

# GOOD SHEPHERD NS

## NEWSLETTER

EASTER 2026



### A Message From Ms Veale

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As our second term draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a very busy and rewarding few months. It has been a pleasure to see our corridors buzzing with energy, and we are so pleased with all the learning and the great sense of fun that has taken place across the school during Term 2.

Our school community is at its strongest when we work together. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents for your incredible support and generosity. Whether you were baking for the Cake Sale, helping us celebrate our national holiday by buying Shamrock, joining us for the Infant Breakfast and 2nd Class Parents' Morning, donating or buying tickets for our Easter raffle or sharing your culture and traditions during our vibrant Intercultural Day, your involvement helps create such wonderful memories for the children.

There is a wonderful sense of momentum in the air with so many new things happening across the school. While we all look forward to a well-deserved break, we are already preparing for a very busy and exciting Term 3 after the Easter holidays. We have plenty more in store for the final stretch of the school year!

I wish you and your families a restful, safe, and happy Easter. Beannachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léir!

Kind regards,  
Ms. Veale

### Intercultural Day

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of February our school had Intercultural Day. Each class had the opportunity to make projects about different countries and each project was displayed in the small hall on the day. Under most projects was a stand that had tasty food that you could try from that country. The food was brought in by the parents and kids that were from that particular country.



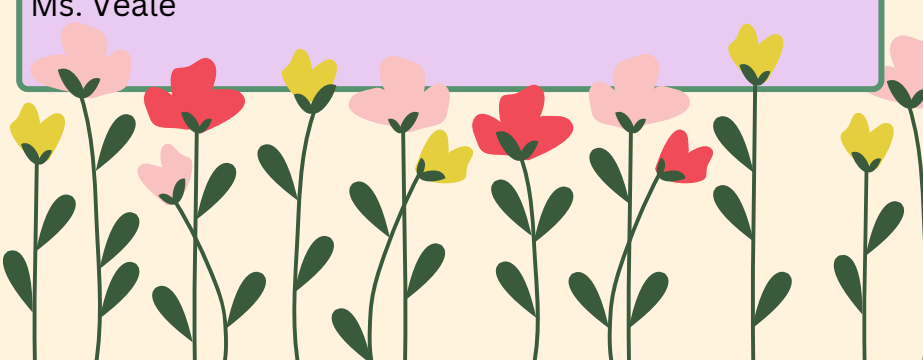
Many parents came into the school to showcase where they are from.

There were so many amazing countries there like Poland, China, Italy, Brazil and a lot more.

It was an amazing day and we learned a lot of new things and ate a lot of delicious new food. Thank you to all of the parents who came and cooked for hours!



By Blaise, 6<sup>th</sup> Class



## World Book Day

World Book Day took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. As part of World Book Day celebrations 6<sup>th</sup> class visited 1<sup>st</sup> class to share the joy of reading. Each student got paired with one or two buddies and together they took turns reading books to the younger students. We shared different stories and helped them with tricky words. It was great to see the younger students joining in and enjoying the books. The room was full of excitement as everyone listened and followed along. It was a fun way to celebrate World Book Day and share our love of reading.



As well as this, everyone in our school got to dress up as their favourite book character. The best costumes in each class got a prize. Also, on the day an author came into the school and told us lots of old Irish myths and legends. It was a really fun experience.



In the days leading up to and just after World Book Day, each class had an opportunity to visit the book fair which was organised by our lovely SEN teacher Ms Hannigan. Students explored the wonderful selection of books. We were able to bring in money and buy whichever book we wanted the most.

By Hannah and Nina, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## Gymnastics

Every Wednesday, we went to gymnastics with our teacher Raul, who is from Spain and works with Olympian Gymnastics. We did this for 8 weeks, and each class was 30 minutes long with five stations.

We used benches for scorpion kicks, practiced bridges on the soft mats, and worked on star, tuck, and split jumps. There was also a station for cartwheels and a triangle-shaped mat where we practiced back tumbles.

At the end of each class, Raul gave a sticker to the Student of the Week. It was an amazing experience, and we really enjoyed learning with Raul.



By Sara 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## Student council

I am absolutely delighted to announce a very special milestone for our school. After a hiatus of over ten years, we have officially reinstated our Student Council. Our pupils are the heart of our community, and we are committed to ensuring their voices are heard. By providing this formal platform, we welcome our pupils' input into the daily life and future direction of our school. Mr. Doyle and Ms. Horgan are spearheading this initiative and are very much looking forward to working with the elected representatives. We welcome all your ideas and look forward to the positive impact our students will undoubtedly make.

