



# March NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

March 2024

I hope you all enjoy your St. Patrick's Day break..... to follow is just a taste of events which took place since our last newsletter. It has been a very busy month.



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY HOLIDAY

Our school will close on Monday, March 18th in celebration of St. Patrick's Day and will re-open on Tuesday, March 19th at 8.30am.

## EASTER HOLIDAYS (School will close at 11.30am)

Our school will close on Friday, March 22nd—half day for all pupils and re-open on April 8th.

## CURRICULUM DAY (Maths)

Our School will be closed on Monday, April 22nd for a Teacher Training Curriculum day in the area of Maths.

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## CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the boys and girls who made their Confirmation on March 9th. It was a celebration of a very special sacrament and the children were a credit to their parents and teachers in the way they were turned out and in how they participated in the ceremony.

A special thank you to their teachers **Ms. Barron, Ms. O'Sullivan and Mr. Hutton** for preparing them all so well as this day was the culmination of months of preparation for this holy Sacrament. Thank you to **Martina** for decorating the church with the pupils artwork and **Marion** for the Confirmation booklets.

We would like to thank Bishop Brendan Leahy and our Priest **Fr. Murphy**, for all his help in preparation and to the **Sacristan Kathleen and Maureen** for their continuous support throughout.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Well done to all the boy and girls who made their **First Confession** today, Thursday, March 14th.

The next '**Do This in Memory**' mass is **Sunday, March 24th, 2024**

## Lá Glas—Dress up Day

To celebrate the feast of St. Patrick, our patron Saint and our Irishness we will be having a **GREEN 'DRESS UP'** day on **Friday, March 15th** for the whole school. There is no money collection for this dress up day.



**Happy  
St. Patrick's Day !**

**DRESS UP IN  
GREEN  
TO CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



## WORLD BOOK DAY—March 7th

We had an amazing World Book Week. There was so much activity throughout the school. Some classes dressed up as a character from their favourite book and let their imagination run wild. Other classes were paired whereby older children read to younger children. Some classes visited Dooradoyle Library and signed up for library cards and borrowed books. Other classes visited Easons bookshop to spend their vouchers.

Thanks to our teacher Ms Geary for her organization of this event and to all class teachers for promoting this wonderful event.

Check out photos in the various classes on the app.



Ms. Geary's 3rd class enjoying WBD, they also went on a trip to Eason's Bookshop.



Ms. Francis, Ms. O'Dea, Ms. McNamara and Ms. Flynn getting into the spirit of WBD



Ms. Kenneally's 3rd class - Johanna, Maria, Sive and Caleb



Ms. O'Dea's Junior Infants, March 7th 2024.

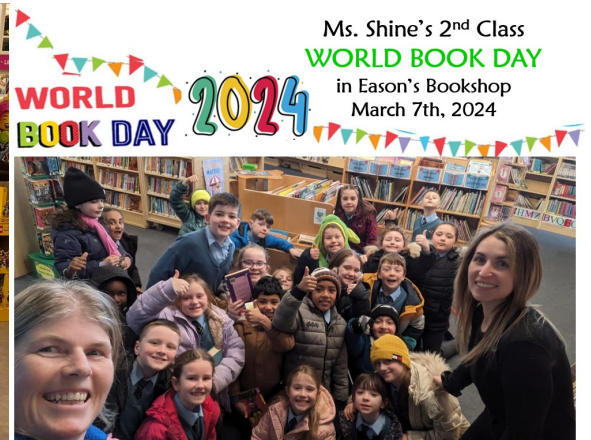




# WORLD BOOK DAY



Pupils from Ms. Roche's Juniors Infants enjoying a trip to Eason's Bookshop.



Ms. Shine's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
**WORLD BOOK DAY**  
in Eason's Bookshop  
March 7th, 2024



Seniors Infants all dressed up and enjoying WBD



Ms. Mortell's 1st Class



Ms. Keane / Ms. Allis 4th Class





Mr. Walsh's 4th class thoroughly enjoying WBD



Ms Ryan's Junior Infants—Eason's Bookshop





## PARENTS ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

### Focus Ireland Donation



Focus Ireland sent the Parents Association a certificate of appreciation for the donation received following the Christmas Jumper event last December.

