



SAPERE AUDE

DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

**VOLUME 17 Issue 5**

**JANUARY 2018**

*Each year brings its own joys and sorrows but we trust in the presence of God in our lives that we will be given the strength to cope with whatever difficulties we may encounter.*

## **AFTERNOON TIMETABLE TO DATE:**

**Monday:** Homework prep 3pm-4pm, (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> classes), Science & Maths Club 4-5pm 4th, 5th & 6<sup>th</sup> class

**Monday:** Junior Hockey Training 3-4pm Senior Infants to 3<sup>rd</sup> class.

**Tuesday:** Homework prep 3-4pm, Eco Green club 3-4pm for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class.

**Wednesday:** Art/Craft Club 2.30pm – 3.30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. Mandarin 2.30-3.30pm, Scholarship class for 6<sup>th</sup> class 2.30pm-3.40pm

**Thursday:** Senior class Hockey Training 3pm-4pm, 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> classes. (Shin guards and gum shield essential), Chess club 3-4pm for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018:** Assessment Tests for 6<sup>th</sup> class for 1<sup>st</sup> year in Senior School at 9.30am and 11.30am, two sittings

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 returning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018:** Mid-term

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018:** Scholarship Exam for 6<sup>th</sup> class at 9.30am in senior school

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018:** St Patricks Day Holiday

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018:** Ceremony of Penance for First Holy Communion RC in St Patricks at 7.30pm

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at 12.30pm returning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018:** Easter Holidays

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018:** Sports Day,

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018:** RC First Holy Communion in St Patrick's Cathedral, Roden Place, at 11am

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018:** 6<sup>th</sup> class trip to Carlingford Adventure Centre

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018:** School Tours

## **PREP AND SCHOLARSHIP CLASS**

Prep continues on Monday and Tuesday 3-4pm for 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> classes. An extra class for 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils in preparation for the Scholarship Exam takes place every Wednesday 2.30-3.40pm. There is no charge for the Prep or Scholarship class.

## **COMMUNION**

Classes for RC First Holy Communion take place every Tuesday 3.00-4.00pm in the Junior School. The date of the ceremony of Penance is Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March in St Patricks, at 7.30pm and the First Holy Communion ceremony is Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May in St. Patricks, Roden Place, Dundalk. Please send in a copy of your child's baptismal certificate as soon as possible. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

## MS READATHON

The Multiple Sclerosis Readathon was a tremendous success. Avid readers abounded and it was a pleasure to see pupils reading, discussing books, exchanging reviews, reading pictures and developing their enjoyment of such an important skill. Thank you gifts will arrive over the next few weeks. Congratulations to Louis Goodman who won an iPad in the MS Readathon draw.

## UNIFORM

As the weather gets colder, children are wearing their coats into school. Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled. DGS beanie hats are available in the school uniform shop Michael Lynch in Dundalk.

## DRAMA

I am delighted to welcome two new teachers, Ms Geraldine Kieran and Ms Tara Malcolmson. Ms. Kieran is our new **drama teacher** and will take the drama classes on a Wednesday. She will take all the children until Easter and then, those children who choose to take the speech exam (Leinster School of Speech and Drama) will continue after Easter. The Speech and Drama exams will take place in May in school.

## RESOURCE

Ms Malcolmson will take **Resource class** in the Junior School two days a week. Ms Malcolmson will take individual children and small groups who might need a little assistance, short term or long term. Ms Malcolmson teaches in the Senior School.

## HOCKEY

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January Dundalk Grammar Junior School, 1<sup>st</sup> years travelled to Wilson's Hospital School in Mullingar to play a league hockey match. Dundalk were victorious with goals from past pupil Lily McDowell. We were also thrilled to support Marlene Ofterdinger who played with the first years.

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## MANDARIN

Mandarin classes in the Junior School have begun with Mr Kang from the UCD Confucius Institute. Classes take place on Wednesdays 2.30pm – 3.30pm. 6<sup>th</sup> class, presently in Scholarship class on Wednesdays may join Mandarin class in March.

## LSPCA

Last week 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> class enjoyed a talk by Fiona Squib from the LSPCA, Ryan Matthews and Ryan Bradley, representing the school presented a cheque to the LSPCA for €125. Two 3<sup>rd</sup> years, Todd Hallahan and Jack Gilmore as part of their CSPE project organised a colouring competition for the Junior School to raise awareness of the LSPCA. Congratulations to the winners, Alicia, Calum, Caoimhe, Patrick, Tamzin, Sarah, Max and Charlotte.

## GAA

We are delighted to welcome back Craig from Louth GAA who will be coaching 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes until mid-term every Wednesday.

If you have any news items, you would like to include in the next newsletter, please email [ms.lait@dgs.ie](mailto:ms.lait@dgs.ie)

Elaine Lait