Ms Veale

The Student Council was created to gather ideas from students and help make the school better in any way we can. The Student Council includes two students from 4th, 5th, and 6th class. We had our first meeting on the 11th of March. At this meeting, we talked about what we want the Student Council to be and how it can help students in the school.

I think the Student Council is a really good idea because it gives students a voice in the school. It helps us share our ideas and make changes that can improve things for everyone. I am excited to see what we can achieve together.



By Noé, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## Cross Country

I was lucky to be picked to take part in the Cross Country on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February. It was an amazing day where 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class students went to Terenure to take part in a huge event with schools from all over Dublin.

3rd class went in the first race and they did amazing. While the other races were going on we ate our lunch, stretched, and got ready for our race. In each race, the girls went first and then the boys.

4th class went next, and Jamie did really well. In the next race, Paul from 5th class ran and came 11th out of nearly 100 students, which was brilliant. Tori and Maya from 5th class also did really well.

Then it was 6th class's turn. From 6th class, it was me, Caitlin, and Si Yao. Si Yao and Caitlin went first, and they both did really well. Then it was my turn, and I finished around 30th place.

We all supported each other and I was proud of how everyone did.

Overall It was an amazing day, and we all had lots of fun.



By Brandyn, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## 5<sup>th</sup> Class Projects

So far this school year 5th class has completed four exciting projects. These included topics such as Ancient Rome, World War I, and Pompeii, as well as projects on different countries as part of Intercultural day. Here are some examples of the work we have done.

### Ancient Rome / Pompeii

Ancient Rome was my favourite project because we learned all about the Colosseum and gladiators. It was very interesting to find out about the entertainment in Ancient Rome. While learning about gladiators, we also learned about a city called Pompeii. Pompeii was a city beside a volcano called Mount Vesuvius. On the 23rd of August 79 AD, it erupted and covered the town, killing over 2,000 people and preserving the city exactly as it was then. Some parts of the city have now been excavated.

### WWI

World War I was an excellent project that we all worked on. It took us about 3-4 weeks to complete. In our groups we all took on different roles such as, researcher, reporter and presenter, my role was to create the artwork. My favourite drawing showed soldiers at the front lines in the trenches.



### Intercultural Day Projects

For Intercultural Day, the class made projects about Malawi, Thailand, Kenya, and Italy. I worked on Malawi with Martin, Denis, David, Robyn, and Isabelle. We wrote about culture, food, climate, and more. After finishing the projects, we presented our country to the rest of the class. This meant we saw how beautiful and interesting each country is.

### Mount Fuji

Some people in our class who are not doing swimming are working on a project about Mount Fuji. Everyone in the class also painted a picture of Mount Fuji, and I think they all look amazing.

### 1916 Easter Rising

We are currently working on a project about the 1916 Easter Rising. We watched a virtual tour of the GPO Museum and looked at photos of the GPO.

### Projects I'd Like to Do

I would like to do a project about the World Cup. I think it has a lot of history behind it. There have also been many great teams and players, such as Maradona, Messi, Pelé, Ronaldo 9, and Cristiano Ronaldo.

By Maya, 5<sup>th</sup> Class



## Attendance Raffle

We recently held a special raffle to reward the many children who have shown excellent attendance this term. All children with fantastic attendance as well as those whose attendance had improved in term 2 were entered. There were Easter hampers, cinema tickets and lots of Easter eggs up for grabs. The excitement was clear to see, and it was a wonderful way to celebrate and recognise such positive commitment to school attendance.

Well done to everyone who was entered and congratulations to our winners; Aoibhinn, Ríoch, Cal, Liam, Rocco, Helen, Rares, Arantza, Sofia, Ben, Anastasia and Esmé.

## Sensory Cubbie

We were delighted to officially mark the opening of our new Sensory Cubbie on Thursday, 12th March. To celebrate this wonderful addition to our school, we were joined by members of our Board of Management, while the children were proudly represented by Ms. Donnelly's class for the formal cutting of the ribbon.



It was a particular pleasure to welcome members of the Tierney family and friends who independently spearheaded fundraising for our school last year. We are truly grateful for the incredible community spirit shown by everyone involved in making this project a reality.

Once again, a massive thank you to Deborah, Mary-Kate, and their entire team for all their hard work and for running the Mini Marathon on our behalf. We are truly thankful for your dedication; this is a fantastic resource that will benefit pupils across many classes for years to come.



