



St. Farnan's Post-Primary Spring Newsletter 2018.



Message from the Principal

Welcome to our school's Spring Newsletter which gives a flavour of the busy life in our school where we celebrate not just the Learning and Teaching that goes on, but also the vast amount of other opportunities available to our students. I would like to pay tribute to our hard working staff at St Farnan's that are always willing to give the extra for our school. I would like to thank you as Parents/Guardians for your continued support.

For the next school year we are planning to introduce a few changes in the school uniform. Our incoming first year girls will be wearing a kilt, the design of which has been agreed with the school, PTA and the Students' Council. We are still in the consultation phase of planning to introduce a Senior Cycle school jumper, a sample of which is on display in the Foyer of the School. We will keep you informed of developments.

Mr. Eddie Collins, Principal.

St. Farnan's on Tour—Paris 2017



Key Dates for this term

- Apr. 9th:** Whole School Healthy Eating Initiative began.
- Apr. 16th:** TY Work Experience begins.
- Apr. 19th:** 3rd year Information Evening.
- Apr. 25th:** Final Wrap Session in Skills@Work Programme.
- Apr. 26th:** 2nd year Business CBAI deadline.
- May 10th:** 5th year Ecology Trip to Dublin Zoo.
- May 16th:** TY Art Trip to IMMA.
- May 17th:** 1st year Tour to the National Heritage Park, Wexford.
- May 24th:** 6th year Graduation.
- May 28th :** Induction Evening for incoming 1st years.
- May 30th:** Summer Exams begin.
- June 6th:** State Examinations begin.

Fifth year students returned from a very successful trip to Paris in February. The tour was organised by Mr. Little and Ms. Breslin and saw forty five fifth years visit the capital of France. Students enjoyed three nights of sightseeing, rollercoasters and even some snow. The activities ranged from visits to the Louvre and Notre Dame to hurtling down Space Mountain in Disneyland. The tour was a great success with students showing impeccable behaviour and respect. The group were accompanied by Ms. Flanagan, Ms. Bracken and Mr. Kenna.

Tour organisers Mr. Little and Ms. Breslin have put in motion plans to expand the School tour programme for 2018/19. September 2018 will see sixth year students travel to Carlingford adventure centre for a weekend of team building. A similar programme will be rolled out for second year students with more information to follow in September. Of course we hope to run another European Tour for fifth years and Mr. Little/ Ms. Breslin have just started on plans for 2019. Remember.....Not all classrooms have four walls so take advantage of these great opportunities while in school!

St. Farnan's Cast of Guys & Dolls!



Following the initial enforced postponement due to Storm Emma, the school's production of *Guys and Dolls* finally took to the stage in Prosperous Theatre before the Easter holidays.

The musical was enthusiastically received by the capacity audiences who loved the entertaining storyline, great singing and excellent acting from the large cast of students from 1st, 2nd and Transition Year—huge congratulations to all the cast and production team!

Events & Successes celebrated this term!

- St. Farnan's Senior Boys Gaelic Football team were crowned North Leinster Champions
- Killian Heffernan was Runner Up in the BDD World Championships
- 6th year Biology and Chemistry students attended Experiments Days in NUI Maynooth
- TY European Studies Trip to the National Gallery of Ireland and the European Commission Offices
- Very successful European Tour to Paris, February 7th-10th
- 5th year English Trip to Macbeth in the Bord Gais Theatre
- Work Experience Modules for TY, 5LCA, 6LCA and PLC students
- Language and Adventure Trip for senior French and Spanish students to Donegal
- 3rd year Class Clarke organised an Environmental Day as part of their CSPE Action Project
- 5th year Music Trip to the National Concert Hall
- School Branch of the Credit Union launched
- 6th year commemorative Yearbook compiled
- LCVP Trip to the Chocolate Warehouse in Dublin as part of their Enterprise Module
- Very successful completion of the school's 4th year in the Skills@Work programme
- Funding secured from the SAP Grant Foundation to purchase ipads and charging trolley
- Student Council meetings to review School Policies regarding Uniform and Healthy Eating
- Fundraising events on Daffodil Day to raise money for the Irish Cancer Society
- Our website had almost 18,000 hits in the month of March—a record!



