

Joey's Blues News March 2015 Volume 3.

What a happy March we have had in Joey's!

Open Day: The month started with a whole school celebration of the everyday successes and achievements of our boys with an open day. We are so grateful to our boys and their parents, grandparents and guardians who came on the day to visit our school.

We watched, in awe, as the boys displayed their cookery skills, their singing abilities, their skill in planning and demonstrating experiments, their drive to protect our environment and their very impressive use of the ipads with tremendous confidence and pride! It was a very special day.

Thanks to everyone who came along and who helped to prepare the school for the occasion. Thanks too, to all the parents who answered our call for the new parents association. Mary Collins will be in touch soon, but the first Tuesday of every month at 9.00am has been chosen for meetings.

'Terrific at Tables': This week followed on the success of our boys with spellings earlier in the year. Ms Mc Bride once again helped us to remember the importance of learning our tables and helped us to realize also how much fun we can have while learning.



The boys played 'maths battle, buzz, eliminator, bounce the ball, king of the tables, the wheel of doom and deck 'em'. Boys who managed to get all their tables right on the Friday quiz got a certificate and the 'last man standing' in every class received a trophy. We extend a big, heartfelt 'thank you' to Ms Mc Bride and all her helpers for this terrific at tables week.

Preparation for Sacraments: We congratulate all the boys in Second Class who made their 'first confession' last Thursday. They said their prayers and sang like angels in the Church. We were proud to be with them to celebrate this sacrament and we thank especially Ms Darmody for preparing them so well.



Last Friday sixth class enjoyed a day of retreat with prayer, reflection, confession, meditation and adoration in preparation for their Confirmation. The boys were in the expert care of Sister Joan and Father James Mary. Ms Quinlan prepared everything for the day and the boys were treated to pizza at lunchtime. We thank Sister Joan, Father James Mary and Ms Quinlan for this peaceful day for the boys. The boys also had the Ceremony of Light yesterday.



This marks the boys readiness for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We also announce that Father James Mary's ordination will take place on 28th of April. We wish Father James only joy in his vocation.

One Book, One Community: 'The Blue Horse'

The closing ceremony for one book one community was held last week. The boys had the opportunity before the official start of the ceremony to 'meet and greet' the Garda horses. Ms Collins organized the project through home school liaison and was delighted with the boys for doing so well in all aspects of responding to the book.



By studying the novel, the boys explored the themes of friendship, of belonging and of community. The author, Marita Conlon Mc Kenna was very impressed by the work the boys had done and presented awards for book reviews.



Our Joey's Quiz Team fought a tough battle in the inter-schools, one book one community challenge to come in second place. Many congrats to the team.



Two boys presented their reflections on the book to all of the school communities gathered. They did us proud.



Exploring our World: 6th class visited the interpretative centre in Bull Island to learn more about the wild life that is on our doorstep. Keep an eye out for the Brent Geese that pass over our heads at this time of the year.



Seachtain na Gaeilge:

Another Green week in Joey's where the boys celebrated our language and culture. The boys had Irish dancing in the hall, Lá glas and tráth na gceist and a poster competition. The week finished with a big concert, where the classes performed for each other. Teachers Ms Mc Bride , Mr Crotty and student teacher Stephen played a selection of reels for us. It was a wonderful week and grateful thanks to Ms Quinlan for leading the school through a very exciting time.





Green Flag for Biodiversity:

The Campaign for the fifth green flag continues. The boys went on a walking tour to the sea front for our day of action for biodiversity. They completed questionnaires on our environment and represented Joey's very well. Thanks to Ms Walsh for keeping the 'flag flying' for us.





Happiness Week:

We try to make every day in Joey's a happy day but we marked world happiness day on 20th March by remembering that smiling is infectious! We asked the whole school community to spread kindness, notice kindness and show kindness.

Homework club is going strong! Keep up the great work.



Soccer: Our Joey's soccer team is through to the third round of the championship after two very impressive victories in Fairview Park. The boys have played with great skill and have also shown 'pure class' in terms of their discipline and behaviour. Congratulations to the boys for showing such strength of character and dignity at play and special thanks to Will who is our coach and to Mr. Crotty and Damien, from the School Completion Team for assisting.

Teaching Practice: Thanks to the three student teachers from Coláiste Mhuire, Marino and the student teacher from Hibernia College who have contributed so much to our boys over the last month in Joey's. We thank you for your kindness to our boys and for your excellent preparation and commitment. We hope to welcome you back in the future.

Fund Raising: We want to give you a quick re-cap on the fund raising to date.

6th class cake sale: 550e

Non-uniform day: 180e

Giant Easter egg raffle: 320e.

That makes a grand total of ... (drum roll please) 1050e for the repairs to the leaky roof.

We are very, very grateful to you all for your generosity.

We wish you all a very happy Easter holiday from all in Joey's.

