



St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02
Charity Number: 20201057
Phone: 01-8350594



Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash

JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2023



SVDP Collection Update



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Thank you to everyone who brought in donations and wore their Christmas jumpers for St Vincent De Paul before Christmas. We raised €462. The money collected was used to purchase food vouchers for families in the Ashbourne Parish in the run up to Christmas.

Modern Languages



Over the past few weeks our three 6th classes have been receiving Spanish lessons with Carolina Fernandez-Garcia (an experienced Post-Primary teacher) as part of the "Say Yes to Languages" Primary Sampler Module. We are very grateful to Carolina for her work with the children and they are really enjoying the experience.



St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash



Well Done James



Congratulations to James from Ms Crowley's 3rd class who represented our school in the Leinster Minor Schools Championships Swim Meet in the National Aquatic Centre, Blanchardstown on Sunday the 15th of January 2023. James took part in the freestyle, the breaststroke and the backstroke swimming event. He won a gold medal in the breaststroke race and will go on to represent Ireland at the All Ireland Schools Gla on the 25th of March in the National Aquatic Centre. What an achievement !!!

Communication Award for Room 16

Ms O' Doherty's 2nd class Room 16 sang the Ed Sheeran song Perfect with Lámh sign language at assembly last October. We posted a video on our Twitter account and the post really impressed Fiona Giuhen who is a Senior Speech and Language Therapist with the Meath Primary Care SLT team. This inspired Fiona and her team to look for other examples of people promoting total communication and communication acceptance in the community. They plan to acknowledge this work with a monthly award, starting in February. They've chosen Ms O' Doherty's class and St. Declan's NS to be the first organisation to be presented with the award.

A number of our staff trained in Lámh at the beginning of the year. Following on from this, one of our Special Education Teachers, Mrs O'Rourke led the whole school in learning a number of lámh signs each week. Have a look at Ms O' Doherty's children in action. https://youtu.be/8y_c7xeQt_8



St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash



Parents' Association Update



GIVING A HELPING HAND POP UP SHOP

POP UP SHOP LOCATION: UNIT 47 ASHBOURNE HIGH STREET

DATE: 4TH - 5TH FEBRUARY 2023 TIME: 11AM - 4PM

SATURDAY 4TH WILL BE OPEN TO FAMILIES OF ST DECLANS

SUNDAY 5TH WILL BE OPEN TO THE REST OF THE PUBLIC.

**THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN TO EVERYONE WHO DONTED THE COMMUNION AND
CONFIRMATION WEAR TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE**



DRESSES



SUITS



SHOES



ACCESSORIES

**WE DID IT!! THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!!
We are still accepting donations to help as
many as we can**

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION ON 0858696009 IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUERIES, DONATIONS WELCOME

The Parents' Association are running a pop up shop for Communion and Confirmation wear. The shop will open Saturday the 4th of February from 11am - 4pm for families of St Declan's only, and then Sunday the 5th of February 11am - 4pm for the rest of the public. They are still accepting donations. If you would like to donate any items please drop them into the school office.

Please note that private appointments can be made outside of these opening times. If you wish to make a private appointment please contact them directly on stsedlanspa77@gmail.com or 085 8696009.



St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash



Quiz Team

The Credit Union Quiz Competition for Schools took place last Friday night the 27th of January in the Pillo Hotel in Ashbourne. Seven schools from Ashbourne and the surrounding areas took part. Congratulations to our Junior Quiz Team Ciara, Cian, Charlie and Konrad who came second in the School's Credit Union Quiz Stage One. Also well done to our Senior Quiz Team, Lee, Rory, Cole and Jessica who came third. We are delighted that both teams did so well. Congratulations to Ms O' Malley who prepared the children for the quiz.





St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash



Catholic Schools Week

Last week we celebrated the gift of Catholic Schools and of Catholic Education. During this week our entire school community showed in lots of different ways that we are proud of our Catholic school. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2023 was Walking Together in Faith and Love. On Tuesday our four 5th classes joined with the other two Catholic schools in the village Gaelscoil Na Cille NS and St. Mary's NS for a pilgrim walk. Father Michael led the walk. Our 5th class pupils were invited to mass yesterday, Sunday 29th for a blessing. On Wednesday our three 1st classes went to the church to celebrate mass with Father Michael. Wednesday the 26th of January also celebrated Grandparents Day. All classes carried out different activities with their teachers daily during the week.

The visit from the Diocesan advisors went very well earlier in the month. Maureen, Kathleen and Shirly spoke very highly of the welcoming nature of the staff. They complimented the lovely prayer spaces and in general the work of teachers in teaching religion in the school. We are proud to promote our Catholic ethos in St. Declan's NS.





St. Declan's National School



Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash

Active Schools Update



As part of Active Schools all classes will be taking part in active lines in yard daily. The children from the Active School's Committee will lead the younger classes in doing their active lines. Exercises will include jumping jacks, jogging on the spot, hopping on one foot, squats, high knees and ski jumps. Well done to Ms Curran, Ms Molloy, Mr Lydon, Ms Geraghty and the Active Schools Committee for promoting staying active in St. Declan's.

ALDI's Play Rugby Sticker Competition is back. Primary Schools across Ireland are invited to take part to be in with a chance of winning fantastic prizes for their school, including a sports facility makeover worth €50,000. ALDI shoppers will be able to collect one sticker for every €25 spent in any of the 155 ALDI stores nationwide. Please send in any stickers collected to your child's class teacher. When we collect 300 stickers we will be entered into a draw for €50,000 for the school and receive a complimentary rugby kit.

Stay Safe Programme

The **Stay Safe Programme** is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to teach. We are currently teaching the programme to all classes. It is a safety skills programme which aims to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. The main message from the programme is to **Say no, Get away and Tell someone.**

Dates to remember

We are closed next Monday the 6th of February 2023. We are closed Wednesday the 15th of February for staff CPD training on the Primary Language Curriculum. Mid-term break is Thursday the 16th and Friday the 17th of February 2023.

Cian Kearins
Principal

Cathy Collier
Deputy Principal



St. Declan's National School

Bourne Avenue, Ashbourne, Co. Meath - A84KT02

Charity Number: 20201057

Phone: 01-8350594

Email: info@decsash.ie

www.decsash.ie

Twitter: @decsash

