

Cloughduv National School Christmas Newsletter 2018



Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we approach our Christmas holidays, let us take a look back over all that has happened here in Cloughduv N.S. since Halloween! It sure is a busy place!

Hallowe'en: Pupils had great fun dressing up for Hallowe'en on Friday, October 26th. The Parents' Association organised a Halloween party for the children in the halla. There was a Halloween themed movie with popcorn and treats, as well as some dancing games. Prizes were awarded for the colouring competition, as well as best costumes in each class



P/T Meetings: Parent Teacher Meetings took place on November 22nd and 29th. Thanks to all the parents who attended the meetings. The teachers thought these were very successful as it gave us a chance to touch base

with parents, both giving and receiving feedback about each child. Parents can make contact with a class teacher throughout the year via the homework journal or phoning the office.

Diocesan Visit: Ann Marie Barry, the Diocesan Religious advisor spent the morning in Cloughduv N.S. on 14th November visiting all classes. She was very impressed with the religious education that the children receive in this school and she sent a card to thank staff for their work in this area.

Christmas Nativity & Carols: The children have been hard at work rehearsing a Christmas Nativity, a Nativity with a difference featuring some aliens and Christmas carols and classics for the past few weeks. On Wednesday, 12th December, we had a marvellous night of festive entertainment – Ms. Linehan's Junior Infants & Senior Infants performed "The Sleepy Shepherd"; Mrs. Landers & Mr. McElroy's 1st and 2nd Classes performed 'Christmas with the Aliens' and the children from 3rd – 6th classes performed some tunes on the tin whistle and a number of beautiful Christmas songs and a few sing – a – long classics. It was a wonderful night of entertainment and fun.



Cloughduv GAA – County and Munster Champions!

We were delighted to welcome the Cloughduv hurlers and their captain – our 5th / 6th class teacher Mr. Verling to the school on Friday, 9th November to celebrate their victory in the County Junior Hurling Final. Since then, the team have won the Munster title and now represent Cork and Munster in the All Ireland semi final against Kilkenny team Dunamaggin in mid January. We wish them all the best and hope to see them in Croke Park for the final!



Rugby: Coaching in rugby has been taking place in the school in association with Bandon RFC. Brandon, a rugby coach from New Zealand visits the school each Friday for a coaching session. Mr. Verling's class were the first class to avail of the coaching and Ms. Spillane's class have commenced training in recent weeks.

Lifetime Lab: 5th and 6th classes with Mr. Verling visited the Lifetime Lab on Thursday, 22nd November. They had a very enjoyable day of workshops exploring the theme of energy and in particular electricity.



Health promotion: Ms. Purcell has now formed a committee made up of children from the senior classes and some parents to work on health promotion within the school community. We will be looking at our healthy eating policy in the New Year & feedback is welcome. We have started 'Wellbeing Wednesday' with each class.

Station Teaching: This methodology is currently in use for both literacy and numeracy in the Infant classroom. It will be further extended through the school in the next term.



School improvement plan: As you know the school has chosen spelling as our topic to focus on. Teachers had two very interesting workshops on this in school. We are continuing to trial our new spelling approach, as so far the feedback has been very positive.

Digital Communications: As you are aware, we use the Aladdin system in our school. We use this to send email communications to all parents so we would ask that you please check your emails regularly. Also, for those of you with smart phones, we ask that you download the TextaParent App. School messages will then be sent on the app. This will be more efficient and economical for the school.

Website & Blog: Our newly redesigned school website and blog are regularly updated with news, articles and photos. Huge thanks to Elaine Holland for all her help in the website redesign.



Upcoming Events: In the next term the children in each class will have drama classes for ten weeks. Details will be forwarded after the holidays. We are also looking forward to a Drumming workshop and a performance by a percussion duo.

Parents Association: Our Parents Association have been very busy these past few months. The following is a list of some of the events and activities they were involved in: Parents Association AGM, Clothes collection, Assisting with the Scholastic Book Fair, Halloween fun and games, School calendars for 2019 and a Christmas raffle.

And we have heard that they have a special surprise in store for us on Friday, 21st December!

A huge thank you to, Shirley, Eileen and Caitriona for all their hard work.

Reopening: Our school is reopening after the Christmas break on Monday, 7th January 2018.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and looking forward to seeing you all in 2019!

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir!

Is mise le meas,
Sylvia Linehan (Principal)

