



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2024



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It has been a very busy start to the year 2024. To date, we have enjoyed celebrating National Compliment Day, Story Telling Week, St Brigid's Day, Kindness Week and Pancake Tuesday.

We look forward to all the other celebrations to come in the weeks ahead. Once again, we would like to thank you for all your ongoing support and cooperation. I would like to thank our pupils and staff for all their hard work.

*Kathy Waldron*

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you to our Student Council for their ongoing work.

The student council recorded compliments for their friends and staff on switches for everyone to listen to on compliment day. They also handed out kindness activities for each class for Kindness Week.

## SCHOOL CLOSURES

We would like to remind you that the school will be closed for the mid-term break on

**Thursday 15th – Friday 16th February.**

The school will also close to facilitate teacher training on the new Primary Mathematics Curriculum on **Monday 4th March.**

## IEP MEETINGS

IEP Meetings have concluded and your child's IEP is now available to view on Aladdin.

## ACTIVE FLAG

Thank you to B3 and Paul for all their work decorating our walkway for Spring, Kindness week and St Brigid's Day.



## NEW SCHOOL

We are delighted to inform you all that the Project Management and Design Team (PMDT) for our new school building has now been appointed.

The Department of Education is still working on the acquisition of the land for our new school building, however the PMDT has scheduled a visit to take place after the mid-term break.



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## KINDNESS WEEK & FRIENDSHIP FEBRUARY

This week we celebrated **Kindness Week**. We decorated hearts to be displayed in the school and celebrated acts of Kindness that we saw made by our friends.

We are also participating in **Friendship February** for the Special Olympics. Each class will design their own acts of friendship. A page for guardians will be sent home with each pupil and parents can make a donation if they wish through Special Olympic just giving page.

## SCHOOL POLICIES

The schools Anti Bullying and Code of Behaviour policies have been reviewed.

These are published on our website and all policies can be viewed by request from the school office.

[www.straphaelsschool.ie/school-policies](http://www.straphaelsschool.ie/school-policies)

## CUBBIE

We were so pleased to have been able to purchase a brand new Cubbie for our school with the proceeds of the fundraiser by the K Club.

The Cubbie has been delivered to the school and has started to be used by some pupils. It will be used by more pupils as staff learn how to use the software and where timetables permit.

## STRAFFAN DESIGN DONATION

Thank you to Straffan Design who raised €2,200 from their raffle for St. Raphael's Special School.

We are delighted to have been able to purchase a Defibrillator for the school with the proceeds of the donation.

## PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association successfully applied for a grant from Kildare County Council. The Parents Association purchased Music Play Panels for the playground with the proceeds of the grant and a donation from the St Raphael's PFA. The panels have been delivered to school and will be installed soon. Thank you to everyone involved.

**Please note that the next meeting of the PA is 28th February @ 10am.**