

# TANEY PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL EASTER 2015



The time is flying by and here we are at the end of another term! Spring is most definitely in the air and hopefully, we will have a sunny and warm Easter break. Remember that school will close for Easter at 12.00 noon on Friday 27th March and we reopen on Monday 13th April.

The School has been hosting several students from the Church of Ireland College of Education and Hibernia College in recent weeks. We thank all the students for their hard work and diligent preparation, and wish them well in the remainder of their studies and in their future teaching careers.

## P.T.A. Table Quiz

This was held on Friday 6th February in the Goat Grill. We had a great turnout with 22 tables in all, along with a cracking raffle with lots of prizes from local businesses and generous parents. It came down to a tie-breaker in the last round! But winners were finally declared, prizes were awarded and everyone agreed it was a great night. We raised a marvellous €1,200 on the night. Thank you to everyone who supported us and a big thank you to Eoin Pearson and Peter Ellis for compiling such an entertaining quiz.



## Heritage in Schools – Bird Talk

As part of a schools initiative with The Heritage Council, we were very fortunate to be visited by Eric Dempsey. He shared his knowledge of birds with Senior Infants, 3rd and 6th Classes. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed his talk and learned lots of new facts. They especially loved the fascinating images and beautiful feathers that he brought in to show them.

## Solar Eclipse – Friday 20th March

There was great excitement in Taney Parish Primary School with the children's first experience of a solar eclipse. Professor Brian Espey, an Astrophysicist from Trinity College, Dublin, spoke to the children from 1st to 6th Classes about what to expect and gave us lots of interesting facts and information about why and how eclipses occur. A very big thank you to him.



## Credit Union

This continues to go from strength-to-strength. We currently have over 100 savers in the School, with over 20 parents volunteering to manage it each week on a rota basis.

## Crosscare (Dundrum Foodbank)

This year, our charity focus has been supporting Crosscare. There is a Dundrum Foodbank and we thought it would be appropriate for the pupils to get involved in helping those less fortunate than themselves and who are local. Crosscare boxes were left in classrooms for a week in February and the pupils were asked to bring in such items as cereal, rice, etc. We are delighted to report that a hefty 32 boxes were collected at the end of the week and distributed to local families. As we go to print, Crosscare have left more boxes in the classrooms for food to be collected by 27th March. There will be one final collection in the Summer Term.



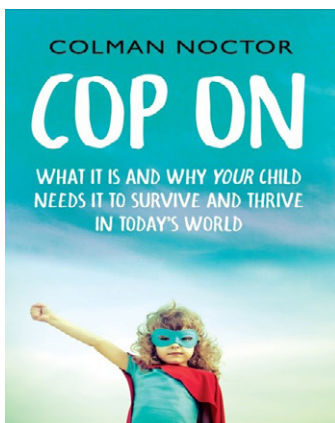
**Food Bank**

## Food Dudes

This is a Bord Bia healthy eating programme for children. For a few weeks, fruit and vegetables are delivered to the school and the children are encouraged to eat and enjoy them. To date, over 3,100 primary schools have been involved with the initiative. The programme in Ireland received a 'counteracting obesity' award from the World Health Organisation in 2006. They also have great ideas for parents about making the best of a child's lunchbox, with helpful tips about adding more fruit and vegetables to our children's diets.

## P.T.A. Information Night

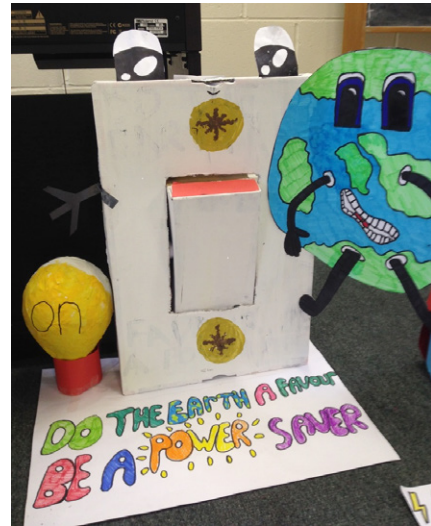
We were very lucky to have Colman Noctor return to speak to us on Thursday 12th March. This time, his talk was about 'Positive Parenting in a Technological World'. It was an insightful and positive talk, dealing with establishing and maintaining a good relationship with our children in a time when technology acts as a troublesome deterrent. Colman is a renowned



Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist and now a published author. He brought copies of his new book – 'Cop On, What it is and Why your Child Needs it to Survive and Thrive in Today's World' – with robust sales at the end of the evening. Once again, we left Colman's talk with a lot to think about.

