



Corridor Echoes

The Official Newsletter of St. Mary's Boys' National School Ferrybank

Volume 15

Issue 3

March

2021



Fáilte ar ais!

We were delighted to welcome back all of our pupils from Junior Infants to 6th class during the month of March. Staff, pupils and parents were excited to see the reopening of schools in recent weeks. As a staff we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents for your hard work and cooperation in recent months in what were difficult circumstances for all. The levels of engagement were excellent throughout the school since January. Your cooperation and hard work is very much appreciated.



Important Notice

Parents, please note that:-

The following school fees were due to be paid in September 2020

1. the €40 (+ €20 deposit if applicable) **Book Rental** fee should have been paid by 1st September (for relevant classes)
2. the €30 fee for **Photocopying/Art** should have been paid by 30th September
3. the €6 for **Digital License Fee** (for relevant classes only)

Sincere thanks once again to those of you who have dealt with these fees/charges!!!!

Please note, for those that have not dealt with the above fees, these can be paid:

- ⇒ over the phone by calling the office on 051851399 or
- ⇒ online using the secure link you received last week by email if the above fees have not been paid to date

Please note, if any family is experiencing difficulty in relation to payment of these fees, you should contact the school on 051851399 or email admin@ferrybankbns.ie to discuss the issue.

School Calendar

***Wednesday 17th March:** School closed

***Friday 26th March:** School closes for Easter holidays. Details of collection times will be forwarded to parents.

***Monday 12th April:** School re-opens

***Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th May:** School closed

***Monday 7th June:** School closed

***Friday 25th June:** End of school year; school closes for summer holidays

Parents' Association

All parents are welcome and encouraged to join the Parents' Association Committee. Ideally each class should have representation. We would encourage parents from all classes to join the committee.

The Parents' Association works together with the Principal, Staff, Board of Management and all parents to build effective partnership between home, school and the local community to ensure the best possible education for their children.

Please contact your son's teacher, Jackie or the Principal if you would like to become a member of the committee that will work for the good of the school and all the boys in it. Thanks again to our current members for all of their support and continued commitment to the school.

Ferrybank turns Green for St. Patrick's Day!

As I'm sure many of you will have noticed, and from the front page of our newsletter, the school and the shopping centre have turned green in recent days in preparation for St. Patrick's Day. We hope the whole community enjoys the lights. Lá Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh!

Home—School Communication

Aladdin Connect will be the primary tool for communicating and sharing information with parents as we move forward through the remainder of the school year and into next year.

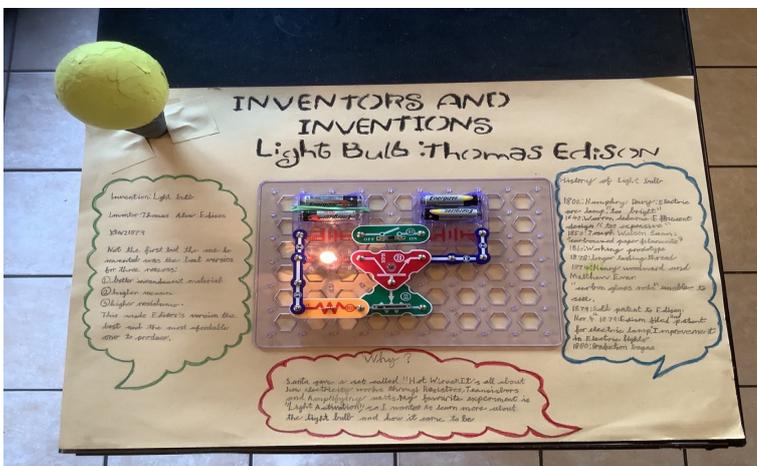
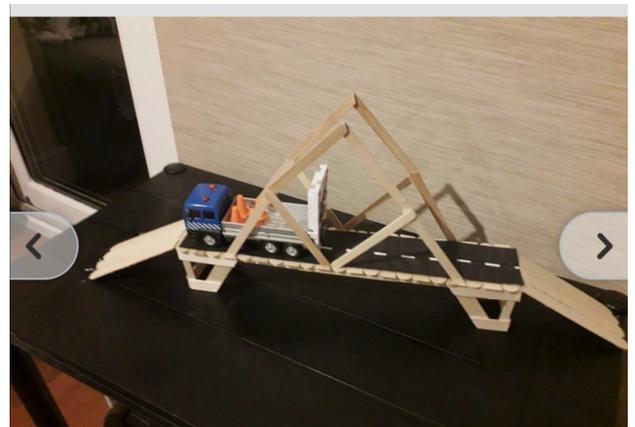
As well as receiving/responding to messages from the school, you can:

- ⇒ View/edit your personal details e.g. Phone numbers, email address, emergency contacts etc
- ⇒ View your child's attendance
- ⇒ Enter reasons for your child's absences from the Aladdin Connect app
- ⇒ View test results
- ⇒ View report cards
- ⇒ View homework
- ⇒ Give permission for specific events e.g. school trip

For families that have not yet registered for Connect, please contact the school. Once registered, you can download the Aladdin Schools Connect app to receive instant notifications from the school and to have convenient and secure access to your child's information from your mobile device.