## Secondary School Preparation

In 6th class, our teacher Ms Keane prepares us every day for secondary school. She makes sure we understand our work, especially in subjects like Maths, English, and Irish. Our SEN teacher, Ms Guerrine, is also very helpful and supports us when we need extra help.

In our class, we have been learning about the importance of respecting others and ourselves. This is very important for secondary school, where we meet new people and make new friends. We get to choose who we spend time with, so it is important to know who is a good or bad influence.

The children in 6th class are going to a variety of secondary schools such as De La Salle, Mt Anville, Our Lady's Grove and Templeogue College. I'm excited for secondary school because it represents the next stage in life, it represents a new beginning.

By Helen, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## HSCL Update

It has been another busy term in HSCL!

A huge thank you to all of the parents who took part in Intercultural Day, it was such a success and that is down to the huge effort everyone made. Another special thank you to Olena, Ciara and Sonya who came in to cook traditional food with some lucky classes.

We were delighted that so many parents came to hear Dr Richard Hogan speak. I think everyone who was there will agree that it was an interesting and insightful talk.

The open morning for DDLETB received a lot of interest, we are hoping to run a beginners computer course after Easter for anyone thinking of returning to education, if you are interested please contact me for more details.

We raised over €200 for Aoibhinn's Pink Tie charity at Christmas. Thank you to everyone for their contributions.

Have a lovely Easter everyone and looking forward to our continued work together before the summer. Niamh

## Peace Proms

Peace Proms was on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of February in the RDS (Royal Dublin Society). Our school was lucky to be asked to be a part of it. The school was represented by Ms Younge's choir, Mr Doyle's and Ms Horgan's 3rd classes, and Ms McMahon's class. On the day we had to meet at the school at 15:45 to get the bus to the RDS together.

Before the show at 7 o'clock we had a rehearsal. The rehearsal was really fun and it helped us feel more confident and less nervous for the show.



For the show we had to wear a plain white top and black bottoms. There were hundreds of children there so we were split into different zones and we were in the blue zone. The show was fantastic, we sang songs such as "Roar", "Apple", "Espresso" and "Chasing the Sun".

The main singer was Lauren Murphy. She was amazing. The closing act was an amazing song from Snow White the Musical. The song was called "Where the Good Things Grow".

Overall, it was a brilliant experience.



By Freya, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## Glendalough Trip

In February all of the students who will be making their Confirmation this year got a chance to go on a Confirmation Retreat to Glendalough.



In the morning, we all got on the bus which took about an hour. On the way we saw some beautiful mountains. A few minutes after we arrived we saw a round tower which was amazing. Then we went to one of the smaller lakes where we played a game. After that, we visited the biggest lake and it was incredible to see.

Finally, we had the chance to get some chips before heading back to school on the bus. It was a wonderful day.



By Freya, 6<sup>th</sup> class

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

From Wednesday the 18th of March to Friday the 20th, we celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge. There were lots of fun events.

On Thursday, the 19th of March, a traditional band from Coláiste Éanna came to perform. They played many familiar songs, and we were very impressed by how good they were. They performed “Man I Need” by Olivia Dean and “I Wanna Dance with Somebody.” Everyone was amazed.



Also on Thursday, 2nd class had a bricfeasta with a lots of delicious foods. They invited their parents to join them and it was a good chance for them to show off some of the new Irish vocabulary and phrases they had been learning in class. Everyone enjoyed the food and the chance to share what they learned with their families.

On Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> all the classes performed on stage in the ceolchoirm. They did songs, poems and dances as Gaeilge. 5<sup>th</sup> class started with “Riptide” by Vance Joy as Gaeilge. In the end 6<sup>th</sup> class ended the ceolchoirm with 2 songs, “Amhráin na gCupan” and “Mar Gur Tháinig Tú”.



Then all of the school took part in a Bingo where Ms Hannigan called out the numbers as Gaeilge. We did two rounds and the winners got prizes. It was an amazing day thanks to all of the teachers.

Throughout the week everyone was encouraged to use as much Irish as possible. It was great to see so many people saying things like “go raibh maith agat”, “gabh mo leithscéal” and “an bhfuil cead agam dul go dtí an leithreas?”

By Sara and Olivia, 6<sup>th</sup> Class

## The Team

This newsletter was researched and written by;  
Noé, Hannah, Nina, Brandyn, Freya, Blaise, Sara, Olivia, Helen and Maya  
Thanks to Mr Doyle, Ms Veale and Ms Smith for their edits.

