



SWORDS EDUCATE TOGETHER 'FRIENDLY' NATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023

It's been a while since I've sent a newsletter, so tá a lán nuacht agam daoibhse!

- We have so many Sports Initiatives on the go at the moment! We have Rugby with Dan, Tennis with James, GAA with our new coach Theresa, AND we are very happy to welcome back a past pupil Albert who is doing Football and Fitness with our students. Thanks to Norah for co-ordinating all of this!
- Our One Day Together before midterm was a great success and as well as having lots of fun dressing up, we also raised nearly €500 for our patron Educate Together.



- 5th & 6th Classes had a very informative talk on Online Safety from Barnardos. Children were reminded to:



Barnardos run free monthly webinars for parents to help them feel more empowered to keep their children safe online. See link below:

<https://www.barnardos.ie/learning-development/training/online-safety-programme/for-parents>

- Our Student Council took the Swords Express into the Dáil last week. They learned about the foundation and history of the Dáil and its role in the democracy of our country.



- We have finally received the keys to our new Autism Classroom! Avril, Marie and Kayleigh are busy getting it ready. We were excited today to invite all classes to visit the new addition to our school building, which we hope will be a happy place for children to learn and socialise with their friends.



- This week we are celebrating Diwali. May the light of diyas fill the homes of each of our families with health, happiness and everything that brings joy! And THANK YOU to Eoghan's class for singing us their Diwali song over the intercom today, it made our day!
- Junior and Senior Infants got a beautiful new rug for their rooms - colourful and educational! Thanks again to the PTA and all families for fundraising during the year - this allows us to purchase things to enhance our classroom environments.



- The Department of Education are rolling out training for teachers on the new Primary Maths Curriculum. We will be notified of a

school closure for training, and we will let you know as soon as we do!

- Our Lost Property is starting to build up again. We have nowhere to store this so if not claimed, the coats will be periodically brought to the charity shop. If names could be put on coats that would be a great help! See photo below of four coats and a water bottle:



- There were some very interesting experiments undertaken this week for Science Week. 1st Class used their sense of smell to guess what different smells were, with some funny results! They are also growing gummy bears, and observing celery changing colour!



*Tá súil agam go mbeidh deireadh seachtaine iontach agaibh go léir,
Aoife*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd November: Parent Teacher Meetings (unless you have arrangements to meet the class teacher outside of these days)
- Wednesday 22nd November: Junior & Senior Infant vaccinations
- Friday 8th December: Winter Fair
- Friday 22nd December: School closes for Christmas Holidays
- Monday 29th January 2024: School closed for staff Autism Training