



*Scoil Náisiúnta an Easpaig Ó Gealbháin*  
*Bishop Galvin National School*  
*Orwell Park, Templeogue, Dublin 6W*  
*Tel: 4566652 Fax: 4567066*  
*E-mail: principal@bishopgalvin.com*

### **Notice Board**

- School is closed for the February mid-term from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> (inclusive)
- Entrance assessment for St. Mac Dara's takes place on Wednesday next, 1<sup>st</sup> February. Arrangements for collection of pupils from 6<sup>th</sup> class who will be attending St. Mac Dara's have already been sent home.
- Storyteller, Niall de Búrca visits the school to entertain pupils with some tall stories on Friday next, 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
- The photographer will visit the school on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> to take photographs of the sixth classes for inclusion in their Confirmation booklets. Full school uniform (not tracksuits) should be worn.
- Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> is the Cake Sale. Check the website for details.
- The Parents Association are holding a "Help Me to Parent" talk on Wednesday evening, March 7<sup>th</sup> in BGNS school hall. The presenter is Martine Newe. It's aimed at parents of 4 - 11 year olds. Topics will include positive parenting and positive discipline, the importance of play and special time, the power of encouragement, establishing rules, using consequences and parental self-care. Check the website for more information.
- *Accord* will visit the fifth (Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February) and sixth classes (Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>, February) as part of our Relationships and Sexuality Programme.
- This week is Catholic Schools Week. The Theme is *Christ's Living Body Active in Our World*
- The *Book Fair* takes place in the school this week. Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> is open night from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.
- Well done to our Chess Players Leo, Billy, Dylan, Kevin, Valentine and Francis who won medals recently at the Dublin Community Games Chess Competition. Check the website for more.
- February 25<sup>th</sup> 2012 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bishop Galvin's arrival in China. The children will be learning about this great event. A slide show on Bishop Galvin will be uploaded on the website nearer the date.
- We send our condolences to Mrs. Colgan and her family on the death of her father, who died last month. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

### **RSE**

Relationships and Sexuality Education is an integral part of Social, Personal *and* Health Education in schools. It provides structured opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding of human sexuality and relationships in an age appropriate manner.

The RSE programme in BGNS will be covered by all classes in the month of February. A copy of the schools RSE policy is available on the school website on [www.bishopgalvin.ie](http://www.bishopgalvin.ie). Follow the link to Downloads.

As part of the programme, *Accord* will visit the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes later in the month. A note will be sent to parents in the coming week.

### **Leaving School Early**

Children who leave school before normal collection time must be "signed out" in the office. If a child is being collected by a person other than a parent or guardian, a note from the parent / guardian is required. They will not be released to older brothers or sisters unless a note clearly stating this arrangement is sent to the class teacher.

The school realises that taking children out of school early is sometimes necessary. If it is absolutely necessary to collect your child early, please let the class teacher know in advance so that the child can be ready for collection when you call. Children who are collected and returned to school will not be marked absent. However, children who are collected early and not returned to school will be marked absent in the roll book. We would appeal to parents not to take children out early, if at all possible.

### **DEAR Time**

DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time has been a tremendous success. Every person in the school now reads each morning at the same time. One could hear a pin drop in the school at this time with every person involved in one activity..... reading. Many thanks to all who sent books to the school library, ensuring children have a large selection of books to choose from. The Book Fair which is currently in the school will also give children and parents an opportunity to choose books for reading. If at all possible, please support the Book Fair. Open night is Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January from 7.30 pm to 8.30pm.

### **Numeracy**

As part our response to the *Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life*, each class in the school gives time each day to Mental Maths. We are currently targeting the Strand Unit *Shape and Space*. This covers 2 D Shapes, 3 D Shapes, Symmetry and Lines and Angles. You can help at home by visiting the school website and following the link to sites which can assist in developing these concepts. Click on Links and follow the tab to Maths.

Try <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

### **Board of Management (BOM)**

The BOM has formally adopted and implemented *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary School, 2011* which is based on *Children First: National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2011*. Copies of our "Child Protection Policy" are available from the school office. It can also be viewed on the website.

The Board also carried out a full review of Child Protection Procedures in the school in line with DES guidelines. This is also available on the website.

The updated Enrolment Policy can be viewed on the school website.

School Accounts have been audited as required by the DES. They are available in the school.

The BOM has been in contact with the Garda in relation to traffic management in the vicinity of the schools. Nearly 900 children come to the schools in the morning and a huge percentage come by car. We urge parents to consider the safety of all when dropping their children to school. If your child walks to school, please advise them to always cross the road under the supervision of the Traffic Wardens.

### **School Tours**

School Tours traditionally take place in May or June each year. Staff are currently organising tours for this year and details will be sent to you in the coming weeks. We will also advise of the cost and payment details to allow parents plan for the tours in advance.

### **Food Dudes**

Food Dudes is a programme to encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables in both school and at home. Children are encouraged to taste/ eat fruit and veg in school each day for 16 days. There are rewards for tasting and eating fruit and vegetables. It is designed to enable children to enjoy eating healthy diets. The programme has been shown to be effective and long lasting.

The school will participate in the programme during the month of March. Children will be given a small portion of fruit and veg to sample and eat. All portions will be pre-packed and delivered to the school each morning. More details will be sent home before the programme commences.

The programme has direct links to the SPHE Curriculum - Strand Unit Taking Care of My Body.

### **Visual Art Exhibition 2012 (April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup>)**

For many years the children of Bishop Galvin N.S. present art they have made in school, or at home, for exhibition. Every child is afforded the opportunity to exhibit at least one item. Parents have shown great support and encouragement to their children and acknowledged the work invested to produce such a high standard of art.

This year we would like to invite parents of children in Bishop Galvin N.S who have an artistic flair to exhibit *their art* with their children. Why not make it a family affair? If your secret passion is ceramics, wood turning, carpentry, metal work, knitting, weaving, silk painting, lace, flower arranging graphics, painting, sculpture, trained or untrained, amateur or professional, we would love to see your work. *Please* contact us. *Further information from Valerie at 4566652*