Thanks to the school choir and Aniela, Olivia, Lylia and Marcus who played beautiful music on the day.

Guess the sweets in the jar was a great success with the winning guess of 304 winning the jar! Thank you to all involved!



Easter Disco 🍀 🍀 🍀 🍀 🍀

**Next School Disco – EASTER – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Thursday Night – 6.30pm – 8pm –**

**for 4th, 5th & 6th Classes**

**€5.00 per ticket**

**Ticket Sales**

**(outside the halla)**

**Tuesday – 19<sup>th</sup> March @ 8.30am (for @ 30-45mins)**

**Wednesday – 20<sup>th</sup> March @ 8.30am (for @ 30-45mins)**

**Thursday – 21<sup>st</sup> March @ 8.30am (for @ 30-45mins)**







## Internet Safety Talk and Survey

### Parents Association

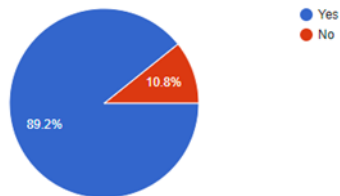


The parents association wish to express our thanks to Jackie O'Regan from [Digiwise.ie](https://www.digiwise.ie) for speaking with parents about the safe use of internet and digital technology. Her talk was well attended, entertaining and very informative. Jackie covered topics outlining the importance of understanding children's use of digital technology and how it can be accessed safely. A sincere thank you to all parents that were able to attend, the great number of parents in attendance indicates that parents are concerned about children's use of technology and want to learn more about its safe use. For further information and resources visit [Webwise.ie](https://www.webwise.ie).

Over 90 responses were received to the survey that was distributed to parents. The responses overwhelmingly show that parents agree that children's use of technology should be restricted both in time spent using the technology and the content that can be accessed.

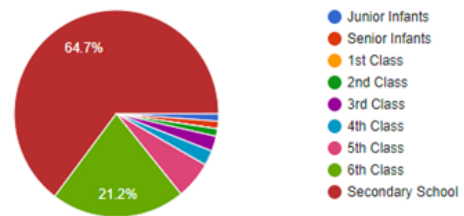
Would you be in favour of a restriction on your child owning a smartphone or having access to social media while they are in Primary School?

93 responses



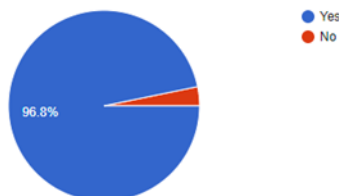
If 'yes' please indicate at which class level should the restriction end.

85 responses



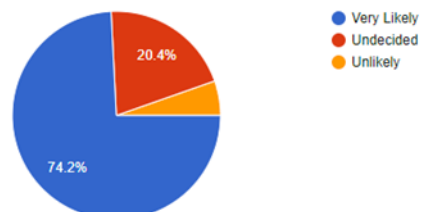
Would you agree to ensure that your child adheres to the age restrictions of various social media applications and games? e.g. Snapchat - age 13, Tik Tok - age 13, Grand Theft Auto - age 18 etc.

93 responses



Would you be prepared to sign a school social media contract to only allow your child use age appropriate apps and games online?

