

## *The Harold Times* *Mid-term "Good News"* *Newsletter February 2022*



### **Brighter Days ahead**

Dear Parents/Guardians,  
It feels great to be here in the middle of February with the prospect of brighter days ahead. The midterm break will take place next week as planned. The children have worked incredibly hard since January. I want to thank all of our staff for their dedication & commitment to our pupils & the school community. Well done everyone for continuing to follow all the restrictions & safeguarding measures. Together, we have managed together to keep all of our classes in our school building. **Remember the 3 F's next week, fun, fresh air and family!** I hope that you all enjoy a well-deserved break.

*Dervla Nic Mhathúna, Principal*

### **Harold School Library**

It has been a long journey starting with the very successful 'Strictly' Fundraiser but the new Harold School Library is almost ready for its launch. We now have a beautiful room filled with colourful books which will engage readers of all abilities. We even have a dedicated 'leabhar Gaeilge' shelf. We are now in the process of setting up a barcoding system to facilitate the borrowing and management of the books and then we will be ready to go!

*Many thanks to Mrs Boyle for co-ordinating this project, to Anna Moisselle for pushing it over the final hurdle and many thanks also to all the parents who kindly donated books for the library. We are planning a special launch day in March to celebrate this wonderful new resource in our school.*



### **SCHOOL MID\_TERM BREAK**

As per the calendar the school will close for the mid-term break from **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February.**

We wish you all a well-deserved, happy and relaxing week.

### **World Book Day**

Plans are in full swing for our amazing 'World Book Week' starting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> and running until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Children will take part in various whole school initiatives such as a 'Get Caught Reading' photo competition and a dress up day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>, where children will be asked to dress up as their favourite character. We are sure all children will enjoy the many exciting activities based around literacy that will take place that week.

*Many thanks to Ms Madden for all her work in co-ordinating this.*



### **GREEN SCHOOL**



Following a pause during the pandemic we have decided to restart our **green schools** campaign. We will be working towards attaining the

Biodiversity flag while renewing our previously held flags for Water, Litter and Travel. This is a whole school community effort and will take two years. Our first step is to set up a committee made up from students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes. We hope to hold our first meeting after the mid-term break. *Many thanks to our co-ordinator, Ms Murphy, and our teacher Rep, Ms Connolly.*

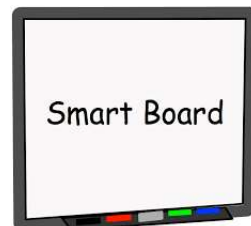
### **Digital Technology – good news!!**

Over midterm break we are due to take delivery of 9 new interactive screens.

These will be installed in our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classrooms.

We are very excited!!

*Thanks to our IT co-ordinators, Ms McKeogh and Mrs O'Sullivan*



### AMBER FLAG

We are delighted that our school application has been accepted to work together towards

achieving the Pieta Amber Flag. This initiative is designed to promote positive mental health in our school community. We have been working behind the scenes in preparation and we will be updating you on our progress and organising fun school activities for all. It will be a fun and engaging project for everyone in our school community highlighting the importance of positive mental health.

*Thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan for looking after this.*

### Wall Mural

The 6<sup>th</sup> class students have been working in collaboration with 'Bloom the Art Project' on a youth led project. This is taking place as a result of our student survey last year. The pupils requested that the walls of the yard would be brightened up, for which the Board of Management has supported funding. So far, 6<sup>th</sup> class have completed brainstorming workshops with Aisling and Fiona (from 'Bloom the Art Project') in order to share ideas on the designs with which they will decorate the walls. 6<sup>th</sup> Class will complete the mural painting during March, and we can't wait to see it! *Many thanks to our 6<sup>th</sup> Class Teachers, Mrs Ahern, Ms Madden and Ms Wall for facilitating this!*



### COVID RESPONSE

All the teachers and staff in the Harold School have been working very hard to keep our children and the wider school community safe in these unprecedented times. We are delighted to inform you that all our classrooms are fitted with CO2 monitors helping us to ensure that the air quality in our rooms is good. We have also just received a further large delivery of Hepa Air Filters.

*Thank you very much to the Board of Management for funding these, and to our Covid Response Team (In School Mrs Reynolds and Ms Kane) for looking after us so well. It is much appreciated!*

### GOOD NEWS on SPORT

**Our 6<sup>th</sup> Class hockey players**

are currently representing the school in the Leinster Primary School Girls League. The girls played away to Wesley College at the end of January. They beat Wesley 6-2! Last week the girls played at home to Guardian Angels. Unfortunately, they were beaten narrowly on this occasion. We are very proud of the girls and wish them well in their future matches.



### I ♥ Touch Rugby

**Our 5<sup>th</sup> class pupils** just completed a 6-week training programme in Touch

Rugby. This was facilitated by Leinster Rugby. Both boys and girls seemed to really enjoy the programme. **Our 4<sup>th</sup> class pupils** are now engaging in the above training sessions and they too are enjoying the experience!

**Our 1<sup>st</sup> Class pupils** are currently engaging in GAA workshops facilitated by Cuala Gaa. Boys and girls are getting an opportunity to develop both football and hurling/camogie skills. They are having great fun! **Next up J. Infants classes** *Many thanks to Ms McKeogh, our Sports Co-ordinator.*



### Student Council

The elections for The Harold School Student Council took place in school last week. Many pupils from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class put themselves forward

for to represent their class on the Student Council for the coming year. We wish to applaud all our pupils who went forward for election - they prepared very insightful speeches and delivered their speeches competently to their classes. We would like to congratulate the following pupils who were elected to the Student Council for the coming year!

**3<sup>rd</sup>** - Grace Moroney, Zoe Hanley, Sophie Colleran, **4<sup>th</sup>** - Ella Connor, Nina McDonald, Alice Brady, **5<sup>th</sup>** - Lara Lynch, Ella Curran, Ava Mae Griffey, **6<sup>th</sup>** - Tate Tompkin Beddy, Mason O Toole, Robert McGonigle.

### Good News re School Tours

We are very pleased that school tours will be resuming and as before we will be depending on parents to come along and help.

All parents accompanying a school tour must have **up to date garda vetting**. If you would like to check if your garda vetting is up to date or apply for garda vetting in The Harold School for the first time, **please contact Reception by email on [reception@haroldschool.ie](mailto:reception@haroldschool.ie)**