## Green Schools

Following a very successful review of our application for our second Green 'Energy' Flag by Dean Eaton of DLR County Council, he advised that we are now ready to submit. He was impressed with the content of our application as well as our excellent parent and pupil participation. He was also very impressed with the improvements made to the external play areas, planter beds (thanks to the continued hard work of Liz Houchin and her team), the new bicycle racks and the volleyball / netball courts. As such, he suggested that we also enter the Tidy Schools competition. Ms. McQueston is in the process of completing the necessary documentation and this will be submitted along with the Green Flag application. All going well, we should have good news regarding the award of our second flag in the Summer Term.



*Our new mascot beside the energy noticeboard:  
"Do the earth a favour, be a power saver"*

Our application highlights the positive effects of our increased awareness when it comes to energy efficiency. For example, we have recorded a 19% saving for our gas usage and a 16% electricity saving from the year before the energy work began to 2013/14, Year One of the Energy flag. Small changes really do make a difference!



Our school competition to come up with a new 'energy' mascot, slogan and code met with a fantastic response. The winners were presented with a prize and a certificate at a special Assembly in the Autumn term.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Green Schools Committee for all their hard work and effort, particularly to Nicola Sexton, Suzanne McQueston, Ros Christie, Sarah Warren, Laura McElhinney and Victoria Singleton for raising and maintaining such important awareness amongst the pupils. The Committee continues to achieve great things!



# SPORTS UPDATE

## Girls' Hockey

All three of our girls' hockey teams have been competing well this season. The C Team have had a mixed fortune of results in their matches, while the A and B Teams alike reached the finals against Mount Anville. Our A Team won their match with a final score of 2-1 and our B Team also won their match which went down to penalties! Many thanks to all our supporters and well done to the players!

## Boys' Hockey

The boys' 11-a-side team have had a superb season so far, competing against 1st Year secondary schools in an U13 League and Cup. They were runners-up in the B League Final, losing to St. Andrews. They reached the semi-final of the Cup and, unfortunately, were beaten by The Kings Hospital. They also competed in an 8-a-side primary school League and Shield. They have done exceptionally well, winning their League and due to play in the Shield final in TRR on Thursday 26th March.



*A Team getting silver medals at the u13 B League final*

The second team is made up of a mixture of 5th and 6th Class. They are now through to the Plate final, which will take place on Thursday 26th March in Wesley College. The team in Group 3 did very well, considering most of the teams they play against are the top teams from smaller schools. They finished 4th out of 8 in this group.

All children will finish the season with a fun, mixed age tournament on Tuesday 24th March, which is one of the highlights in our hockey calendar!

## Boys' Soccer

Once again, our A Team have enjoyed an unbroken run of success this season, winning all of their League

and Cup games to date. They are also through to Round 2 of the Pegasus Cup. The B Team also play in the Senior League, with one win and two losses so far. Sadly, they lost their Cup game to St. Lawrences. The C Team are now in the quarter finals of the Junior Cup (Plate) competition. The D team are also awaiting a match in the quarter finals of their Junior Cup competition. Many of these soccer matches will be played next term, given the difficulties scheduling matches with other schools.

The Sports Committee would like to thank all of the team managers who help with the organization of the matches, not to mention the thankless task of kit washing!

## Girls' Soccer

The season for the girls' A soccer team has just begun. So far, they have played one Cup match. They have had a flying start with a convincing 5-0 win over St. Ultan's Primary School. As this newsletter goes to print, they are due to play their first League match as well as the second round of the Cup. We wish them the best of luck for the rest of the season, which will carry on well into the Summer Term. Training for all girls playing senior soccer will also continue next term in Marlay Park.

