

February 2018

## School News

- ✓ Science and Maths Awards: Several parents have come in to come in and spoken to the children about their jobs in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields, so thank you to each one of them. We are currently celebrating Engineers Week, with classes doing a variety of engineering tasks (building bridges etc.) The staff have had their second Science CPD from Primary Science, which will be of great benefit to the children <http://www.ballinteeretns.ie/>
- ✓ On Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, each class attended workshops in relation to the Buddy Bench system; the benches will be installed in our yard so children will always have a place to go to make friends and find play companions! The Buddy Bench mantra is "Look Up, Look Around and Look Out for Each Other!" Each child now has a buddy bench workbook which will help consolidate their learning.
- ✓ RTE2News for Children brought in their cameras to our school on 9<sup>th</sup> February to do a feature on how we learn about and celebrate Chinese New Year. You can watch the show, which was aired on Feb 19<sup>th</sup> here: <https://www.rte.ie/player/ie/show/news2day-30001385/10841473/>
- ✓ Junior and Senior Infants visited the Lambert Puppet Theatre to see "The Big Bad Wolf".
- ✓ On the student council recommendation, the senior classes (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) are hoping to start their own school newspaper very soon!
- ✓ Second, Third and Fourth Class all participated in the Write a Book project, and are now reading and judging their peers' books from another school! It was a really worthwhile experience.

## Dates for your Diary

- School Closure for staff training  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>**

*Please note that this training is department mandated and takes place off site with three other schools, and for this reason, we cannot reschedule, despite closing last week. We apologise for this disruption.*

- School closed for St. Patrick's Day Holiday on **March 19<sup>th</sup>**
- PTA and student council cake sale :  
**Thursday March 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- Spring holidays :  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April**
- First Class concert :  
**March 15<sup>th</sup>**



## Important Reminders

- Mondays and Tuesdays after school activities will finish on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of March. After school activities for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will finish on the week before the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of March due to the school closures.
- The buzzer at the Finsbury Building alerts the Gaelscoil only, so please remember that our main entrance is off the Churchtown Road. If your child arrives after 8.30am, for any reason, please bring them to Churchtown Building entrance. There is no access to the Finsbury Building after 8.30am.
- School begins at 8.15am, and we would kindly ask that all children remain supervised by an adult until the gates and doors are open.

# Ballinteer Educate Together

## **A note for parents from the Student Council**

Hi there. We are the student council. We are Noah, Bianca, Liam, Erica, Rhys, Stella, Lara, Séan, Finn, Maja, Joe, Nina, Cian and Faye. In the student council we are working towards bringing Coder Dojo back, but there is a little problem, we don't have enough laptops. So our solution is to try to get as many computers as we can so we are probably going to have a cake sale to raise money. We are asking if you (the parents) could make treats for our cake sale. It will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> March. Even if we don't get enough money for laptops, we think we can give the money to charity. We will probably have a donation box. The people that did Coder Dojo last year are not able to teach it this year, but Liam got a website, so once we know we have laptops, we can look into getting a teacher. If you would like to donate an old laptop, we would also be very happy.

***Written by the student council***