



APRIL NEWSLETTER

I hope everyone had a lovely Easter break and we even managed a couple of warm days this month.

Sports Day



Sports Day will be on **Thursday 21st June**. Due to ongoing work on the cricket pitch we are using the facilities at St Ninian's. More details will follow but please make a note of the times for each stage.

P3/4 - 9:20-10:20

P1/2 - 10:45-11:45

P5/6 - 12:00-1:00

P7 - 1:30-2:30

Fingers crossed for a sunny day!

International Day



International day - thank you!

A huge thank you to everyone in our school community who came together to celebrate our many nationalities and cultures on Sunday. The whole school was buzzing! Thank you to:

- The families who created fantastic and colourful stalls representing Bolivia, Cameroon, India, Ireland, Italy, Pakistan, Poland, Mauritius, Scotland and Ukraine - what a fantastic atmosphere they created with loads of imagination and effort
- All those who brought wonderful food to share on the stalls and as part of our Big Picnic
- Our amazing children who created beautiful displays and bunting in school and performed for us - including the "one night only" reunion of the OLM ceilidh band
- The Strawberry Garden cash and carry who donated ingredients for the very popular pakora making - and the lovely ladies who created and ran this activity
- Our beautiful arts and crafts section run by Karla and Federica

- Esther and her colleague from Abhinaya Dance Academy for sharing beautiful Indian classical dance and Bollywood dancercise with us
- Our henna and face painters
- Our musical parents who entertained us throughout the event
- Our (very busy!) tea ,coffee and juice helpers
- Tir Conaill Harps GAC for doing the gaelic football taster and the parents who ran our outside sports challenges
- The pupils who helped on the day and created stalls
- The Parent Council's Inclusion group who inspired the event and all the other parents who helped on the day inside and outside
- and finally to our organising group - Anne Marie, Bernadine, Bushra, Claire, Faiza, Federica, Geraldine, Gillian, Irina, Ishrat, Kulsoom, Maria ,Oksana, Shazia, Wendy and Viktoria

Everyone contributed to a fantastic afternoon. Prizes will follow for the children who won the trivia treasure hunt and sports challenges!

Thank you

Musical Bumps World Record

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING CHILDREN. We can't say officially yet but we are VERY hopeful we will have good news soon and you are all champions to us!

Every child did their very best and this was also the first time in 10 years the whole school was together - we mustn't leave it another 10! The dancing was fantastic, the enthusiasm wonderful and even the weather was kind.

It took a whole lot of support to make the event happen. Thanks in particular go to:

- All the independent witnesses and judges who helped us out. We needed every single one including those from Harry Fairbairn, the Rotary Club and the Orchard Park Hotel.
- Cameron Communications, Giffnock Soccer Centre, Mr Denholm (scaffolding) and Newlands Tennis Club who helped us with equipment.
- St Ninian's HS helped us with equipment and pupils who were judges.
- Woodfarm High School kindly gave up PE for the day and sent over some lovely S3 children to entertain the children in the waiting area.

- Our active schools coordinator Kerry was also a great help in sourcing equipment
- Provost Jim Fletcher started the festivities and presented the prizes
- Michael Healey, uncle to one of our children, helped film the event

Thank you to all!

Special thanks must also go to our Playground Project team - drawn from the Parent Council, the PSA and Miss Kane in school. Julie Capaldi and Gillian Boyle put in a massive effort to organise the event. Joanne Miller, Claire Clark and Karen Kelly also played a key part on, and in the lead up to, the day. Miss Kane put a huge amount of work into pulling together all the logistics in school. Thank you also to the staff for preparing the children well and helping everything run smoothly. This was a proper challenge for the children and they didn't just step up to the mark...they hurdled it!

Finally, thank you to the fabulous team of parent helpers who turned out in force to lay out cones/bake cakes/stick down tape/play the music/take photos amongst the other 101 things that made it happen! Someone asked what record we are going to break next year...but maybe let's take a wee break first!

We will let you know as soon as we can whether we have "officially" broken the record and of course how much we have raised towards the playground project. Thanks also to all those who kindly sponsored us.

This was an absolutely massive effort that came from a germ of an idea 3 years ago - amazing and moving to see it happen after all this time. It was worth every minute for the experience we shared on the day.

Thank you all!

The Playground Project Team

Lots of Football News



OLM School Team Update

Once again, our children playing for the OLM teams are proudly representing the school at 4, 5, 7 and 11-a-side football in the ERSDA League this year. This is our 25th year and the School Team continues to grow in numbers and reputation.

