

January 2019 - Article for MEATH COASTER from Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh

Happy New Year! - from all the staff and pupils at Scoil an Spioraid Noaimh.

The start of the new year is always an exciting time at our school and to help us celebrate we were delighted to receive a generous gift of beautiful spring bulbs from Woodies for our school garden. A big Thank You to Woodies – our pupils will enjoy planting the bulbs and we look forward to a wonderful spring floral display!

February is a short but very busy month - a reminder for parents and guardians that **mid- term break is week beginning 18th February.**

Confirmation on March 27th. Plans for Confirmation are already underway as our 6th class pupils begin preparations for their Confirmation in the Sacred Heart Church, right next door to our school. Fr Denis has visited 6th classes and Confirmation preparation masses, which pupils and their families should attend, have been set for **Sunday 3rd and Sunday 10th February.**

Professional Development Workshops – our staff are continuing to upskill and are undertaking a range of courses this term. This is part of our on-going commitment to provide a modern and up to date education and learning experience for our pupils.

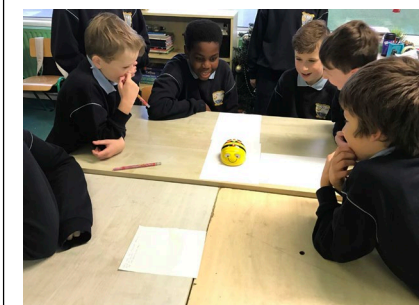
New Student Council : The pupils are busy brainstorming ideas for upcoming initiatives in our school.

Technology at Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh

The pupils of Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh were very fortunate recently to experience work and play with 'Beebots' and 'Lego Wedo'. Beebots are floor robots that move in different directions following commands input by the pupils. Beebots are a fantastic tool to facilitate the development of pupils' computational thinking. A lot of fun was had as the pupils explored mathematical concepts whilst also integrating with the digital technologies aspect of our STEM curriculum.

The children's enthusiasm whilst working with Lego Wedo was inspiring. This resource combines traditional Lego bricks with motion sensors and software. There was great excitement as the pupils collaborated on various moving design

projects. It was evident that this experience enhanced their skills across art and design, mathematics, science, coding and engineering. We are very grateful to Navan Education Centre who facilitated the loan of this equipment to our school.



Luke, Divine, Joris, Joshua & Kevin from Mrs Doak's 6th class programme a Beebot



Adrian, Shannon & Zuzanna from Mrs Doak's class design and code a 'Milo' with Lego Wedo

Best wishes to Clare Hennessy. We said goodbye to Claire our school secretary of 13 years. We would like to thank her for her outstanding contribution and dedication to our school. We wish her happiness and good health in the next chapter of her life.

Library in school gym. We are delighted to have our library up & running again, a great opportunity to cultivate a love for reading!

New School email addresses. Please note that the school email addresses have now changed. We can be contacted as follows: secretary@ssnlaytown.ie and principa@ssnlaytown.ie. Our phone number remains the same: 041 – 9828091. **Please note: Teachers will continue to communicate with parents and guardians primarily through Class Dojo.**