



Scoil Naomh Lorcán O'Tuathail

(St. Laurence O'Toole's National School)

Roundwood, Co. Wicklow. Tel/Fax: 01 281 8399 | Email: roundwoodns@gmail.com | Web: roundwoodns.ie

January 10th 2024

Our **TOCHAR** Values
We aim High

Teamwork,
Championing **O**thers,
Cinéaltas (Kindness),
Honour,
Eng**A**gement in learning
Resilience.

Dear parents/guardians,
I hope that all families had a very Happy Christmas and New Year. It was great to welcome all the children back to school on Monday and in spite of the cold temperatures, all children came back with smiles on their faces.

We look forward to a wonderful term 2 and all children have already settled down to their learning. A big welcome to our new pupils who have joined our school and are settling into life in Roundwood so well.

Today the work began on our new fencing which we are very excited about. The Board of Management has worked hard over the past year to get these works completed and it will be great for the school to have our children and buildings safely secured.

Child Safeguarding Review

We are currently carrying out our annual Child Safeguarding Review and Risk Assessment. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the following survey as parental views are important as we develop action plans and move forward with school development.

<https://forms.gle/raiMLi9b4wUcCh1BA>

Thank you,

Cumann na mBunscol Awards

We submitted our entries for the Cumann na mBunscol awards.

1. Large School of the Year:

The children put together a scrapbook of articles and photos about the various Cumann na mBunscol activities the different classes have taken part in since September 2022. There were also some great pieces of art included and the scrapbook, overall, turned out great. Our Principal, Ms. Sharkey, was impressed with the quality of the children's artwork and articles included.

2. Promotion of Gaelic Games and Culture:

The entry for this category was a 5 minute video which, once again, details the various Cumann na mBunscol activities the school has taken part in since September 2022.

Results will be announced at the end of the month.

Spanish Students

A note from Rockbrook:

Rockbrook International in Rathfarnham are looking for families to host some Spanish boys (11-12 years old) attending Roundwood NS. Short 4 week stay from 21 Feb – 20 Mar 2024. We also have a full day plan every Saturday from 10.00 -19.00 (with a local bus service organised). Our rate is **€220 per week**. Please call/WhatsApp Michael as soon as possible on **086 4663869** for more detailed information.

Cumann na mBunscol Table Quiz

We have an U11 team and U13 team for the local round of the Credit Union quiz. This quiz normally takes place at the end of January or early February. We await details of the date, time and venue.

The children are busily preparing for it by coming into school in the morning before school starts to practise as well as doing learning work at home.

Home Learning Policy

Our trial period for our Home Learning Policy is coming to an end and as a school we are now examining how this has been working. Parents, teachers and pupils will be consulted over the coming weeks in relation to how they have found Home Learning. I would like to encourage parents to complete the surveys so we can get a full picture of how Home Learning is working for pupils, teachers and families. We will continue on with Home Learning during the evaluation period. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

WEE Battery Collection

Our battery collection continues and, at the moment, we have collected the equivalent of approximately 25,000 AA batteries. This Saturday, in collaboration with the Parents' Association used clothes collection, Mr. Flood and Pauline Heatly will be at the school from 10a.m. until 2p.m. to take in recycled batteries. Please let members of the local community etc. know that they are more than welcome to leave in recycled batteries during this time.

To maintain momentum with the recycled battery collection, any pupil in the school who brings in batteries from now until February mid term will receive a raffle ticket. SNA Eileen is organising 3 small raffle prizes (1 for the junior classes, 1 for the middle classes and 1 for the senior classes). These will be raffled amongst those who receive a raffle ticket. All recycled batteries can be left into Mr. Flood's classroom. The competition finishes in March.

Catholic Schools Week

We will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week from 21st to 27th January. Further details will follow.

First Confession and Service of Light

The First Confession for 2nd class pupils will take place on **Monday 26th February at 7pm** in the parish church.

The Service of Light for the Confirmation Candidates will take place on **Monday 15th April at 7pm** in the parish church.

