



6th April, 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

No Uniform Day: Tomorrow will be a No Uniform Day fundraiser for the Parent Association. Each pupil is encouraged to bring a €2 donation towards the Parent Association fund.

Parent Association: The Parent Association Committee recently participated in training for their role as members of the P.A. The P.A. will be providing refreshments for families in the Temperance Hall after the First Holy Communion ceremony on Saturday, 30th April and after the Confirmation ceremony on Saturday, 14th May.

World Book Day: Well done to all of the pupils who participated by dressing up as characters from their favourite book on 3rd March.

School Band: Well done to the pupils in 5th and 6th classes who at very short notice practised their marching and band tunes and subsequently participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was great to see the St. Patrick's Day Parade back again in Loughrea and it was wonderful that St. Ita's Band are keeping a 40-year-old tradition alive. Again, well done to all pupils and staff involved.

Seachtain na Gaeilge: This year's programme of events was back again after an absence of two year due to Covid-19. All classes performed in smaller than usual group settings in the school hall. Well done to all classes and thanks to the staff involved in the organisation of this event.

Volleyball - St. Ita's All Ireland Primary School Champions: St. Ita's were delighted to have secured an All-Ireland victory over Presentation School Thurles in an exciting final that took place in the University of Limerick on Monday, 21st March. This is the sixth time that St. Ita's have achieved this title. Following regional success, it was great to see two St. Ita's teams displaying such hard work and immense skill with one team reaching the semi-final and the other team getting to the final and lifting the cup. Well done to all of the girls in Sixth Class who participated in Volleyball and thank you to the staff involved in the coaching of this sport.

The Sisters of Mercy: On Thursday, 24th March we had a tree planting ceremony along with Readings, Prayers and Hymns to mark the departure of the Sisters of Mercy from Loughrea. The Sisters of Mercy arrived in Clonfert Diocese in 1850 and the Convent in Loughrea which was built in 1880 was the Mother House for the diocese. The Sisters of Mercy have been involved in Education in Loughrea since 1851 and have served the community with great dedication in the fields of Education, Health Care, Pastoral Care and Social Work. We thank them for their dedication and wish them well as they move to their new locations.

Religious Ceremonies: Please note the following dates and times regarding ceremonies for Catholic pupils:

- First Confession – Thursday, 7th April at 7 p.m. in St. Brendan's Cathedral
- First Holy Communion – Saturday, 30th April at 11 a.m. in St. Brendan's Cathedral
- Confirmation – Saturday, 14th May at 11 a.m. in St. Brendan's Cathedral.

Loughrea Parish Ukrainian Appeal: There will be a drop off at St. Ita's National School Hall between 4 – 6p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, 7th April in order to donate the following new or good as new items:

- Bedding
- Towels
- Toiletries

Please see the relevant page on Loughrea Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/ukrainianappeal/>.

Easter Holidays: The school will close on Friday, 8th and will re-open on Monday, 25th April 2022. Please take note of the following times that each class will go home:

11.30 - J.I.1 (Ms.Cleary), S.I.2 (Ms. Geraghty) & 3rd Class (Ms. O'Brien)

11.40 - J.I.3 (Ms. F.Mitchell), S.I.1 (Mr. Whelan), S.I.3 & 1st Class (Ms.Walsh) & 4th Class (Ms.Mitchell)

11.50 - J.I.2 (Ms. McDonagh), 1st & 2nd Class (Ms.Mahony) & 5th Class (Ms. Cormican)

12.00 - 4th Class (Ms. Ruane), 2nd Class (Mrs. Glynn) & 6th Class (Ms. Mannion)

On behalf of all of the Staff of St. Ita's N.S. I want to wish you all a Safe and Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Coyle, Principal.