Thank you to teacher Laura Kenny for co-ordinating these fun events.



GREYSTONES
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Child Safeguarding Statement (CSS)

All staff have completed their training on the new guidelines on Child Protection, during the exceptional school closure for the snow days. This is an e-learning programme and can be accessed on the Tusla website. Staff now have to prepare a CSS which then has to be made available to the P.A., the Patron and the DES. This is the school's statement outlining the potential 'risk of harm' to children in the school and the procedures and policies in place in our school to minimise or eliminate such potential risk. We are in the process of discussion on this and we hope to bring it to the Board asap. This will then be posted at the Entrances to the School and will be made available for any parent to access. Going forward, for every Board meeting, the Principal will be expected to complete a Child Protection Oversight report (CPOR) which will inform the Board of any reports or concerns around Child Protection and alleged Bullying, since the previous meeting.

ALUMINIUM collection

We are planning to have a skip in the school grounds over the Easter holidays for the collection of aluminium items. There will be a list on our website of what items is acceptable. This ties in with our 10 year celebration as 'metal' is the product that traditionally celebrates a 10th anniversary.

Teachers will do a lesson with the children on 'metal' products, and we can start collecting 'copper' coins also, as a very achievable fundraiser this year. With over 400 students in the school, if every one of them collected a small bag of copper coins we should raise at least 1000 euro!

Principal Catherine and the ISM team.