Confirmation Connect

The following are the dates for parent in-person sessions for Confirmation which will be held in the school hall.

Thursday 18th January - 7pm
Thursday 22nd February - 7pm
Thursday 7th March - 7pm

Mass 2: Saturday 27th January @ 7pm
Mass 3: Saturday 24th February @ 7pm

Dates to note:

First Confession

Monday 26th February @ 7pm

Service of Light

Monday 15th April @ 7pm

Confirmation

Friday April 19th 2024

Communion

Saturday 11th May 2024

Parents Association

What's On this Week from the PA?

Upcoming Events

- Clothes & Battery Collection and 13th January 10am - 2pm

Please click on the following link or check out our website to read the Parents Association Constitution:

<https://www.roundwoodns.ie/our-school/parents-association/>

Roundwood's Parents Association is a member of the National Parent Council (NPC). The NPC offers a wide range of free parental webinars that can be watched at any time. See the link <https://www.npc.ie/> or phone **01 887 4477** for additional information.

middletowncentreforautism

Children & Young People
We want to hear your voice!

Share your experiences of school and special education to help review the EPSEN Act, 2004.

We want to hear from Children and Young People of ALL abilities

You will be supported to take part in ways that work best for you. You can attend a group in-person or online, or complete an activity pack.

Interested? Want to know more?
Ask your parent/guardian to contact us at epsen@ucd.ie to be guided through the next steps.

Further information at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/e3842-epsen-review-consultation/>

Liked by janeyflush and others
middletowncentreforautism The Department of Education want to hear from children and young people across Ireland. They are conducting research with UCD to review the "Education for Persons with Special Needs Act, 2004".
Find out more: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/e3842-epsen-review-consultation/>



St Laurence O'Toole Ns Clothes & Battery Collection Next collection : 13th January 10am-2pm

Clothes & Batteries to be dropped to the school porch

List of acceptable items as requested

1. All clean re-wearable clothing
2. Re-wearable adult's and children's, baby's footwear
3. Clean re-wearable bra's
4. Costume jewellery
5. Coat's, hat's, scarves, gloves, handbags, wallets, purses
6. sunglasses, reading glasses, clean/new hair accessories
7. Pyjamas, night dresses (in particularly good/new condition)
8. Baby cot bumper sets and baby blankets (must be in particularly good/new condition)

All household batteries accepted AA, AAA, D, C, Vg etc Laptop Computer Batteries

Is mise, le meas,

Sinéad Sharkey

Principal

Board of Management meetings throughout the year.

SCHOOL NOTES

Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

If you have any concerns of a Child Protection nature, Ms Sinéad Sharkey is the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in the school. Any concerns can be brought directly to Ms Sharkey. If Ms Sharkey is not available, Ms Kim Kelly is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) and will deal with any issues in the absence of Ms Sharkey.

Please note that our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be viewed on our website www.roundwoodns.ie

Communication with the School

If you have any concerns or queries in relation to your child or the school, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. Teachers can be contacted via the Contact page on our website or alternatively, you can contact the school office directly to make an appointment to speak with the teacher. Please see our Communication with the School Policy on our website www.roundwoodns.ie.

If you are trying to contact the Board of Management on an issue, please send a letter addressed to the Chairperson of the BOM at the school address or, an email to chairpersonbom@roundwoodns.ie.

Please note that the Parental Complaints Procedure is to be used in the first instance for any issues relating to teachers. Emails will be checked prior to

School Policies

For copies of any of our school policies, please refer to our website. All policies can be downloaded from the website. If you require a hard copy, please contact the office directly and we will provide you with one.

Road Safety outside School

Staff have been requested not to park on the Lough Dan Road as cars cover the safety signage on the road. Can all parents please not park on the road either as it is unsafe to cover the road markings. Dropping children off and collecting from this area and the area adjacent to the staff car park is also dangerous and we would ask parents to park safely in the village or Roundwood Inn.