

Aston Village Educate Together National School  
Parent Teacher Association

# Newsletter

21<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents,

A number of important events are scheduled before end of term so please keep this newsletter in a safe place and take note of the dates:

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS:** The School Portrait Company will be in school tomorrow, **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** to take individual photographs. We hope to photograph the majority of children on Thursday starting with Junior Infants and working up to 6<sup>th</sup> Class. If your child's photograph is not taken on Thursday we will text you to let you know so that they can be prepared for Friday. Children in our Coiscéim classes will be photographed on Friday. Class group photos will be taken of Junior Infants and 6<sup>th</sup> Class only.

**ASSEMBLY:** This month's assembly takes place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and the theme is LOVE. Children may wear red or pink clothes on Friday if they wish (this is optional - please do not go to any expense)

**NEWTOWN BLUES GAA:** Registration day for ages 4+ takes place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb from 11-12. For training times and prices visit [www.newtownblues.louth.gaa.ie](http://www.newtownblues.louth.gaa.ie)

**WORLD BOOK DAY:** World Book Day will take place on Thursday 1st March 2018. Once again this year we encourage all children to dress up as their favourite character from a book. For some ideas, check out [www.bookaid.org](http://www.bookaid.org) Children will also receive a €1.50 book token which can be used to get €1.50 off a book in our Book Fair.

**BOOK FAIR:** Scholastic Book Fair will take place from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March to Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> March. The school receives 60% back in books from all sales at the Book Fair. Last year we received €1550 worth of books for our school. This year we want to put our book fair money towards purchasing extra class novels.

**Book Fair opening times:**

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March:	Closed	Afternoon Only: 1.30pm-3pm
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> -Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> March:	Morning 8:30am-9am	Afternoon 1.30pm-3pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March -	Morning Only - 8:30am-9am	Closed

**ACTION DAY:** On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 10am we require parent volunteers to help with upgrading the playground (weather permitting). This will mostly involve painting and stencilling and very light DIY. If you are available to help, please contact the office. Children are welcome to come along but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

**LÁ GLAS (Green Day):** On **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March** we will celebrate Lá Glas with children encouraged to dress in GREEN clothing for the day. School will be closed on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March to facilitate staff training in the new Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools and will also be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March (national holiday).

**BAKE SALE AND HAT PARADE:** School closes on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at 12 noon for Easter Holidays. Parents and guardians are invited to our Hat Parade at 11am and children are encouraged to make hats out of recycled materials to model in the parade.

This year we are working towards the next stage of our Green Schools Programme which is “Global Citizenship – Marine Environment” so to tie in with this our theme for the Hat Parade will be “**Under the Sea**”. The Green Committee would like you to make a special effort to recycle plastic this year (eg bottles, bottle caps, bubble wrap, etc) as they are looking at plastic pollution and its effects. New parents can check out the school website for photographs of previous parades for inspiration.

To coincide with the Hat Parade, the PTA will be hosting a bake sale and coffee morning from 9am. We are requesting that parents bake or donate cakes, buns or biscuits to sell on the day. Money raised will be divided between two chosen charities:

- The first charity is the **Children’s Medical Research Foundation** (CMRF) which provides vital funding for Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital in Crumlin (Dublin), and also The National Children’s Research Centre.
- The second is the **RNLI Lifeboats** who protect communities all over Ireland with their 24 hour search and rescue service. Brian Barnes, husband of Freda who is one of our longest serving SNAs will be travelling to Nepal in March to climb Imja Tse, one of the largest Himalayan peaks (6189m) to raise money for this charity. Brian will also be donating proceeds to S.O.S Himalaya, a charity which helps to educate disadvantaged Nepalese children who may be victims of homelessness, abuse or child labour. For more information visit [www.summitforlifesavers.com](http://www.summitforlifesavers.com)

