



March 2016



'St. Patrick's Day'
&

Easter Celebrations!



March 2016

1916 Centenary Celebrations: We marked 'Proclamation Day', yesterday, 15th of March, by showcasing a range of activities that we recently engaged in, to commemorate and reflect on the events of 1916 and to look forward to the future. Mr. Joe Kirke, Chairman, initiated proceedings by welcoming pupils, staff and local community to the celebration and by highlighting the significance of remembering our shared link with the past. He then invited Kirsty (6th), Ryan (Junior Infants) Mrs. Pennell and myself to raise the National Flag with him. This was followed by the recital of an acrostic poem 'The Easter Rising' by the junior pupils. A re-enactment of the rebellion provided a very fitting tribute to the brave men whose heroic deeds of 100 years ago, were fondly remembered. Erin Crudden, who played the part of Pádraig Pearse, read out the 'Proclamation of the Republic. The drama presentation also included a lovely rendition of the song 'Grace', the reciting of Pearse's poem 'The Mother' and to conclude, we read our own Proclamation for the next generation and we all sang Amhrán na bhFiann. It was a most memorable day which also took account of pupils' work displayed in the school's foyer, followed by some light refreshments. Well done to all involved; sincere thanks to Stephanie, Catherine and parents for helping out with the refreshments, thanks to Gerry for organising the props and the chairs and thanks also to the Connons Social Club for allowing us the use of the chairs and delph for the special occasion.



Raising the flag
Reading the Proclamation



Through the 'Time Machine'



Volunteers ready for action



Our four reporters

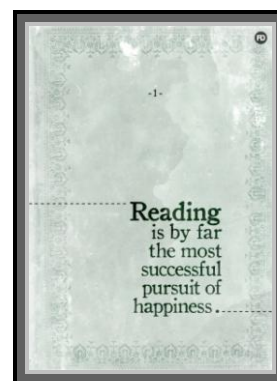
Sacraments: A reminder for senior pupils preparing for Confirmation:

- ⦿ **'The Service of Light' ceremony will be held at 7:30pm on Thursday, 7th April, 2016, in the hall of St. Macartan's P.S., Aghadrumsee.**
- ⦿ **Confirmation will be held at 10:30am on Saturday, 16th April, 2016, in the Sacred Heart Church, Clones.**
- ⦿ **Also, First Holy Communion will be held at 9:00am on Sunday, 8th May, 2016, in the St. Alphonsus Church, Connons.**

Swimming: Our P.E. days will change immediately after the holidays, as the first of our six swimming lessons is scheduled to commence on Tuesday 5th April 2016 in Monaghan Leisure Complex. Our classes will be held in the pool from 10:00-11:00am, and, as usual, a bus has been organised to transport us to and from the pool each week. Swimming hats are compulsory and are not available on loan at the pool. Arm bands which are clearly labelled may be brought by the younger children but this is not essential as there are plenty armbands readily available for loan at the poolside. A further note will be sent out after the holidays.

Paired Reading: 'Paired Reading' is proving to be a successful initiative in the school over the last number of years. It is a reading exercise at home with parents which helps children to practise oral reading and to read with appropriate rates of reading fluency. Basically, it is considered an effective reading strategy which sees parents and children reading along together. On our return from the Easter holidays, the reading booklets with guidelines will be sent home with every child and both

teachers will be available to go over the steps involved in this initiative, should any parent have a question relating to same.



'St Patrick's Parade': We wish all participants the best in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade, Clones, which will be held at 7pm, this evening, Wednesday 16th March, 2016. Parents and children are asked to meet at 6:40pm at the 'Peace Link' centre. As the winning theme for this year's parade is 'The Brightest Costumes', participants are encouraged to wear their choice of luminous costumes and to bring along with them torches/ lamps etc. Sincere thanks to the Parents' Association for representing the school at this annual event. Don't forget to look at and take photos of our 'St Patrick's' window dressing displays, which are on view

on Valerie Somerville's shop windows, Fermanagh St..

Irish Dancing: We thank Gerard McQuaid for another most enjoyable six week session of Irish dancing / pop-themed dancing. An excellent way of keeping fit and healthy, these high energy, intensive classes are proving to be an excellent way to improve posture and co-ordination and to strengthen core muscles. We also wish Gerard all the best as he continues his journey to full recovery.

School Holidays: School will re-open at 9:20a.m. on Monday 4th April, 2016.

Catriona Donnelly (Principal)