



# ST. MARNOCK'S N.S.



## MESSAGE FROM MS TRIMBLE

Welcome to our midterm newsletter where you can read about the exciting events and activities which took place in our school this term.

We had a fantastic Student Council campaign with election posters on the doors, walls and windows around the school. Students from 5th and 6th class who ran for elections delivered speeches in the hall with lots of interesting ideas about their vision for our school. Elections were held on Friday 17th January where every child from Junior Infants to 6th class cast their vote in the hall. You can read more about it in our newsletter and find out who has been elected to our new Student Council.

I would like to congratulate everyone who stood for election for putting themselves forward and delivering excellent speeches in the hall. It is always great to hear our students' ideas about projects we can work on together to improve the wellbeing of our school community. A big thank you also to Ms. Whelan for leading the Student Council initiative in our school. We look forward to working with our Student Council over the coming months.

We celebrated Catholic Schools Week from 20th – 24th January and assemblies were held in the hall which focused on the theme of sowing the seeds of kindness. It was wonderful to hear from the children about their stories of kindness. We are always striving to be a kind and caring school as the power of kindness can start as a ripple that over time can turn into a tidal wave which can have a positive effect on others.

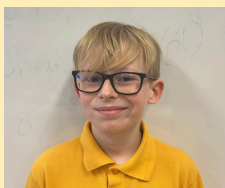
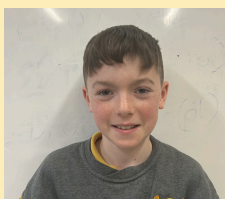
Wishing you all a good midterm break,

Sinéad Trimble



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

- The school will close for the Spring mid-term break on Friday 14th February and will reopen on Monday 24th February.
- We will celebrate Book Week between the 3rd and 7th March. The children will take part in activities such as book quizzes, designing book covers and dressing up as their favourite book character.
- We will celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge between the 10th and the 14th March. There will be a tráth na gceist, a visit from Comhaltas Phort Mearnóg traditional music group and St. Patrick will visit the school during the week!
- Thanks to everyone for taking such an active part in Catholic Schools' Week which we celebrated between the 20th and 24th January.
- A BIG thank you as always to our very helpful Parents' Association for their active support with fundraising during the Christmas concerts.



## MARNOCK'S MUSIC GROUP



Before Christmas, Ms. Kenealy, Ms. Murphy and Mr. Maughan started a music group consisting of musicians and singers from Junior Infants to Sixth class. The primary purpose of the group is to enter a competition called the Walton's RTE Lyric FM Music for Schools Competition. Teachers collaborated in an after-school music club to come up with words and music based on the competition theme for 2025, the Key of Life. Ms. Kenealy gathered the ideas that emerged from the club and wrote an original composition called "The Key of Life". After Christmas, teachers and students collaborated to come up with vocal harmonies and parts for each instrument which include piano, saxophone, violins, guitars, congas, maracas, whistles and recorders. Éabha Fogarty and Ms. Murphy created an art piece for the performance of the song which consists of five coloured petals that come together to create a flower. It was an intense but productive three weeks and eventually, the group were ready to record a video of their composition on the stage in the school hall with lights and microphones. The video has been entered into the competition and teachers and children will hear if they are one of schools that will perform in the final in the National Concert Hall in March.



## STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS



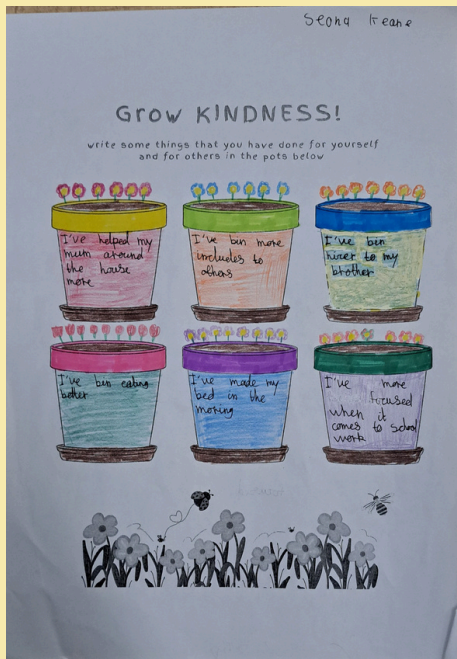
Campaigning and voting for the St. Marnock's Student council took place in January. Ms. Whelan briefed hopeful candidates on what was required of them and gave them some tips about mounting successful campaigns. They got busy making posters, persuading voters and writing their election speeches. They convincingly delivered their speeches to all classes in the hall on Wednesday 15th and every child in the school cast their votes on Friday 17th January at the polling station, facilitated by students from Ms. Whelan's class. The results were announced on the following Monday. The eight student council members elected were Holly Skelton, Nathan Murray, Daniel O'Hehir, Quin McManus, Mia Horgan, Shepard Manchip, Anna Walsh and Riordan Hopwood. Thank you to Ms. Whelan and her Sixth Class students who coordinated the whole process from candidate speeches to polling booths. We are looking forward to working with our new student council members in the coming months.





# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK

We celebrated Catholic Schools' week in the school in January. We focused on the themes of kindness, love and charity for the week. Our new wellbeing wall (pictured) shows how small seeds of love and kindness can grow into beautiful flowers for everyone to see. It really captures the feeling of a kind and caring school that we aspire to be. The children brainstormed with their teachers about the different ways that they can show kindness to each other and recorded them on flower pots. (pictured) At our assemblies, children from each class presented their work and spoke about their deeds of kindness. The Senior Infants, Second, Fourth and Sixth classes performed songs with the theme of kindness at their assemblies.



## THE HALL OF FAME



Anurag Gibikote had an eventful weekend after the storm on the 25th January. He represented Dublin in an inter-county badminton for Under 13s and his team won Silver! He had a fabulous few matches against Meath, Offaly and Carlow.



The swimmers from St. Marnock's did very well at the Minor Schools' Gala in the National Aquatic Centre on Sunday 19th January. Max Bamford and Darren Liu were swimming in the gala for the first time. Max improved his 50 free and 50m back and he did the 100 metre individual medley.

Darren improved his 50 free and he also did the 100 IM.



Kyla Connaughton improved all her times in the Minor Schools' Gala. She swam 50m free, 50m back, and 100 IM and she qualified for the Irish Minor Schools' Gala (30th of March in the NAC) for 50m free and 50m back and 100 IM.

Tommaso Scaringella also improved all his times and got a silver medal in 50m fly. He also qualified for the Irish Minor Schools' aGla with 50m free, 50 fly and 100 IM.



Emily Sweeney swam in the Minor Schools' Gala for the first time and improved her time in the 50m free and 50m back. She also did the 50m breaststroke for the first time. A very well done to all the St. Marnock's swimmers.