# Belgrove Junior Boys' School Spring 2019 Newsletter

### Garden Spring-clean

On Saturday January 12<sup>th</sup>, a meitheal of Parents and boys assembled to do a garden clean-up on the beds around the back of the school as well as necessary cutting back and trimming on the hedges at the rear of the gym. Some boys also came along and they were a great help. As well as digging out the raised beds around by Rooms 11 & 12, we mulched with a top-dress of compost- the proceeds of our brown bin recycling. This was organised through the PA and I wish to thank them as well as our helpers who were...

Pádraig Giles Daragh Clarke Neill Hogg Tom O' Brien & Thomas Kris Sierant Yu Lei & Alex

Micheál O' Connell.



# **Clontarf Ladies intermediate Gaelic Team**



5 members of this hugely successful team visited us on 14<sup>th</sup> January with 3 trophies in a visit coordinated by Ger Dinan, our Games Promotion Officer who works with us under the auspices of CLCG Chluain Tairbh and the Dublin County Board.

Sarah Murphy, Margaret Mohan, Aoibhe Bell, Sarah Fagan, Niamh Hetherton were the players who attended. Teachers and boys had prepared an array of very prescient questions....

When did you start to play football....

What was your toughest game....

Why is there not more women's sport broadcast on TV....

# S.I assembly

Senior infants presented a very informative Winter assembly on 28<sup>th</sup> January in the hall. Staff and boys had put a lot of work into this interactive assembly and we got tips on how to stay warm in Winter, hibernation, Tom Crean and the Innuit. The boys recited poems- including an acrostic poem- and songs and we even had an active penguin song at the end! The assembly even had jokes in it.... Q: How do you scare a snowman?

A: Take out a hairdryer!!!!

# **Clontarf Bulls**



On the 28<sup>th</sup> after the Senior infant assembly, Ivan and Dolores Skelly spoke to the boys about the Clontarf Bulls, a participation-based rugby team based in Clontarf RFC. The team has 30 members and all are children with additional needs. The Bulls train on a Sunday morning and 3 of our pupils and 5 boys from the Senior School train with them. The Skellys showed a promotional video showing the club coaches putting the boys and girls through their paces. Joey Carberry of Munster and Ireland was among the coached lending their time and experience to this very worthwhile activity. In 2017, the Bulls were shortlisted for national sports club of the year by the Cara Centre for best practice inclusion of the Bulls within Clontarf RFC. We wish the Bulls every success!

## Dean from one Nation.

On Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the boys in Room 8 enjoyed a visit by Dean Dokkie is a member of west Moberly First Nation from northern British Columbia. The community is located 1,200 km north of Vancouver in the peace river region. Dean, a native Cree and Dunneza speaker, is an elder and a community leader for many years. He gave the boys a talk on his community history, language, culture and the hunting and backwoods skills he learned in the bush growing up.

**David Day Drumming.** David has just finished his drumming sessions with us. This is one of the favourite co-curricular activities in which the boys engage. The combination of listening skills, keeping in rhythm, beating out a 4 part beat and overlaying it with another 2 part is a challenge- but one which many of the boys meet successfully. The combination of drums, bells and shakers makes for a very rich sound. There is also an SESE component to David's work as he teachers the boys about the origins of the various drums and bells. The boys know about an asalato and a agogo bell. He also taught them how some tribes recycle gourds to make sharers from them.

## **Raheny Races**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January, a number of boys from the school took part in the races in Raheny shamrocks. Well done to all who took part and represented the school so well!



### Feast of St. Blaise

The feast of St. Blaise is celebrated each year on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year, we postponed our annual blessing of the throats for Staff and boys until Monday 4<sup>th</sup>. Boys were able to tell their teachers all the important tasks we use our throats for- and how difficult life can be when our throats give us trouble. The blessing is a very simple ceremony but an important tradition in our school.

#### <u>Quiz 2020</u>

We have confirmed the date of next year's Table Quiz with Clontarf Castle for 31st of January.

#### **Upcoming closures**

Language day- 19<sup>th</sup> March. All 4 Belgrove schools will be closed on this day for in-service training

24th May- Boys' Schools will be closed for the local and European elections

<u>Active School:</u> We are participating in the Aldi Play Rugby Programme- If you are shopping in Aldi, do please collect the stickers as we can redeem these for sports equipment for the school.

#### Twitter

To follow the school twitter account, please request to follow and email <u>activeschool@belgrovejbs.ie</u> with your twitter username.