93 responses

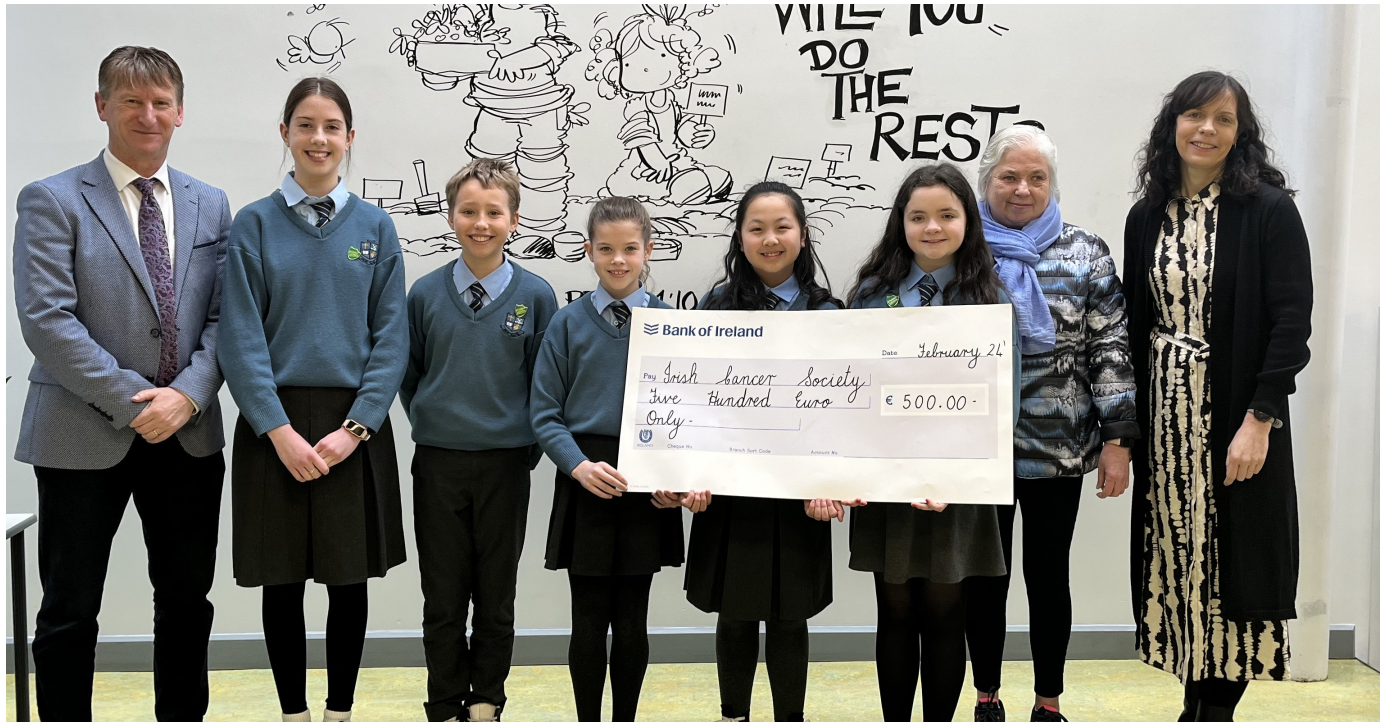


The parents association hopes that the internet safety talk and the survey increased parents awareness of the importance and need for the safe use of digital technologies.

As always, we would love to hear from parents and can be contacted at [stpaulsparentsa@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsparentsa@gmail.com)



## CRAZY HAIR DAY—IRISH CANCER



L-R : John Tuohy Principal, Student Council Members: Ava O'Farrell, Felix Szczepankowski, Robyn Stack, Olivia Chan and Juliette Kenihan, Michelle Dundon, Irish Cancer Society and Teacher, Ms. Carmel Hayes

Our school held a Crazy Hair Fundraiser Day on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> organised by our Student Council .... we had lots of creative hairstyles on the day which certainly created a great buzz of excitement around the school.

Michelle Dundon from the Irish Cancer Society was welcomed to the school and presented with a cheque on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

We are so lucky to have such kind and caring students in our school and would like to thank our pupils and parents for their very kind donations and support for such a worthwhile cause. Huge effort was put in by teachers, parents and children alike.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE.....check out pictures on the school app.



Ms O'Dea's Senior Infants





John Tuohy, principal of St Paul's National School with student council members Ava O'Farrell, Felix Szczepankowski, Robyn Stack, Olivia Chan and Juliette Kenihan, with Michelle Dundon, Irish Cancer Society, and Carmel Hayes, teacher

## School is a cut above with crazy hair day

■ Sum of money (hair) raised by pupils for Irish Cancer Society

DONAL O'REGAN

E. donal.oregan@limerickleader.ie

WHO knew Club Orange and Coke bottles, spiders, noodles, goalposts and even little chicks could be incorporated into a hairstyle?

The pupils of St Paul's National School, Dooradoyle, and their parents did as these pictures from a crazy hair day prove. It was all thought up and organised by the student council to raise money for the Irish Cancer Society.

Michelle Dundon, from the charity, was presented with a cheque for €500 which was (hair) raised in the school.

John Tuohy, principal, said the creative hairstyles certainly created a great buzz of excitement.

