

Cloughduv N.S. Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Hope you are well settled back into the routine of school! We have had a very busy two months with lots of learning and lots of events and fun! Here are some of the main highlights!

Junior Infants: A special welcome to our new pupils who joined us this year – Nina, Emily, Ella, Emily Rose, Leo, Colm, Sam, Nathan, Fintan, Callum, Daniel and Ryan.



Improvements & Developments: During the summer holidays, the yard was painted with lots of games and markings which the children are really enjoying at play time. We also installed a screen and projector into the halla which will be most useful allowing us show video clips to all the children as part of assembly or on wet days. Thanks to the Parents Association for their fundraising to complete these projects which benefit the whole school community.

National Tree Day, Ryecourt: On Thursday, 4th October, all classes enjoyed a nature walk in Ryecourt to mark National Tree Day. We saw lots of trees, identified their leaves and most

importantly collected plenty of conkers and had lots of fun!



Athletics: Well done to all the Cloughduv athletes who represented the school so well in Macroom on the 3rd October at the cross country athletics event. All children ran superbly well and we are so proud of their efforts. A special congratulations to the children who won medals in their events: Ciara Kelleher, Max Murphy, Mike McElroy, Darragh O'Driscoll, Christopher Woodland, Aoibhe Cronin, Sam Dineen, and Pedro Denardi.



Gaelic Football: Well done to our football team who had a good campaign this year and reached the semi final following victories over Kilbonane, Coolea and Gaelscoil Dhroichead na Bandan! Unfortunately we were beaten by a better team in Firmount in the semi final. Special thanks to Mr. McElroy and Mr. Verling for their hard work in preparing the team.



Sports Training: Training is up and running in three different sports with different class groups across the school. Gavin takes the junior classes for hurling training; Garda James Masters takes the infants for gaelic football training, and Brandon, a rugby coach from New Zealand takes the senior classes for rugby.

Mini 7's: Girls from 4th, 5th and 6th classes took part in the gaelic football 'Mini 7's' competition which took place in Clondrohid recently. While they weren't victorious on the day, they all performed very well and represented the school admirably. Thanks to Mr. Verling for training and preparing the team.



Green Flag No. 2: As part of our efforts to achieve our second green flag (for energy conservation), we marked Climate Action Week with a number of events. We held a 'Low Power Day' when we tried to limit the electrical equipment we used – no lights, no computers, no interactive white boards etc. We also had a tree planting ceremony to highlight something that all families can do to help combat climate change.



Book Fair: We recently held a very successful 'Scholastic Schools Book Fair'. The children really enjoyed this opportunity to engage with and purchase books to read. Thanks to everyone who helped with the organizing and running of the book fair and also to all the parents who supported it so well. The school benefits further as we earn a commission on the sales of books which is used to purchase further book supplies for all the classrooms.



Upcoming dates & activities to note:

School Calendar: The school calendar for 2018 / 2019 is available to view on our website www.cloughduvns.ie

First Holy Communion: Children in 2nd Class will be making their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 25th May 2019.

Christmas Concert: Our festive performance will be held in the church on Wednesday, 12th December.

School Closure: The school will be closed on Monday, November 12th to facilitate in-service training for all teachers.

Parent Teacher Meetings: Parent Teacher meetings for all classes will take place on Thursday, 22nd November and Thursday, 29th November from 3pm. School will close for all pupils at 2.30pm on both dates. If parents have a preference for one of these dates, please let Kathleen know in writing by Wednesday, 7th November.

At other times during the year, meetings with teachers must be scheduled. Teachers are more than willing to meet with parents, but are not available for incidental meetings without prior appointment. We would ask you to respect this. If you require an appointment with the teacher, please send a note in your child's journal or contact Kathleen.

Website & Blog: Our school website and blog are currently being overhauled and are getting a brand new look. We will let you know when the new site is live!

School Assembly: On the last Thursday of each month, a whole school assembly takes place. All birthdays for the month are marked as well as celebrating any successes among the children. This year we have also incorporated a traditional Irish song into the assembly. All classes learn the song during the preceding month and it is performed by all at assembly. This month we are all learning 'Trasna na dTonnta'.

School Self Evaluation: Our focus this year across the school is on Spelling. Teachers are having in-service in this regard during this term.

Halloween: All children may wear their Halloween costumes to school on Friday, 26th October and we will be having a movie viewing in the hall with some treats which has

been organised by the Parents Association as a fundraiser for the school. The cost is €5 per child. Please return money to the class teacher by Friday.

Parents Association: The parents association have been busy getting lots of activities organised since the beginning of term. The clothes collection last week raised €350 and we thank all families who supported this. The school calendar is currently in production and the Halloween fun day is ready to go on Friday! The AGM of the Parents Association last night was a success with good points raised & discussed. Those ideas will be brought to the staff & Board of Management. Our big focus will be on health promotion this year, especially mental health with all classes engaging in a mental health programme. We are always looking for parental participation in many aspects of school life. If you have any interests or ideas, please email Ms. Linehan – principalcloughduvns@gmail.com

Good Luck: We would like to wish the Cloughduv Hurlers the very best of luck in the upcoming County Junior A Hurling Final against Russell Rovers, in particular all our past pupils and our 5th / 6th class teacher Mr. Verling. **Cloughduv Abú!**

Finally, I wish every pupil, teacher and parent a lovely, relaxing and fun filled Halloween break.



Is mise le meas,

Sylvia Linehan (Principal)