

St Mary's & St Gerards N.S.
Caring, Connection & a love of learning

REMINDER: SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 11.45 on FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY FOR STAFF TRAINING

Check out the website for photos of Grandparents Day! www.enniskerryns.ie

Weekly Newsletter 7th February 2025

Big Travel Challenge

The Big Travel Challenge continues. Please support this by walking to school, walking and striding or car-pooling! We hope to be as successful this year as last year. Our Green Schools Committee would love to see you walking next week!

Internet Safety

Our pupils in the middle and Senior Classes will be learning about Internet Safety as part of their SPHE programme in the next two weeks.

We have a Voluntary "Smart Device Free until Second Level " Pledge in our school community. We feel this best fits our desire to keep our pupils safer online. It is a social contract and only works if we all get behind it. If you feel you would like to keep in touch with your child when they are out and about, the flip/ block phone is always an option.

Our school is mobile-free and this works for our pupils.

Our P.A. will host an event on 26th March where we can learn more about supporting our children as they cope with the online world.

Please see some links below which may be of interest to you:

[Internet Safety Advice: Top Tips for Parents - Webwise](#)

[RTE Article /Reducing kids screentime](#)

Creative February

We are focussing on creativity this month . This week and next we will "Drop everything and draw" at various unannounced times. We will also be looking at our surroundings and taking photos with the ipads. This initiative is part of our Creative Schools engagement.

We are also planning to have a theatre workshop in the hall later in February . We hope to continue to inspire our pupils to be creative and to reach their creative potential.

Half Day closure

We will close at 11.45 to facilitate staff training on Friday 14th . This is mandatory for schools. I will also share a link to a survey which you may wish to complete. This helps us to gain a picture of our parents' understanding of how we address bullying in the school . All schools are undertaking this research over the coming months.

Outdoors Learning

4th Class had a follow up workshop with the Knocksink Nature Reserve outreach team this week. These local connections are important to make our learning experiences relevant.