

## Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh – Senior Primary



### *Principal's message*

October is a busy time, as we continue to settle into our new school building. There are packed **PE activity** timetables – with swimming, dance, basketball, GAA coaching, and Active Flag activities. There are classroom projects – such as the **Writing Workshops** in Ms Brassil's class, with author Brian Gallagher, through Meath Co Library. And Ms Commons 4th class, who are pictured creating maths board games during **Maths Week**. There are **Halloween art projects** galore – one of the children's favourite times of year. We have undertaken **staff training**, and our **School Active Committee, Student Council & Student Green School Committees** have been formed and held their first meetings. We have welcomed several new students to our school since August. **Enrolment for Sept 2025 closes on 27<sup>th</sup> Oct.** *A reminder to parents of children in Scoil Oilibheir Naofa that there is no automatic enrolment to our school. You must apply online.– See our school website for further details [www.ssnlaytown.ie](http://www.ssnlaytown.ie)* **Enrolment for ASD classes will not open until 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**



The **Parents Association Open Day** on 20<sup>th</sup> Oct was a resounding success! My sincere thanks to our hard working PA for their monumental logistical preparation and the excellent running of this event. We welcomed literally hundreds of visitors during the PA Open Day, and it is safe to say that everyone was very impressed and most complimentary of our new school building and it's state of the art facilities. Over 60 Prizes were secured for the PA Monster Raffle - a feat in itself! Our thanks to all those local businesses and members of the school community who contributed prizes – so appreciated. My thanks also to our student helpers



who made us proud by escorting our visitors around the school. In appreciation also to staff members for their assistance behind the scenes in preparation for the day, and on the day. A very special thank you to everyone in our school community for your generous support of the raffle - €2,300 was raised to support our school. A truly wonderful occasion - take a bow PA members! **A full Calendar of events has been prepared by the PA and we thank parents for their ongoing**

**support of these activities.**

Wishing everyone in our school community a safe and happy Mid Term Break.

***Blaithin Maguire, Principal.***

### Upcoming School Calendar events:

- 28<sup>th</sup> Oct to 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – Mid Term Break
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov - Cash for Clobber donations.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nov - PA School Book Fair this week.

Active School Flag - (ASF) is a Dept of Education initiative supported by Healthy Ireland, and part of the National Physical Activity Plan. Through the ASF we are working towards achieving a physically educated and physically active school community. This year we are working towards our **3rd Flag**. A number of classes in the school took part in the **Relay Takeover** on the 27th Sept. This was the first initiative of the year and the students enjoyed celebrating our Irish relay champions.



Our **School Active Committee** met to discuss new ideas and build momentum for our **Active School Slogan Competition**. **Student Council & Green School Committee** (pictured) - We are delighted to have such a wonderfully represented student voice in SSN. Our newly elected Committees met for the first time in our P.E. hall. We are looking forward to hearing all their



wonderful ideas they come up with for our new school building.

**Exciting Writing Workshops with Author Brian Gallagher** The children in Ms. Brassil's 5th class are experiencing a unique opportunity to enhance their writing skills through workshops with renowned author Brian Gallagher. Known for his engaging children's books, plays, and novels, Gallagher is guiding the class in an exciting creative journey. Currently, the students are collaborating on a short story inspired by the historical event of the bombing of the bridge on the Piltown road during the Irish Civil War in 1922. They have already brainstormed a captivating title and begun

developing their characters, diving deep into the writing process. The class is thoroughly enjoying this experience, and they are eager to share their finished story on **BorrowBox** in the coming weeks. This collaboration not only fosters their creativity but also connects them with an important piece of history, making it a memorable project for everyone involved. Stay tuned for the unveiling of their hard work!