

# SCOIL NAOMH BARRA NEWSLETTER

30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023



## New Code of Behaviour

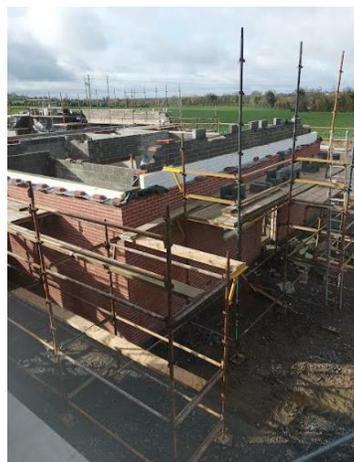
A Board of Management meeting took place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February during which the school's new Code of Behaviour was ratified. This can be accessed via the school website (please click on the link below):

[wilkinstownns.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Code-of-Behaviour-Scoil-Naomh-Barra.pdf](http://wilkinstownns.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Code-of-Behaviour-Scoil-Naomh-Barra.pdf)

**Smart Watches/Jewellery:** As part of the new Code of Behaviour, children are allowed to wear stud earrings only. No other jewellery is allowed. In addition, smart watches are not permitted to be worn.

## Building Work:

We are anticipating that the work around our new carpark entrance/exit will conclude in the coming weeks. A communication in this regard will be sent out at the appropriate time. Meanwhile, the building work for the new school extension (see picture) remains on track and all going well, the new facilities will be ready come September.



## Reminders:

**Instagram/Twitter Accounts:** We have opened school Instagram/Twitter accounts and will be sharing regularly updated photos of the new building project, tours of our school, events, etc. If you would like to follow our accounts, you can search for:

"Scoil Naomh Barra"

or click on <https://instagram.com/scoilnaomhbarra?igshid=ZDdkNTZiNTM=>

[https://twitter.com/wilkinstownns?s=11&t=b34mkejZmu\\_KtLBDHKK5eQ](https://twitter.com/wilkinstownns?s=11&t=b34mkejZmu_KtLBDHKK5eQ)

## Pick-up:

- Please use the Community Centre Car Park as much as possible (children must be accompanied by an adult crossing the road).
- Pick up time for families with more than one child (1st-6th) is @2.55pm.
- Pick up for all other children is @3pm.
- Please only arrive at the time specified (pass this message onto grandparents/child minders).
- DO NOT park on the path, this obscures peoples view crossing the road.
- Do not block the entrance for the school bus pulling in (keep the inside lane free until the bus pulls in).
- Use common sense at all times!

We are hopeful that a pedestrian crossing will be installed soon. Thanking you for your continued cooperation.

**Uniform:** Please ensure that your child wears their full uniform to school. Navy/school shorts can be worn on warm days. If girls are wearing tights they must be navy. Tracksuits are allowed on swimming/P.E. days.

## Sacramental Occasions

Confirmation took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 3pm in St. Catherine's Church, Oristown. Thank you to Mrs McCarthy and the choir for the beautiful singing at the ceremony!

First Confession: A general absolution ceremony took place on 9<sup>th</sup> March in St. John the Baptist Church, Kilberry. Fr. O'Brien visited the school on 29<sup>th</sup> March to administer the sacrament to individual children in 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class.

First Holy Communion will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11am in Kilberry.

## Active Schools

**Active Week:** Our annual Active Week will take place from 19<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> of June. If you know of any teachers/instructors who would be willing to provide workshops for the children in any active areas such as dancing, gymnastics, yoga etc. during Active Week please get in touch.

**Swimming** took place this term and ran for 6 weeks for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> classes. Well done to all the children who reached a new grade.

**Camogie Training:** Thanks to Lorna McKenna for training students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class over the course of the last few weeks. We are hoping to partake in the Camogie Developing School Shield next term.

**Badminton/Soccer:** Well done to all students who represented the school in the Meath Schools Badminton tournament in Trim last January and in the FAI 5 a side soccer tournament held this month in the MDL in Navan.

**GAA – Girls/Boys Mini-7s:** The competitions were held in Gibbstown and Navan last week. Both teams performed well with the boys especially unlucky not to qualify for next round after losing out on points difference.

**Easter Camp** - The school will be hosting a sports camp over Easter (from 3<sup>rd</sup> April until 6<sup>th</sup> April). For more information, please contact the office ([\(046\) 905 4329](tel:00469054329)).