DAFT

The highlight for this month is the inaugural Donegal Annual Football Tournament (DAFT). The OLM 2006s (P7) and OLM 2009s (P4) squads are travelling over to Donegal for the inaugural DAFT tour across the holiday weekend at the start of May. The squads, numbering about 50 children and 40 coaches and parents, will be leaving from the school on Friday morning. We are hoping that a special guest will be there to wave us off. Depending on his schedule with UEFA in Nyon this week, the legendary Celtic and Republic of Ireland goalkeeper, 'Packie' Bonner is planning to be at the school to wish the boys well. Perhaps not too well, as Packie has strong ties with the opposition – Gweedore Celtic. The boys will be competing in the Gweedore Tournament on Saturday. As well as the competing in the tournament, the boys are looking forward to a packed itinerary of exciting activities across the weekend: they will take part in a training session at Dungloe Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) where they will get a chance to try out Gaelic Football and Hurling; spend time at the Dunlewey Activity Centre; visit Strand Rovers football ground; kayaking and paddle-boarding in Maghery; beach sports; as well as discos and quiz nights!

We wish the children all the best and we look forward to hosting a return visit from the Gweedore Celtic teams later in the year!

Get Ready for the next school team – OLM 2012 We are just about to establish the Primary 1 Team (2012s) and as usual, we welcome all children who are interested in joining the school team, as well as willing parents who can give up a few hours every week to help develop the next set of OLM superstars. Information will be circulated across the P1 classes.

FUNDRAISER

The OLM School Teams have various fundraising events across the year to help with the running costs across the teams (pitches, training venues, strips, kit, trips, events, etc.). We appreciate the generosity of parents who help out and contribute to these fundraisers. We also help support pupils and ex-pupils in worthy causes. For example, an ex-pupil who is travelling to Malawi with Mary's Meals this year will be at Woodfarm pitches on Monday 30th April to raise much needed funds for the project. Katie O'Donnell will be selling raffle tickets for a Celtic top signed by Brendan Rogers. If you fancy a shot at that, please come down on Monday evening from 7pm.



1 - CAROLSIDE FESTIVAL 2018

Our 2010s enjoyed a great morning when they were invited to include 2 teams in this years' Carolside Festival on Sunday 22nd April. Despite the poor weather the children had great fun playing in some exhibition matches, trying to beat the goalie, getting some coaching from the Pro Soccer Group led by Simon Donnelly (formerly of Celtic) and the highlight of the day for some of the

players was the opportunity to 'soak the coach'. Well done to Seonaidh for being such a great sport! Simon Donnelly was joined by another Celtic legend Jackie McNamara to thank the players for taking part and making the festival a great success.

SPOTLIGHT TEAMS

Each month we'll put the spotlight on some of the teams, calling out notable achievements and performances by the children – watch this space for features on talented footballers you are likely to know!

The 2001s (U17s) our oldest age group took the opposition to the wire in their first West Region Semi Final. The boys were magnificent, gave their all and were very unfortunate not to secure a final slot for OLM.

As usual, we must thank Mrs Dillon-Ruddy and her staff for all their support for the OLM teams.

Primary 7



Term 3 has been a busy one for P7 with Confirmation preparations and exciting visits to St. Ninian's. P7s involvement in the Pope Francis Faith Award has encouraged reflection on opportunities to further develop their knowledge of how to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit within their home, school and parish. Through our visit to Schoenstatt, the fruits and the gifts of the Holy Spirit were further explored in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. They have also explored issues of equality and freedom and, through prayer, are able to thank God for our Catholic Education in this special centenary year.

Parent Council News



Parent Council News

At our most recent meeting we were delighted to hear updates on our involvement in preparations for the World Record attempt and International Day - see other news!

We also took part in an interesting mini workshop on the Cost of the School Day by Mrs Cochrane using a toolkit prepared by the National Parent Forum / Child Poverty Action Group - real food for thought and something we will follow up on in terms of ideas we can consider in school. Initial thoughts included trying to recycle eg nativity outfits / Lockerbie Manor kit given that these can be expensive. We also heard about ongoing activities celebrating 100 years of Catholic education. The draft Communication Policy was shared with the group and we will feedback our comments.

At our next meeting we will feed into the school improvement plan for next year. This will take place on Thursday 4th June in the junior dept at school at 7pm and will be our last meeting of the school year.

Please note we have created a new OLM Parent Council closed facebook group for our news and general school news and updates (the public page doesn't send all our alerts to everyone that follows it). We would encourage you to join this group please if you usually follow the public page as we will start to wind down the public group after the summer. Just search for OLM Parent Council and you will be asked to confirm you are a parent/carer etc before joining.

As always, if you wish to contact the Parent Council, please email olm-parentcouncil@hotmail.com or message us on Facebook.

Nut Allergies



As you are all aware the school has a nut free policy. Can I please remind you that no-one should be bringing nuts into the school and that includes peanut butter sandwiches.

May Bank Holidays



Here are the 2 May bank holiday weekend dates when the school will be closed:

- **Monday 7th May**
- **Friday 25th May and Monday 28th May**
- **School will also be closed on Tuesday 29th May (In-service Day)**

There are no early finishes for these bank holiday weekends.