



Lucan Educate Together

Newsletter

February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to our first school newsletter of February!

Spring is in the air and wonderful to see the re-awakening of nature again and the stretch in the days ! There was much to celebrate on the calendar this week with St. Brigid's day on Tuesday February 1st, which is associated with the ancient pagan festival of Imbolg and the beginning of Spring . Classes always enjoy learning about other cultures and traditions, and this week the Chinese new year was a particular focus and children produced some lovely artwork associated with the celebration. We wish all families in our school community who are celebrating a very happy and healthy new year . The Winter Olympics get underway in Beijing today and we wish the 6 members of Irish Winter Olympic the very best of luck over the coming weeks. We will be following them with great interest in their chosen sports .



This week our newly elected Student Council and Green Team had their first meeting in the school hall, facilitated by Amanda /Ian (Student Council) and Emily /Ciaran (Green Team) . It is wonderful that we can have the involvement of our Students at this level again, and hear their views on what they would like to see happening in the school. We congratulate all the children elected on to the teams , following closely contested campaigns in classrooms. This week it was all about 'getting to know each other on the team'. We look forward to regular updates from our teams through the school newsletter over the coming weeks . In the meantime we hope this is a very enriching experience for our students .

Thank you to all who attended our 'Anti-Bullying ' talk online on Wednesday evening . We hope you found it informative. Internet Safety day is coming up on February 8th and your child will be covering lessons from Webwise and other useful resources over the coming days . Our anti-bullying policy is available on the school website www.letns.org , should you wish to access it .

We are very grateful for your wonderful generosity to our book and lego appeal , to support the education of children in Malawi . The lovely books will be a valuable resource and bring smiles to many young children in less fortunate circumstances ! Thank you .

What's Happening?

We are delighted that outdoor after school activities will recommence after the midterm break in February. More information will follow next week.

Holly Leach and Katelyn Doran, of Barnhall RFC and Leinster Rugby will be providing coaching to our 4th, 5th and 6th classes from next Friday, 11th February, for 5 weeks.

Our Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st classes are continuing GAA sessions with Alan O'Neill from our local GAA club—Lucan Sarsfields each Wednesday. This is proving very popular and great to see the emerging skills of our young footballers.

Clever Touch Screens As a result of the continued support that we receive from families, we are planning to upgrade the interactive boards to clevertouch screens in all of our classes from junior infants to 2nd class and both Outreach classes, over the February mid-term break. The screens are an invaluable resource in classrooms for teaching/ learning and we know our Staff and children will be delighted with this new resource.

Covid-19:

As we move on in the pandemic and many aspects of society return to some normality, I would like to thank you and Staff /children for your continued support and co-operation with procedures in place .Unfortunately, despite all the efforts being made by Parents/ Staff and Students, the incidence rate in the school was at its highest so far in January. It is, as always, a reminder that we still must take care and follow the simple guidelines of social distancing, hand washing and mask wearing. Children in classes 3rd-6th deserve great credit for the efforts they are making with wearing of masks. All procedures including the wearing of masks for children in senior classes, remains unchanged, until such time as we receive updated guidance from the Department of Education.

We would appreciate if you could continue to advise the school if there is a positive case in your household. Children who are ill need time to rest and recover fully before returning to school work . Teachers are putting the weekly homework and spelling lists up on Seesaw for access for children who are out of school isolating but not necessarily unwell . We have also added an additional padlet of activities to the Emergency Home learning section of the website which may also be helpful for your child.

Traffic Management:

We have noticed a huge improvement in the traffic flow / behaviour outside the school each morning and would like to thank all those volunteers for their continued support. **We urgently need a few more volunteers, so if you can help even on one day per week, please speak to one of the volunteers or contact the school office.**

A reminder that if your child arrives to school after 9.10am, they should use the main door at Reception. If you are collecting your child early please come to Reception and Veronica / Barbara will sign them out. If your child is absent from school, please either complete an absence form on the school website or email the school at info@letns.org. In the event that your child is not going to be collected on time, please contact the office to let them know.

Way2Pay:

Thank you to those who have already made payments through our Way2Pay system. We appreciate your continued support.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend ahead and some time to relax with your families. Thank you for all your efforts and support through January . Let's hope the early signs of Spring bring re-newed energy and a song to our hearts over the coming weeks . Enjoy .

Kind regards,

Mary

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Spring won't let me
stay in this house any
longer! I must get out
and breathe the air
deeply again.

✕

GUSTAV MAHLER