



Ard Rí Community National School

Ard Rí C.N.S, Balreask Old, Navan, Co. Meath.

Principal: Darragh Roe

Roll No 20352T



March and April Newsletter

Buddy Benches

There have been two Buddy Benches installed in our school yard. Children who feel alone can go to the bench. Having completed the course all the children know they should invite children who are on the bench into their games. The motto is 'Look up, Look around, Look out for each other'. The benches are designed to reduce the stigma of asking for help, celebrate children who act with compassion, kindness and empathy and relieve anxiety, stress and feelings of isolation. In the short while they have been installed they have been a really positive addition to the school. For more information visit: www.buddybench.ie. Credit to Parent Association for inspiration and funding, Men's Shed Navan for making the benches and Pauraic Gibney for installing the benches.

School Gate and Car Park

Cars cannot drive up the avenue to the school gate without permission from the Principal (no exceptions). Please be very careful in the car park. Supervise children at all times. When entering the school enter by the small gate when leaving the school leave by the big gate. Children must push their bikes and scooters in the school yard. While there is always a teacher on yard in the morning the school does not accept responsibility for children until 9am. Parents let children come in to schools independently in their lines in the morning. No parents should enter through the blue doors. If your child is anxious about coming to school please talk to your child's class teacher.

Post Office Saving Scheme

The Parent Association, in partnership with Johnstown Post Office, have a saving scheme at school. If you are interested here's how you join in:

1. Get an application form from Debi in the school office.
2. Bring the form to the Post Office in SuperValu and open an account for your child.
3. Give the book back to Debbie and your child can start saving straight away.
4. Every Friday morning your child can go to the school post office to lodge their money.
5. You can collect your child's book at any time to lodge or withdraw from the Post Office in Johnstown.

If you can volunteer to work in the post office please talk to a Parent Association Officer.



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Schedule of Events

Soccer Training: Soccer training for boys and girls in 3rd, 4th & 5th Classes will begin with coaches Jack, Tara and Anthony on Thursdays from 2.40-3.30. Children bring their gear to school and tog out in school as per Kickhams. Children who are training need to bring an extra drink. We will expect children to be on their best behaviour, try their best and to be kind at training.

Kickhams will continue on Fridays as before, weather permitting. Volunteer coaches are always welcome. No experience necessary!!

Engineers Week: To celebrate Engineers Week Darrell and Arosha from Intel Ireland will be hosting an engineering workshop based on building bridges with 2nd Class on Monday 06.03.2017.

Cor Fhéile na Scoileanna: Our senior choir will participate in this school choir festival in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght on Tuesday 07.03.2017. Two coaches leave the school at 9am sharp and we will return before school ends. There is space for roughly 10 adults on the bus. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to come and help. There is a cover charge at the door for anyone not singing in the choir. Children must wear their full formal uniform and bring a healthy lunch in a small bag (no sweets/no pocket money)

Poetry Workshops at Solstice: Rang Rachel will have a poetry workshop with poet Gerard Smyth in the Solstice Arts Centre on March 9th. Thank you to Solstice for this free event.

Vision and Hearing Screening Tests for Infants will take place on Monday 13.03.2017 and Tuesday 14.03.2017

Clothing Collection: There will be a clothing collection on Tuesday 14.03.2017. We can only accept bags on this day. All money raised goes to the Parent Association fund.

There will be a **Lá Glas** (Green Day) to celebrate **St Patrick's Day** on Thursday 16.03.2017. Children can wear green clothes to school on this day. There will be no school on Friday 17.03.2017.

Hindu Holi Festival: This year for our culture day we will celebrate the Hindu Spring Festival Holi and India on Friday 24.03.2017. Holi is also known as the festival of colours. It signifies the triumph of good over evil, the arrival of spring and the end of winter. We will be joined by Swami Purnananda who will explain to the children and parents about Holi and bless the school. Then we will celebrate Holi with a carnival of colours. Children can play and colour each other with colourful powder. Children can wear old colourful clothes on the day. The children will be learning about India in class.

Easter Holidays will begin on Friday 07.04.2017 at 12pm and school reopens on Monday 24.04.2017.



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