The Morton Cup (7-a-side) marks the culmination of the girls and boys soccer season. It is, without a doubt, one of the highlights of the school year, so please volunteer your time to help out on the day in order to continue its huge success. If interested, please contact the Sports Committee at [taneysportscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:taneysportscommittee@gmail.com). This year it will take place on Thursday 21st May from 4.45 pm in Marlay Park. Girls and boys from 2nd to 6th Class are all encouraged to take part in this fun tournament.

## Summer Sports

The Sports Committee are piloting an exciting new Summer sports programme which will enable boys and girls from 4th to 6th Class to learn some new sports together. Cricket, rounders and athletics will be rotated and coordinated by Chris Steele and a team of coaches. If successful, this will expand next year to include 3rd Class.

## Sports Committee Vacancies 2015

We are actively looking for parents to replace some members of the Sports Committee for September 2015, particularly the Secretary role and two people are required to oversee Boys

Soccer. No previous experience is necessary and on-the-job training gladly given! This is a perfect opportunity to give something back, especially if your child/children are enjoying sports in Taney. If you are interested and want to know more, please contact Petra O'Neill (in strict confidence) at [taneysportscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:taneysportscommittee@gmail.com).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

The Summer Term is usually a very busy one and this year is no exception. The School, P.T.A. and the Sports Committee have a number of events to organise. As ever, we will be on the hunt for volunteers for some of those events!

## P.T.A. Committee Vacancies 2015

We have a three-year turnover in the P.T.A. and we are looking for three parents to join our Committee in September 2015. If you feel this is something you are interested in and would like to know more, please contact Jo Bourke (in strict confidence) at [taneypta@gmail.com](mailto:taneypta@gmail.com).

## Sponsored Walk



This will be taking place in Marlay Park on Thursday 30th April. Junior Infants to 2nd Class (Juniors) will be walking between 5.30 and 6.30 pm, and 3rd Class to 6th Class (Seniors) will be walking between 7.00 and 8.00 pm. We hope that most of our pupils will get involved.

We organised a poster competition for the Juniors

and the Seniors, the winner of each having their poster printed on the front of the sponsorship card. I'm delighted to announce that the winner of the Junior poster is Toby from Ms Leahy's Junior Infants Class, and the winners of the Senior poster are Amy, Georgia and Melissa from Ms Coe's 5th Class. Well done to you all! Other posters that deserved merit have been strategically hung in different parts of the School for viewing by everyone.

This is a walk, not a cycle and definitely not a run! We ask that all children have an adult responsible for them there on the night. Well-behaved and leashed dogs are welcome to join the fun. Prizes will be awarded for best class spirit and most money raised by a class. Sponsorship cards will be issued to the pupils before the Easter holidays.



## Dates for your Diary

Day/Date/Time	Event
Wed 13th May 9.00-10.00	Meeting of Parents of New Entrants to Junior Infants, Sep 2015.
Wed 13th May 10.00-11.30	Junior Swimming Display, Loughlinstown Pool
Wed 20th May 19.00-20.00	Annual School Concert, Robert Smyth Hall (limited to Participants & Families)
Thu 22nd May 16.30-19.30	Morton Cup (Soccer Tournament), Marlay Park
27th/28th May 13.30-14.00	New Junior Infants come to School to meet Teacher
Sat 6th June	Taney Parish Fête
Tue 9th June 19.00-21.00	Irish Dancing Display, Robert Smyth Hall (limited to Participants & Families)
Fri 12th June 11.00-13.00.	School Sports Day, Marlay Park (beside Playground). Alternate date Thu 18th June
Tue 16th June 20.00-21.00	50th Annual General Meeting of P.T.A.
Wed 17th June 10.00-11.30	Senior Swimming Display, Loughlinstown Pool
Fri 26th June 12.45-14.15	6th Class Graduation Service in Taney Church, followed by Reception in School.
Tue 30th June 12.00 noon	School closes for Summer holidays