## Special Events

**Grandparents Day:** We celebrated Grandparents' Day on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Thank you to all of the grandparents who attended our prayer service and presentation in the school hall.

**World Book Day:** On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the children celebrated World Book Day. Students were invited to dress up or wear their pyjamas. We are very grateful to all the parents who helped run the book-fair during the week especially Lorna Clarke, Jade McGarry, Ciara McQuaid, Lisa Boland and Carmel Brecknell.

**Bake sale on Friday** – A bake sale for the benefit of the school will take place on Friday from 12pm to 2pm in the Community Centre.

**Quiz Night:** The Parents Association will be holding a quiz night at 8pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April in The Kilberry Pub & Kitchen. To book a table (teams of 4, €40 per table), please pay in advance to the school office. Booking will also be taken on the day of the bake sale. Sponsor a round for €25 euro if you can't make it on the night.

Grandparents' Day Ceremony



## Special Events (Continued)

**Autism Awareness** – A 5km walk will take place on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 2pm. The walk is to highlight Autism Awareness Day. All funds will be donated to Wilkinstown Community Centre and Louth and Meath Autism Youth Clubs. It is €10 euro to register on the day with free refreshments as well as music by Matt Leavy afterwards in the Community Centre. Please come along and support.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

**The Teddy Bear's Picnic:** Junior and Senior Infants attended a production of 'The Teddy Bear's Picnic, in The Solstice Arts Centre, Navan on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Great fun was had by all.

**Enterprise Week (March 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>)** was a great success. Hopefully it will have helped students to create goals and aspirations for the future. Thanks to all parents (Tonya McDonagh, Stephanie McManus, Kevin Boland, Ciara McQuaid and Andy Clarke) who spoke to the various classes about their jobs.

**French Lessons:** After Easter, 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class will receive weekly French lessons up until June. The emphasis will be on the spoken language and enjoyment.

## Creative Schools

**Creative Week** will take place the week of 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May.

**"Oliver"**; Preparations are well and truly under way for our school production of the stage musical "Oliver" (13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> June). Tickets will be available via the Solstice website soon. Tickets are €15 for adults and €12 for under 12s. We are looking for sponsors to come on board to help with the cost of producing such a large performance.

Sponsorship is available on three levels: - Gold: €500 (full page ad), Silver: €250 (half page ad) & Bronze: €100 (quarter page ad). Along with this, your business will also have exposure on our social media platforms. Please contact the school 0469054329 or email [office@wilkinstownns.ie](mailto:office@wilkinstownns.ie) in or before Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Curriculum Links

**Seachtain na Gaeilge** took place from the 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March. As well as initiatives such as "Seanfhocal an Lae", "Focal an Lae", "Frása an Lae", and "Gaeilgeoir an Lae", this year we utilised a raffle system to reward students for speaking full sentences as Gaeilge during the school day. Congratulations to all the prize winners. Students were also encouraged to download 'Duolingo' and to challenge themselves each evening at home. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, we were visited by Rita Doyle who provided Irish dancing lessons to each class and the following week the Community Centre hosted a Céilí featuring 1<sup>st</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> class. Thanks to Ms. Martyn for all her hard work in organising the week's events.



**The Scoil Naomh Barra Céilí**

**Primary Language Staff Training:** All teachers completed the seventh session of Primary Language Curriculum training on 27<sup>th</sup> March. This session focused on disciplinary literacy. Later in the day, we looked at the teaching of Irish with the help of our PDST advisor Suzie Manton. Suzie will be returning to the school in May to further explore CLIL (teaching another curriculum subject through Gaeilge) with the staff.

## Curriculum Links (Continued)

**Weaving Wellbeing:** During this past term, we continued our "Weaving Wellbeing Programme" on a whole school level focusing on character strengths such as fairness, optimism and bravery. Thanks to Mrs. McCarthy for her ongoing work.

**Food Dudes:** In January/February, all classes took part in the Food Dudes healthy eating programme, developed to encourage children to eat more fresh fruit and vegetables.

**Catholic Schools Week** took place from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 on the theme of "Walking Together in Faith & Love".

**Friendship Week;** The students decorated the corridors with beautiful artwork as a constant reminder of how important friendships are in in the school.

**Music** –Classes from 1st to 6<sup>th</sup> have now completed their 20 weeks of ukulele lessons with Harry Long. Thanks as always to Harry for his continued contribution to musical development in the school and to the parent body for their support of this.

***We would like to wish all of our school community  
and their families every blessing for this coming Easter***