

### **Enrolments...**

Yes, it's that time of the year again! If your family has a younger sibling, see Enrolment on our site. See inside for more.

### **Little beings everywhere...**

Our Canal Way Insect conservationists were on news2day on RTÉ this week! See inside.

### **Join the PTA committee**

Join the PTA committee and help the school raise important funds. Get to know other. See inside.

# CANAL WAY Chronicle

02 01 2020

CANAL WAY EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL



## **A few words from Dermot**

Welcome to this week's new look newsletter. There are lots of exciting items on the horizon for CWETNS which you will read about here.

Thanks for your continued support in keeping our school safe and while there have been some challenges in September, we will continue to keep the health and safety of the children and staff at the centre of everything we are doing currently. Please keep vigilant, and monitor your child's health closely and refer to your GP should you observe any symptoms. One more thing to bring to your attention, is to advise you to have a working accurate thermometer in your home. Temperatures can be easily missed when children are exercising or playing, and thermometers can be temperamental as we all know.

I would like to thank our staff in this week's newsletter. The school day is very different for us and considerably more difficult for our staff teaching with PPE, with work also impacting our families and parents etc. It is a physical and emotional challenge for all. The staff are doing an amazing job in the school, keeping all the children's spirits up, and nurturing a wonderful atmosphere in the building in the face of all of this. On behalf of myself, the Board of Management and the community, I would like to express how grateful and appreciative we all are of the tireless work that you are doing. Go raibh maith agaibh.



### Nut Free School

Just a reminder to please keep lunches Nut Free and seed free, as we have many children now with Nut Allergies.

### World Mental Health Day

Check [here](#) for these excellent Walk in My Shoes resources for World Mental health day. Programme runs from 5 October.

### Assemblies

Assemblies have resumed at school over Zoom. This week, each class got to share their class mottos and give a big wave to the rest of the school.

Some of the mottos shared by the classes are 'We learn, We grow,' and 'We sit together'.

If you'd like to watch previous assemblies then see them [here](#).

## Coming soon – School Zone

We are delighted to announce that we have been approved for the School Zone Traffic Calming initiative for outside our school. [Dublin City Council](#), in collaboration with the NTA and Green-Schools, are implementing this traffic calming initiative with us, and we aim to have outside the school vehicle free at drop off and pick up times. The front area of the school will be demarcated by specific colour circles on-road surface; plus a number of pencil shaped bollards to prevent illegal parking in vicinity of school and enabling us to use the lane beyond the bollards as a cycle lane.

The design features assist in creating a safer, calmer, more attractive environment at the school gate. We will need your continued cooperation also, please continue to park away from the school gate, and do not drive cars down the lane at drop off or pickup times.



Work is already happening on our 'School Zone', helping keep us all safer.

## Junior Infant Enrolment

Places for Junior Infants 2021 are currently being offered out under the terms of our old enrolment policy. If your family has a younger sibling due to start school next September then you should have received an offer of a place in the post and we ask you to respond before the 5th of October.

We will also be offering out places over the coming weeks to those on our pre-existing waiting list.

Our new enrolment policy is on the [school website](#). General enrolments begin from the community on 1 October the enrolment page on our [website](#). If you know of any local families seeking a Junior Infants place please feel free to spread the word and let them know.

Any enquiries, call the office - 014021418



4th Class harvesting potatoes and lavender

## Cycle Bus Pilot

A group of parents in Crumlin wants to start a Cycle Bus Pilot for the area with a possible extension to other neighbourhoods. Cycle buses aim to provide a safe cycle route for primary school children and promote active living. You can learn more about the full proposal [here](#). At this stage the organisers ask you fill out a short survey to estimate demand in all surrounding areas and seek further volunteers to run the Cycle Bus.

<https://forms.gle/SHVdKyJYYJMKhHpn8>

Please reply to the survey by 16th October.

## Staying in touch

We acknowledge this year that communicating with your teacher is different to previous years, now that you do not see them in the yard in the mornings. If you need a meeting, please send a mail to the office or send in a note with your child. All appointment arrangements need to be approved and recorded by the Dermot, for contact tracing. We have ratified a Visitor Policy and this is on the website on our policies page. Please read as it informed you of procedures on entering the



Canal Way Insect conservationists on news2day

## Insect inspectors!

A number of our Canal Way Insect conservationists were interviewed on news2day on RTÉ this week. [Watch here](#) to see Erin, Tara, Charley-Rose, Fionn and Taiguara from Ciarán's class along with some children in Siobhán's class (Sadie, Cillian & Charlie) took part in a Children's Biodiversity Workshop with Polly Rowley-Sams. The work the group and Polly carried out will contribute to the @PollinatorPlan. Check them out on twitter @PollinatorPlan.

Filmed at the beautiful Richmond Barracks, watch and you'll get hear their tips on how to help the pollinators living in your garden.

The All Ireland Pollinators plan has some really great tips on collecting seeds and how to make your garden a bee friendly environment throughout the seasons. Get ready for Autumn and Winter. Find out more [here](#).

### Board of Management

The Board discussed the school's situation re Covid, and noted that the measures in place are working well. Find out more [here](#).

### Value of the month

Our value of the month is Respect. Each class will explore Respect in October.

Find out our latest news on Twitter @canalwayetns.



## Making the most of outdoor learning

Like all classes in the school, Ciara's Class have been making the most of this brilliant weather and doing outdoor learning as much as possible. During garden time we constructed our own little towns using twigs and leaves. For PE we went to the Astro for the first time and got to play with the parachute, which was great fun for all!



Ciara's class in the outdoor classroom



### Garden News

We've created a new Base Camp – another outside area for teaching and learning during wet weather.

The frogs will soon leave our pond and look for a quiet, dark place to sleep. The pile of logs will be just right for them.

It is time to plant our bulbs again. They can be planted in September or October. They need the cold winter weather and some frost to help them grow. We missed seeing them bloom this year because we were all at home but the bees loved them!



## Get involved! Parents Association Committee Re-election

The Parents Association Committee are an elected group of parents who do extremely important fundraising for the school. The current Parents Association Committee will be stepping down and a new committee will be re-elected. We really need representatives from each class to step forward and come onto the committee. It is a great opportunity to meet people and to help our school. We will be in contact with you in the coming week or two, and we will be holding an online meeting for all parents to reflect on the year gone and the years ahead and to elect new members to the committee. Please keep an eye out for the email and we look forward to seeing you there. There are a few ways to be involved – as a Class rep or as a Volunteer. Find out more [here](#).

## First Communion & Confirmation

Second Class Parents, if your child is interested in making their First Communion this year along with other children from the school please contact Realitin on [tomandreiltin@gmail.com](mailto:tomandreiltin@gmail.com)

Sixth Class parents, if your child is interested in making their Confirmation please contact Corinna on [corinnabutler@eircom.net](mailto:corinnabutler@eircom.net)

The preparation for these sacraments is organised outside of school time and the ceremonies take place in the local Parish Church of St James.

Our school garden is a wonderful place to go. We will have lots of memories and stories about the time spent there long after we have left Canal Way. More children and their families will come to our school and it will be their turn to enjoy our garden.

A special thank you to Noel Holmes Landscaping for providing us with the logs and his labour free of charge.