



Nuacht Litir

Scoil Sheosaimh Naofa

Tel: 057 9343615 Roll No 17637S

Email: info@ballinagarns.com

Web: www.ballinagarns.ie

Príomhoide: Mr. Niall Spain

Leas-Príomhoide: Ms. Sheila Lynam

Cathaoirleach: Monsignor T. Coonan

May 2021



The children and staff of Scoil Sheosaimh Naofa wore beautiful bright colours on 7th May in support of Rainbow Day to raise necessary funds for **Laois Offaly Families for Autism (LOFFA)**. LOFFA is a local support group that actively campaigns to raise awareness of autism in our area and seek health, educational and support services that are appropriate to meet the needs of our children and adults with Autism. We raised a total of €458.56 for LOFFA. Thank you to everyone for their support.



The students of 6th class are taking part in CYCLE RIGHT training during the month of May which provides practical cycle safety and skills training to promote competent and confident cyclists. During their training the children learned some of the following skills:

- Rules of the Road training.
- Core bicycle-handling and road-skills training.
- Starting, stopping, balancing, pedalling and cornering.
- Turning left and right, including shoulder-checking and signalling.
- Cycling with other cyclists.
- Cycling in a simulated road environment.



A reminder that the school will be closed on Friday 4th June. We hope everyone has a happy and safe bank holiday weekend.



Sacramint an Chéad Chomaoineach Naofa & Sacramint na Chóineartaithe (First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

Bishop Denis Nulty has contacted parishes to inform us that there will be no sacraments held during May or June 2021. Preparations for both sacraments are continuing in school.

As part of their preparations 2nd class celebrated mass over the parish website with Monsignor Coonan on Friday 14th of May, and with 6th class on Friday 21st May.



Cúirt ón gCigire & Boird Bhainistíochta na Scoile (May Meeting)

We recently had a Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling Inspection in the school and we were found to be compliant in all areas. The Board of Management would like to congratulate all staff, parents and students for their efforts in keeping our school community safe. The Board would particularly like to acknowledge and thank Mr Plunkett for his work in setting up School Covid-19 policies and procedures last summer.



Deepest sympathies to Ms. Lynam on the death of her mother-in-law Maureen Lynam (née Madden) of Tullamore. Our heartfelt condolences also to Ms. Hope on the death of her grandmother Anne Jones (née Mc Namee) of Rhode. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.*

OFFALY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

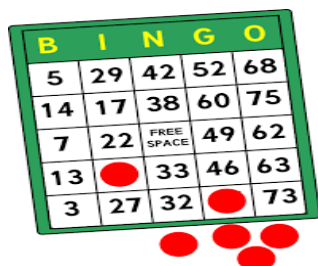
— SPORT IRELAND —

Offaly Sports Partnership with the support of Sport Ireland have rolled out a number of targeted initiatives for primary schools throughout the county. As part of this, each class in the school is taking part in a six-week fitness programme. The children in all classes from Junior Infants to 6th class are loving increasing their fitness levels by taking part in the programme.



Football Training.

Well done to the boys and girls from 2nd to 6th class who are taking part in football training on Fridays after school. Thank you to the teachers involved.



Ballinagar GAA Bingo.

The school would like to thank Ballinagar GAA, parents and the wider community for their contribution to the school from the recent online bingo. Ballinagar GAA weekly bingo takes place every Wednesday and the next bingo evening in support of the school will be held on June 23rd. More information to follow!



We would like to express our sincere gratitude and to congratulate the student teachers who recently completed their teaching placement in our school. Cathal Brennan with 6th class, Clóna Mc Carthy with 5th class and to Yvonne Pilkington with Junior Infants. They each did a fantastic job and we wish them every success in their future teaching career.



Toy Donations for 'Solás' Class.

We are currently preparing for our new 'Solás' class that will be opening in September and we would be most grateful for toy donations. (Please understand that only items that are in very good condition can be accepted as disposal of items would add to our costs). The type of toys we are seeking:

- Complete 2,4,6,12 or 24-piece jigsaw puzzles in their boxes.
- Lego, Duplo, MEGA Bloks, Stickle Bricks etc.
- Complete wooden train set.
- Action figures.
- Outdoor playhouse, outdoor plastic slide.
- Balance bike.

Please **do not** drop toys to the school. If you think you might have a suitable donation we would really appreciate it if you would ring the school to discuss beforehand. Many thanks.



Starting School 2021

Our Junior Infant Induction will be held in the coming months in accordance with COVID guidelines. We will be in contact with all families in the coming weeks to provide a date and time for your child to meet their teacher.



Active School Week.

Active School Week will take place from June 14th-18th. Pupils will take part in a number of fun activities throughout the week. More information to follow in the coming weeks.