Project Work during the Lock-down

There was some amazing project work completed by pupils during the lockdown, focusing on topics from the History, Geography and Science curriculum. We were extremely impressed by how much pride the boys took in their work and they should be very proud of themselves. Below you can see some examples of this work but if you would like to see more, please visit our twitter page [@stmarysbnsfb](https://twitter.com/stmarysbnsfb)



Africa

- ❖ The continent is made up of 54 countries
- ❖ Over 1.3 BILLION people live in Africa (16% of the world)
- ❖ 50% are female and 50% are male
- ❖ Over 2,000 languages spoken in Africa

➢ **Algeria** is Africa's biggest country by size

➢ **Lagos** in Nigeria, Africa's largest city with a population of 21 million. **Nigeria** is the largest country by population

Large areas of Africa are made up of Savannas. Many tourists come to see the animals in their natural habitat such as lions, giraffes, elephants, hyenas and cheetahs

Douglas Hyde

Full Name: Douglas Ross Hyde
 Born: 17 January, 1860
 Died: 12 July, 1949
 Age at death: 89

Douglas Hyde was born at Longford House in Castlereagh, County Roscommon

He had three brothers

When he was younger, he was fascinated by hearing the old people in the locality speak the Irish language

Hyde rejected family pressure to join the church and instead he became an academic, focusing languages. He entered Trinity College and studied French, Latin, German, Greek and Hebrew

Hyde joined the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language around 1880

He published more than 100 pieces of Irish verse under the pen name An Craobhín Aobhínn (The Pleasant Little Branch) He helped found Gaelic Journal in 1892

In 1893 he helped found Conradh Na Gaeilge to encourage the preservation of Irish culture, music, dance and language

Hyde was elected to Seanad Éireann, the upper house of the Irish Free State's Oireachtas at a by-election on 4 February, 1925 however he permed poorly. Later elections and returned to academia as Professor of Irish at University College Dublin

In April 1938 Eamon de Valera appointed Hyde to Seanad Éireann once again

Hyde became the first president of Ireland in 25 June 1938

At his presidential inauguration, Hyde set a precedent by reciting the Presidential Declaration of Office in Irish. His recitation is one of a few recordings of a dialect of which Hyde was one of the last speakers

Hyde left office on 25 June, 1945 and he died 12 July, 1949

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings were held (via phone call) in February and March. For any parent/guardian who did not make an appointment with the class teacher but would like to discuss their child's progress, please contact the class teacher to arrange an appointment (via phone call).

Stay Safe Programme

The Stay Safe Programme is currently being covered by all classes. For further information on this programme you can visit <http://www.staysafe.ie/> to find out more.

School Uniform and Tracksuit

All pupils in our school must have a school uniform and a school tracksuit, with the exception of Junior Infants, who only need a school tracksuit.

Proper school clothes in school only, please! If a pupil does not have the appropriate uniform for any reason a written explanation should be presented to the teacher.

Easter Raffle

Local supermarkets have kindly donated a number of Easter Eggs for each class which will be raffled before the Easter Break. If you would like to support this fundraiser your son can purchase a line for €2. Pupils can purchase as many lines as they like before Friday 26th March. Money should be placed in a sealed envelope with your child's name written on the front. There will be several Easter eggs to raffle in each classroom. Thanks again for your support!!

Road Safety Reminder

All pupils are asked to dismount their scooters or bicycles when entering and leaving the school grounds. Pupils are reminded regularly of how to cross the road safely at the traffic lights. Unfortunately this is made very difficult when cars are parked on the crossing or on the double yellow lines either side of the traffic lights. Again, we would ask all parents to park their cars a safe distance from the crossing to ensure pupils can see left and right before crossing the road. We understand how difficult it can be to park in the mornings/evenings but we want to make every effort to ensure the safety of our pupils. Your cooperation would be very much appreciated.

Christmas Fundraiser

A huge thank you to all of those who contributed to our Christmas Fundraiser. Almost €800 was raised through donations online and on behalf of all of the Board, parents, pupils and staff we would like to say *Míle Buíochas do gach duine!*

The money raised, along with a generous donation of a number of new laptops from St. Vincent de Paul and the ICT Grant received, has meant that we now have additional devices for pupils and we've also equipped each classroom with a new Interactive Flat Screen. These will prove extremely useful as much of the content and resources are now online and can be easily accessed by pupils and teachers.

