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2nd March 2023

Dear Parents,

Please find attached our updated "Calendar of Events for Term 2 2022/23". Please note:-

- Our Parents' Association's Table Quiz and Raffle is tomorrow **3rd March 2023** at 8pm in Kiltale GAA Clubhouse. A great night should be had by all with John Donoghue as MC, amazing prizes and just €40 for a table of 4. There are great prizes to be won in the raffle, like a Family Day Pass for Emerald Park (TaytoPark), €100 meal voucher, €50 Supervalu voucher, to name but a few as there are many more prizes. Please support this fundraiser as all money raised goes directly to our school.
- We have a Book Fair here in the school from Tuesday **7th March 2023**.
 - The children will be visiting the book fair most days and will bring home their "Wish Lists" (attached).
 - If you'd like to purchase any of the books on their wish list, (there is no obligation to buy everything), you can pay for them using Scholastic's online payment system <https://bookfairs.scholastic.ie/pay/1215785>
 - Please ensure you use this link and that Kiltale NS is the school name so we will benefit from your purchase.
 - Please ensure the "Wish List" is returned to the school before **13th March 2023**, with the proof of purchase reference number, so the children can collect their books.
 - No books will be given out without proof of purchase.
 - We have also attached a sample of the books they have available and their prices.
- To encourage the pupils' love of reading we have postponed our "World Book Day" to **Friday 10th March 2023** when the pupils can **dress up as a character from a book**. It could be Cinderella or Harry Potter or Gangsta Granny or whoever your favourite is.
- **Swimming** - As part of the P.E. curriculum, Aquatics Strand, swimming lessons will commence for 1st to 6th class pupils on **Thursday, 9th March 2023**. Swimming is an important part of each child's PE programme and is compulsory. The cost is **€36** per child for the four weeks, a link will be sent through Aladdin for payment. Our times and dates for this year are as follows:-
 - For 1st to 3rd Class 12.15 – 12.55 on 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th March 2023
 - For 4th to 6th Class 13.00 – 13.40 on 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th March 2023
 - Pupils will travel on a bus to and from Aura Swimming Pool, Trim. All pupils will return to the school.
 - Pupils will need to bring a one piece swimsuit, towel and a swimming hat. For convenience children can wear their PE tracksuit with their swimming gear on underneath on swimming days.
 - All items should be labelled with the child's name. (No aerosols or hair gels to be brought to the pool).

- To celebrate St. Patrick's Day we are having a **"Green Day"** on **Wednesday 15th March 2023**. All children can wear green clothes, if they wish or their tracksuit, with a hat or headgear to celebrate St. Patrick. The classes will be learning songs as gaeilge and practising their Irish throughout the month of March. SNAG.ie gives a full list of activities and events for Seachtain na Gaeilge. A full list of useful Irish websites is provided below. We want to encourage everyone to use the cúpla focal in school and the wider community.
 - <https://www.focloir.ie/> English / Irish dictionary
 - <https://www.tearma.ie/> The National Terminology Database for Irish
 - <https://www.teanglann.ie/ga/> Irish Grammar website
 - <https://www.logainm.ie/en/> Database of Irish placenames
 - <https://daltai.com/> Irish phrases, proverbs, grammar classes, etc.
 - <https://ccea.org.uk/learning-resources/cod-na-gaeilge> Irish language resources, games

These websites would be beneficial to all pupils throughout their time in primary and secondary school. A seanfhocal (proverb) we have learned this year is "Is fearr gaeilge bhriste ná Béarla cliste" (Broken Irish is better than clever English). A good place to start for even the beginners among us.
- **No School** for pupils on **Monday 20th March 2023**. Since September 2019, much work has been done by schools in implementing the Primary Language Curriculum / Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile (PLC/CTB) for all children in primary schools and in special school settings. Please see the Department of Education's website and Circular 45/2019 for more details. As part of the revised plans for professional development support, there will be no school for pupils on **Monday 20th March 2023** to facilitate staff training on the PLC/CTB and a staff meeting.
- A Heritage in School Scheme representative will visit the school on **Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th March 2023**. Each class will get a chance to develop their interest in Irish History and Geography through an examination of artefacts brought in by pupils and teachers among other topics. Please help your child to find something to bring in and discuss.
- As well as all these specific dates of interest, our 5th and 6th Class pupils are taking part in the **FAI 5-a-side** soccer competitions and Cumann na mBunscol's **Mini 7's** in Gaelic football. Well done to the boys who did well yesterday and good luck to the girls in their FAI 5-a-side next week.

We have a busy four weeks until the Easter holidays, please see the list of events attached.

Le gach dea-ghuí.

Colin McElroy,
Principal.