

SETNS Newsletter: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023



Sincere thanks to Killian O'Kelly and Deborah Deans (Josh and Jamie's Mam) from the **RNLI** who met with 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes recently.

We received really important lessons on how to keep safe around water. We learned how to float, how to use a life buoy and the importance of wearing a personal floatation device (life jacket) when boating, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding and other water sports.

We share these key messages with you:

- 1. Stop and Think: check the weather etc
- 2. Stay together: don't leave friends/group
- 3. Float: for one minute to regulate breath / get calm
- 4. Call 999 for the coast guard.

Be safe and enjoy the water during the summer!



Visit to Fingal County

Council



Both 6<sup>th</sup> classes recently visited Fingal County Council to learn more about the work of the Council. We saw some really interesting videos and presentations. A highlight was being in the Council Chamber where the Councillors meet. We sat in the spinny chairs and used the microphones as Councillors do and participated in a debate and subsequent vote.

Our debate on "My Idea for Making Swords a Better Place," was chaired by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Howard Mahony. Five groups of children presented their speeches and managed a questions and answer session. The staff at Fingal collected and counted the ballots. "Installing solar panels on all public buildings" was voted the best idea.

Thank you to the staff at Fingal for a great experience and organising our visit to Swords Castle afterwards.



6<sup>th</sup> class were delighted to host Lá Spraoi! We sold our handmade crafts: friendship bracelets, pompoms, knitted animals, pipe-cleaner people, crazy creatures and bookmarks. We did face and nail painting. Outside activities included basketball, penalty shots and throwing water sponges. This was probably the highlight! Thanks to Karl for being a good sport and volunteering as a target for the wet sponges!

Thank you to everyone for supporting us and to our parents for donating some lovely prizes for the raffle.



We feel very grateful to have Mindfulness sessions again with Annmargaret. We enjoy the little activities during mindfulness. We enjoy taking a pause from work to breathe and to become one with ourselves. It is nice to just be in the moment. Some of us enjoy the silence and some of us enjoy the sounds of the birds or the feel of a cool breeze. Gratitude is a big focus for us.

Annmargaret also leads the children's Wellbeing Team. We have carried out surveys to ask all the children what they would like the school to do to improve wellbeing.

## **Fingal League Final in Parnell Park**

Congratulations to our senior boys GAA team who played in the league final during the week. The whole school gave them a guard of honour and big cheers to wish them well. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes were delighted to attend the game to support the team. The boys played really well and even though they did not win, it was a very tight and entertaining match. We are very proud of them and hope SETNS will be back in Parnell Park again next year!

Thanks to the coaches, Emily, Gillian and Cian for their commitment and time!



GAA is very strong in our school and we are very happy to work with Ann, Fingallian's Development Coach. Ann comes in on Mondays and teaches us skills and tricks and we play fun games.

## **Active School Week**

During active week, we had great fun with a visiting dance teacher, Rachel. She showed us how to "dance" the letters of our names. We learned a little about the musical Mary Poppins and how to use our bodies to sing and dance for Supercalifragilistic expialidocious! A nice change from our normal PE! Thanks to Teresa for organising.

We also checked out the new Astro Turf park and playground in Miller's Glen. That was a great afternoon!



Congratulations to one of our own, Josh Murray, 6<sup>th</sup> class who won gold at national Kickboxing Championships. Well done Josh!

## **Learn Together**





May 20<sup>th</sup> is **World Bee Day**. Bees are important pollinators. Pollination ensures that plants can reproduce and keep growing the next season. Humans depend on plants for food and for producing oxygen. We must protect the bees. Some tips:

- 1. Let Dandelions bloom, they provide vital food for hungry bees in spring.
- 2. Make the most of your space: plant wildflowers in a green area or in pots for patios, window sills etc.
- 3. Reduce mowing: even every 6 weeks will allow flowers like clover to grow and provide food.
- 4. Don't spray: herbicides kill flowers that bees need.
- 5. Bees won't attack you: wild bees never attack humans even if threatened. Just sit still, it will fly away when it realises you are not a flower!





May 22<sup>nd</sup> is **Biological Diversity Day**: a time to celebrate the Earth's rich biodiversity but also a reminder that we need to protect it.

This links to our work on Sustainable Development Goals.



Sincere thanks to all the parents/ guardians/ teachers/ SNAs past and current students who came out to help with the clean-up of the area in front of the school.







We love art, who doesn't?

We recently worked with clay. We loved it. It felt lovely against the hands. It was messy and we got to be creative and make whatever we wanted, from tanks to boats, Among Us figures to spheres, from trees and animals to charms and more. Some children interviewed the other children and it was agreed that we loved it and should do it again!







Recently we studied goal 12: **Responsible Consumption and** Production. We live in a disposable culture. We would need the resources from three Earths to continue this lifestyle.

Date for your diary: Sports Day 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Get training!

This Newsletter was written by both 6<sup>th</sup> classes. We wanted to share some of our recent work and events with you. We are making great memories in our last term in SETNS.

Thank you to Karl for giving us this opportunity.

Thank you for reading!