Significant funding for ICT equipment from SAP Ireland



Thanks to our recent successful application to the SAP Grant Foundation, we are delighted to confirm that we have been awarded €6,000 for the school which we have used to buy a class set of ipads and a charging trolley. This investment will be of enormous benefit to our students and will significantly enhance teaching and learning across the curriculum. Our highly successful partnership with SAP Ireland is now in its fourth year and we are very grateful for their continued support and assistance to our school.

Spring 2018-page 2.

Senior Gaelic Football 2018

Senior Gaelic football 2018—Leinster Semi-Final

St. Farnan's 1-11

Killina Presentation Sec School, Offaly 1-06

A game which fell victim to the recent adverse weather conditions, finally took place after a late change of venue as the pitch in Mullingar was covered in snow. The game took place in the idyllic surrounds of Barrowhouse Co. Laois.

The game was dramatic to say the least, Cillian Manders suffered a head injury near the end of the first half and a sizeable delay ensued for the arrival of ambulance.

St. Farnan's went into an early lead but were pegged back by a fine Killina goal. The first half there after was nip and tuck with St. Farnan's gifting possession to Killina time and time again. The first half would end on a premature note 1-3 to 0-6 due to Cillian's injury.

After a sizeable delay and daylight fading fast, the second half got under way. St. Farnan's seemed to handle the delay much better and Billy Maher kicked a number of excellent points to extend the lead. The vital score of the second half came mid way through the second half when Eoin Bagnall was fouled in the box. Darren Judge showed huge composure to convert and put St. Farnan's into a 6 point lead.

Killina then staged a dramatic onslaught of the Farnan's goal but heroic and stout defending from Mark Byrne and P.J. Ewing among others repelled them again and again as they searched in vain for that elusive goal. The final whistle sounded in almost near darkness and St. Farnan's had qualified for their first ever All-Ireland semi final.

All-Ireland semi-final

St. Farnan's 0-7

St. Cuan's Castleblakeney, Galway 2-08

Just four days after our dramatic victory over Killina, we travelled to Tubberclair Co. Westmeath to take on the Connacht champions St. Cuan's. This was an historic game for St. Farnan's GAA as it was our first appearance in an All-Ireland semi-final.

St. Farnan's unfortunately left their shooting boots behind them as they kicked nine wides in the first half while St. Cuan's were far more economical kicking 5 points from 6 attempts. This left the score St. Cuan's 0-5 St. Farnan's 0-3.

St. Cuan's started the second half in whirlwind fashion as after a fine team move they scored a goal 30 seconds into the second half. St. Farnan's pulled a couple of points back but all hope of a comeback were extinguished after a second goal by St. Cuan's. However much credit must be given to St. Farnan's for the heart and determination they showed throughout the match and the campaign to date.

St. Cuan's would go on to win the All-Ireland after beating Colaiste Ailigh, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, but all hope is not lost for this group of players as they now await the winners of the Dublin Championship (Moyle Park v St. Vincent's C.B.S) in their first Leinster Post-Primary Senior Final in the coming weeks.



PLC eBusiness Course Applications Welcome

St. Farnan's Post Primary School is now enrolling for its eBusiness - Information Technology Course, commencing Sept 2018. Subjects include eBusiness, Web Authoring, Desktop Publishing, Computerised Accounts, Internet and many other computer based

modules. This course is Certified by QQI, formerly FETAC - Level 5. Learners may be eligible for a grant or Back to Education allowance. This eBusiness course is suitable for people who have completed their Leaving Certificate and for those who wish to up skill and return to the workforce or continue on to Further Education.

For further details and to download an application form, please visit the school's website www.stfarnans.ie or email info@stfarnans.ie

Alternatively phone the school office on 045-868152 as soon as possible as places are limited.

HSCL Update

The Spring term has been another busy one. This term has seen lots of new courses and opportunities afforded to parents/guardians. Courses were ran in both morning time and evening in order for all parents/ guardians to benefit. 'Building Self Esteem in your Teen' and 'Teen Choices' were provided by Foroige. These courses were of great benefit in communicating with your teen. Maths for Parents ran for four weeks at the start of the term. This course enables parents to assist their young person with maths homework and study. At present, Caroline Cooke (School Completion Coordinator) and I are running Parents Plus. This is an evidence based parenting workshop. Still to come this term is first aid for the home. This will be run in May in both morning and evening. The morning course is now full but a few places remain for the evening course. If you are interested in any course or have any suggestions about future courses please contact our HSCL coordinator Andrew Little on 087-7554770.



A treat of breakfast in Dowling's in Prosperous after a recent Parents Course!