"We are so lucky to have such kind and caring students in our school and would like to thank our pupils and parents for their very kind donations and support for such a worthwhile cause," he said.



Stella Lee

Molly Moynihan



Alana Carne



ABOVE: Leila Hughes

BELOW: Sadhbh Kavanagh



Sophie Brennan



Kai Sowinski



Sofie Hanlon



Hannah and Sophie McMahon



Ella O'Carroll Kennedy



Luke Sheahan



Serah Feny



Leah Breen



Malek Abuelkheir



Zoe Culligan

Check out the School App for more photo's.....





## SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE



seachtain<sup>na</sup> gaeilge

MARCH 11th to MARCH 15th

Promotion of our  
Irish language and Culture.



Tá Seachtain na Gaeilge beagnach buailte linn. Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl in ár scoil ó **11 Márta go 15 Márta**.

There is always a great array of activities which focus on the spoken language throughout the school.

By using cúpla focal Gaeilge at home, you can reinforce your child's efforts....

**Thanks again to Ms. Kenneally for organising this annual event.** The enormous amount of work from all staff and our Student Council ensures the success of Seachtain na Gaeilge which fosters an appreciation of our culture.

A Cainteoir na Seachtaine will be chosen from every class and children who are heard speaking Gaeilge outside the classroom will have their names entered in a raffle and could win some lovely prizes.... Our Student Council will be announcing more details about Seachtain na Gaeilge are an Luan

More information and pictures will follow in our April's newsletter....

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Our Student Council have been very busy during February....each week they communicate with the whole school via the school intercom...

On Monday over the intercom they reminded all pupils about the **Easter Bonnet 'Hata Cáisc'** competition they are running. They will be looking for 'creativity and sustainability'.

The closing date for the competition is **Tuesday, March 19th**. Pics will follow on the School App and April newsletter.

## SCHOOL POLICIES



Over the past number of months many of our School Policies have been updated and can be found on our school website.

If you copy and paste the following link below it will bring you directly to the policies.

Please familiarise yourself with them.

We would like to draw your attention in particular to our '**Code of Behaviour**' Policy.

**Link :** <https://www.stpaulsdooradoyle.ie/policies.html> and then select from the drop down menu.



# GARDENING—Ms. Bennis, 5th Class



Spring is in the air in Ms. Bennis's 5th class .....

Our wildflower garden is keeping our 5th class busy and enjoying being outdoors. They did a great job weeding, loosening the soil and setting some new plants to brighten up our garden. It is certainly a lovely space for biodiversity in our school.

Well done to the boys and girls for being so enthusiastic....they did a great job







## INDOOR HURLING

The boys indoor hurling team played in a City Schools Tournament in Old Christians GAA club in Rathbane today, Thursday, March 14th.

They played six different schools and really enjoyed their day out, it was a truly wonderful experience.

