

St. Francis Xavier Senior School



March Newsletter

Dear Parents,

As we approach the Easter Break, just a reminder that the school will be closed from 12.00pm on Friday 31st March 2023 and will reopen on Monday 17th April. The last few weeks have been really busy, here are some of the highlights:



Science Blast, RDS

We had wonderful participation from many of our students in this year's ESB Science Blast which ran from 27th February to 1st March. Students carried out scientific investigations with their class working together in answering some really interesting questions. At the exhibition in the RDS, pupils presented their findings to the judges and many other interested spectators from other schools.

Great fun was had taking part in various games and activities on the day and learning about the science behind them! Well done to all students who attended the ESB Science Blast exhibition and represented our school so well.

Monday 27th Feb: Ms Guinnane 3rd class, Ms Hanifin 3rd class

Tuesday 28th Feb: Ms O'Reilly 3rd class, Mr O'Riain 3rd class, Ms Shovlin 6th class

Wednesday 1st Mar: Ms Gill 4th class, Ms. Sheridan 4th class

On the 28th of February our class went to Science Blast in the RDS. Our project was about how planes fly. We researched what helps planes



fly and did many tests with paper airplanes and paper helicopters. We took a bus to the RDS and when we arrived we headed inside to set up our project. There were probably 100 other projects. Then, while a few students waited with the project the rest of us looked around. There was a VR headset, space test and a spin the wheel. There was a food court and a scientist who showed us chemical reactions. At the end we got a trophy and a judge said the project was great. We would all do Science Blast again.

By Charlie and James - Ms Shovlins 6th Class



Seachtain na Gaeilge

We recently celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge at SFX. Classes enjoyed various activities including a toraíocht taisce, cluichí gaeilge, tráth na gceist, an Damhsa Mór and ended with An Lá Glas and a paráid around the yard. We had some fantastic gaeilgeoirí from 3rd and 4th reading out our daily 'Seanfhocal an Lae' over the intercom. Comhghairdeas le na páistí go léir who were awarded 'Gaeilgeoir an Lae' throughout the week by their class teachers.

Trocaire Game Changers

4th and 6th classes have been participating in the 'Game Changers' project for the past month. The topics of the board games included Zero poverty, Gender equality, Stopping pollution, Climate action x2, Life below water and finally Life on land. There were 6 to 7 in each group. The prefab (Mr. O'Séaghdha) worked together with Rm 11 (Ms Brady). We had some struggles but lots of fun!

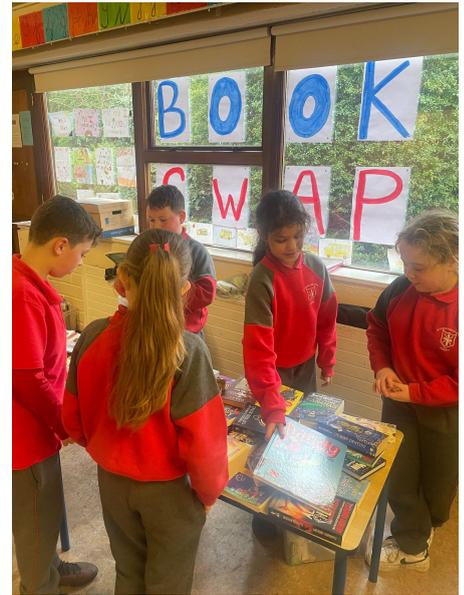


World Down Syndrome Day

On Tuesday the 20th of March, we celebrated World Down Syndrome Day. Students and staff took part in our Odd Sock day to celebrate this special day. There was a great colourful display of odd socks by students and staff and prizes were given for the best odd socks on the day.

Book Swap

On Tuesday the 14th March the children from 3rd to 6th class brought in books that they had read and would recommend to a friend. They got to swap their book with other children in their year group which allowed the children to recycle their old books but also to get a new book to read in return. Thanks to the student council and green schools committee for all their help.



Gardening

We have been planting seeds in all classes. Sonas have also been busy helping us planting our seeds. We sowed lettuce, peas and flowers and we had lots of fun!



Student Council

Our student council has been particularly busy this term. They must be highly commended for their fundraising efforts for the GOAL Syria Turkey Earthquake appeal. After hearing of the earthquakes they jumped straight into action and arranged a non-uniform day. This was a huge success and a special thanks must be given to the school community for their generosity. The Student Council donated a cheque of €2,580 to GOAL



Siopa Scoile

Táimid tar éis ár siopa scoile a oscailt le cúpla seachtain anuas. Táimid go léir chomh sásta leis an obair atá déanta ag na daltaí. Tá gach duine ag déanamh sár iarracht lena gcuid Gaeilge a labhairt sa siopa. Maith sibh a pháistí.



Quiz Teams

Well done to our 6th class quiz team consisting of Rían McMahon, Robert Crawford, Lily Pritchard Melvin, Luke Carew and Oísín Stack who recently came in first place in the Phoenix FM 'School Duel' competition, after winning all four of their rounds. They also competed in the regional final of the Credit Union Quiz in Tullamore representing the Blanchardstown area along with three other local schools. What a brilliant

achievement for the team!

Sporting News

Athletics: Well Done to our Cross Country Team who represented their school over two days in Porterstown Park. The Athletics League Finals Day will take place in the ALSAA sports Complex on April 26th. Thanks to their teachers Ms Jordan, Mr Donaghy, Mr Stokes and Liz.

On Tuesday, 21st of March some people from our school including me went to Porterstown Park to take part in cross country. When we were there we ran against other schools around the area. Mr. Stokes and Ms. Jordan came with us. I really enjoyed doing it. By Oisín F 6th Class

Soccer: A big well done to both our Boys and Girls soccer teams who have been competing in their cup and league competitions. Both teams have represented their school with great determination and resolve over the past few weeks. Both teams still have a number of games after the Easter break. Many thanks to parents for your continuing support and also to their teachers Ms Daly, Ms Donoher, Mr O' Seaghdha and Mr Gurhy.



Climbing Team: Comhghairdeas to our inaugural "SFX Climbing Team" who competed in the Primary Schools Climbing competition in Awesome Walls in Finglas. The team consisted of Óisín Stack, Óisín O' Callaghan, Niamh Smyth and Harry Reid.

Football: We have also been doing a football league with all the 4th classes. There are eight teams and we will hopefully know the winner before the Easter holidays.

Upcoming Events-

Swimming: Our 5 th classes will commence their 7 week swimming lesson programme after Easter in Coolmine Swimming Pool.



Camogie: The girls from 5 th and 6 th class will take part in the Cumann na mbunscol competition after Easter.

Hurling:- Unfortunately, we will not be entering the Cumann na mbunscol competition this year as we have inadequate numbers playing in our 5th and 6th classes. We will run an In-house GAA blitz for our 3rd, 4th and 5th class children in the summer term.



If any parent knows of any business who would be interested in sponsoring our GAA jerseys PLEASE contact the school office.

For all the latest news and updates:

Keep an eye on our website: <http://sfxsenior.com/>



Follow us on twitter: xavier_sns



And please ensure you have an active account on Aladdin Connect for school notifications.

Wishing all our families a very happy and safe Easter break.

We look forward to seeing you again on Monday, 17th April 2023.

Kindest Regards,

Sean McKeown,

Principal.