Hurling continues in Mungret/St Paul's GAA club each week as follows:-

### Born 2015/2016 — U8/9 Boys Hurling

Day: Every Monday

Time: 6-7pm

Venue: Astro Pitch in Mungret/St. Paul's GAA Club

Contact: Brian Reynolds 087 959 1692 or Maureen Fitzgerald 085 7763606

### Born 2014—U10 Hurling

Day: Every Tuesday

Time: 6-7pm

Venue: Astro Pitch in Mungret/St. Paul's GAA Club

Contact: Michael Larkin 086 392 9232

### Born 2013 — U11 Boys Hurling

Day: Every Monday

Time: 7-8pm

Venue: Astro Pitch in Mungret/St. Paul's GAA Club

Contact: Eoin Rice 086 8211154

## GAELIC FOOTBALL

LIMERICK U20 FOOTBALL TEAM V. TIPPERARY			
EirGrid Munster U20 Football Championship, Phase 1/Round 1 Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March, Fethard Town Park @ 7pm			
  <b>Substitutes:</b> 16. Robert Galligan (Cloughaun) 17. Jamie Behan (Ballybrown) 18. Michael Fahy (Dromcollogher/Broadford) 19. Conor McMahon (Kildimo/Pallaskenny) 20. Pádraic Murphy (Ballysteen) 21. Marc Nolan (Fr Caseys) 22. Patrick Noonan Sweeney (Newcastle West) 23. Diarmuid Ryan (Feenagh/Kilmeedy) 24. Oisín Woulfe (Fr Caseys)  Manager: Shane Kelly Selectors: Damien Fitzgibbon, Dermot Dineen, James Kelly, John O'Grady, John Walsh & Miley Lyons		1 <b>CRAIG MACINNES</b> (Cappagh)	4 <b>PADDY DOWNEY</b> (Dola)
	2 <b>CRAIG O'CONNELL</b> (Ahane)	3 <b>JASON HASSETT</b> (Mungret/St Pauls)	7 <b>MICHAEL KILBRIDGE</b> (Fr Caseys)
	5 <b>JOHN WHELAN</b> (Newcastle West)	6 <b>AARON NEVILLE (C)</b> (Newcastle West)	
	8 <b>EMMET RIGTER</b> (Newcastle West)	9 <b>DARRAGH MURRAY</b> (Monaleen)	
	10 <b>SENAN O'BRIEN</b> (St Senans)	11 <b>CONALL Ó DÚINN</b> (Monaleen)	12 <b>BOBBY SMITH</b> (Ballybrown)
	13 <b>DIARMUID HYNES</b> (Mungret/St Pauls)	14 <b>RONAN QUIRKE</b> (Fr Caseys)	15 <b>SHANE CROSS</b> (St Patricks)

The Limerick U20 Gaelic Football team will get their Munster Championship started this Friday, March 15th away to Tipperary.

One of our past pupils, **Jason Hassett** (who trains with Mungret/St Paul's GAA Club) is full back on the team and we would like to wish him the very best of luck.

## ATHLETICS

Limerick Leader Sport / Limerick Live Sport  
@LinkLeaderSport

Exciting Limerick athlete wins Keara O'Hart National Sprint Award



Congratulations to another past pupil of our school, **Victoria Amiadamen**, Doneen Athletic club on her major achievement in the field of athletics.

She received the Athletics Ireland Keara O'Hart National Sprint award for 2023 in recognition of her outstanding performance at National and International level. St. Paul's wishes her all the best in her future career.



# ROBOTICS WORKSHOP



Matthew Gabriel Azhanzar

Mason O'Regan

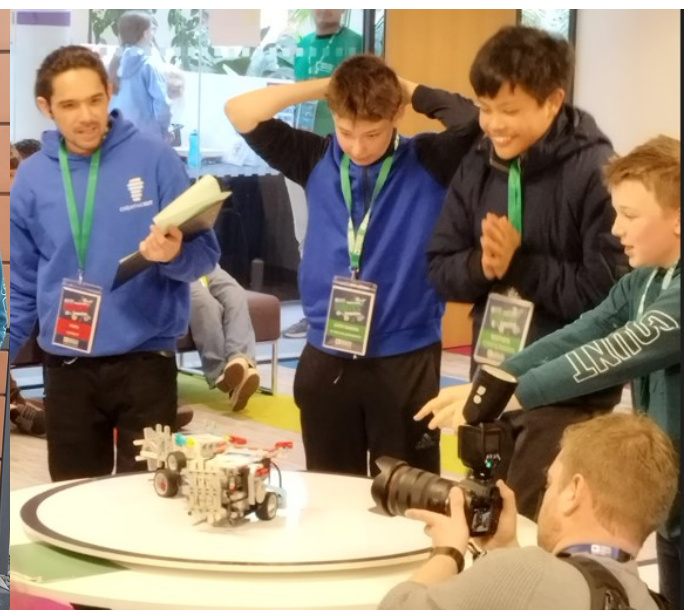
Laith Hamarneh

On March 2nd Analog Devices Raheen Limerick ran a day long STEM inspired challenge. Over 120 primary school children from over 32 different schools went to battle with their self designed wrestling robots.

St. Paul's School was delighted to be part of this challenge and our pupils, **Laith Hamarneh, Mason O'Regan and Matthew Gabriel Achanzar** from Ms. O'Sullivan's 6th class did extremely well on the day. They exhibited amazing teamwork, creativity and problem solving skills and their robot worked really well.

**We are extremely proud of you.**

A huge thank you to Analog Devices and Learnit for such a wonderful experience. It was a great start to Engineering week.





## SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

### Digestive System Junk Models

In Science this term, **Ms. Slattery's 5<sup>th</sup> class** have been learning all about the digestive system. They have been learning about the different parts of the system, the process and they have been busy creating fantastic Digestive Systems out of recycled materials. They have spent a few weeks constructing these 3D models from "junk" and the children have worked hard as a team to create fantastic models!

Really impressive work from 5<sup>th</sup> class and a great way to show their learning!



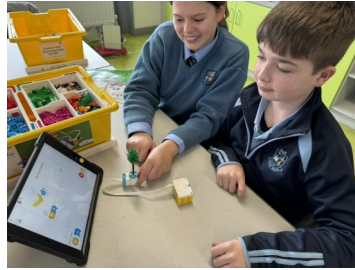


## STEM PROJECT—Engineering Week

In our January newsletter, we advised that our teacher, Mr. David Tobin on behalf of the school applied for the STEM grant that was announced by the Dept of Education. Over 2,700 schools applied and St. Paul's were one of the lucky 560 school to receive a grant of €10K. From we grant we were able to purse our LEGO project from 1st to 6th class.

We had our first visit from Rob from Learnit on March 4th on our Lego STEM project. **Ms. Barron's 6th class and Mr. Carroll's 4th class** were the first have an inhouse LEGO workshop.

It will be rolled out throughout the school in Sept from 1st to 6th classes. The project will challenge pupils on critical thinking and problem solving. It focuses on exposing pupils to coding and much more.



## GRANDPARENTS DAY



Catholic Schools Week 2024  
Catholic Schools: Serving Our Communities

Each year, the Wednesday of Catholic Schools week is designated as the day when the school community celebrates the contribution of grandparents. Grandparents do so much to help raise and nurture their grandchildren.

On February 13th, Ms. Shine's 2nd class welcomed **Faye Wallace's grandad Kevin** and **Leah Breen's grandad, Mic** to talk to the class as part of Catholic School Week.

We would like to thank both Grandparents for taking the time to visit our school and acknowledge the important role they play in our lives





## CROCHET CLUB

This term during after school club, 5th class children have been learning how to crochet with Ms Slattery. The children have learnt how to crochet a variety of items such as friendship bracelets, hats, bags, bows, scarves and jellyfish! They have also been learning how to sew too. They have worked really hard on their new skill and have been very creative in making their crafts. It has been wonderful to learn a new skill which encourages sustainable fashion! Well done!



## PARENTING WORKSHOP



HSE Mid West  
Community Healthcare

**MANAGING YOUR  
CHILD/ADOLESCENT'S  
ANXIETY**



**ONLINE  
WEBINAR**

An online parenting workshop delivered by the  
Primary Care Child and Family Psychology Service,  
Limerick.

**When?**  
28th March at 10-11.30am

**For Who?**  
Parents, caregivers, and  
guardians or professionals  
working with children who  
experience anxiety.




To attend, please register by phoning 087 345 1489







Dooradoyle  
Limerick

Phone: 061 30 66 45

E-mail:  
stpaulsdooradoyle@gmail.com

## CONGRATULATIONS

Since our February newsletter we are delighted to announce more winners in various competitions.....

**BIG CONGRATULATIONS** to....



**Nathan Griffin**, Ms. Enright's 5th class won a **SILVER** medal reciting a poem called 'The Ghost' by Nazim Hikmet in the recent Féile Luimnigh Competition



Well done to **Emma Azzopardi** in Ms. Bennis 5th class on coming **1st** in a recent dancing Feis in Galway.



**Alana Carne**, Ms. Shine's 2nd class who won a trophy for dancing in Fame Factory.



**Adam Zwolski** in Ms. Shine's 2nd class who got his red belt in Judo.

## WORLD THINKING DAY



On February 22nd, The Girl Guides/Brownies celebrated their foundation—World Thinking Day. This day is a chance for Girl Guides, Brownies, Girl Scouts across the world to think about each other.

**Faye Wallace**—Ms. Shine's 2nd Class, **Clara Wallace and Amy McMahon**—Ms. Keane's/Ms. Allis 4th class celebrated 'Brownie Thinking Day' by wearing their full uniform to school.