

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter
April 2012

Dear Parents,

April was a short month in school but there was a lot of work squeezed into it. Our concert last week was the highlight and I hope you all enjoyed watching it as much as we did preparing it. The summer term is in full swing and there is a huge amount to be done over the next nine weeks – Cork City Sports, hurling, school sports and school tours being some of the things that the children will be looking forward to. Our staff will be finishing off their work for the year and revising to make sure that the children are ready to move on to the next level in September. There will be a number of notes and texts going home over the next few weeks to organise the events so please keep an eye on your child's bag and make sure that we have the correct phone number for txt-a-parent reminders.

Concert:

Well done to all involved in our school concert. It was fantastic and it showcased all that is great about our school – everyone pulling together for the good of the children. Thank you to everyone who helped, supported and wished us well. Our pupils were great and put in amazing performances. Our staff, yet again, rose to the occasion and made sure that everything was prepared to a level that exceeded expectations. Grainne Murphy and Eleanor Crowley deserve special mention for the wonderful production. U2 have spent millions trying to put a stage production of Spiderman on in New York and it has hit lots of problems and is over budget – I hope they don't try to poach Ms. Murphy and Ms. Crowley if they hear about Cinderella, Spinderella!! After putting in all the hard work it was brilliant to have a full house on both nights and we really appreciate the efforts people made to come and support us. It was expensive to put on the show but, including the raffle run by our Parents Association, we have made over €2000 for the school. This will help to provide more resources for our school which will have a positive impact on our students learning.

Confirmation:

6th Class had their big day this month. They had a beautiful day and a lovely ceremony. The effort put in by the choir and staff involved was great and it helped to create a day that the children will remember for a long time. Thank you to Ms. Dunne and to Mary for preparing our students.

FAI Boys' Soccer Finals:

Our boys travelled to Turners Cross last week to compete in the county finals of the FAI Soccer Competition. They didn't qualify for the Munster Finals but we are very proud of them for making it into the top four teams in Cork. Well done boys!

FAI Girls' Soccer tournament:

Our girls played in the FAI Soccer Competition this month as well. They played really well and represented our school brilliantly but came up against strong opposition on the day. Well done girls! Thanks to Mr. Sexton for organising and training the boys and girls teams.

Chess:

Ms. Lynch took our chess team to Carrigaline this month to take part in the ChessZ competition. They competed really well and fought hard in every match but were up against more experienced players. We hope that they will learn from the experience and come back stronger next year.

iPads:

Our iPads arrived in the school last week. They are all set up and ready to go. Some of the children have used them already and over the next few weeks every child will have the opportunity to use them. The teachers will be using them to enhance teaching and learning opportunities in the class.

New building to replace pre-fabs:

We have been approved for a grant to replace our prefabs at the back of our school with a permanent structure. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue the development of our school building. We hope that construction will begin before the summer holidays.

Junior Infants Books:

Junior Infants wrote their own books recently. Check out their page on our website, www.littleislandns.com, for more details on their beautiful publications. Well done to all the boys and girls for their hard work!

Artist from Craft Council:

The Craft Council of Ireland in conjunction with the Cork Education Support Centre are providing us with an artist for 5 weeks starting this week. The artist will work with Junior Infants on a project. Teachers from across the school will visit and learn different techniques and these will be used in their own classes. We are very lucky to have this opportunity as a large number of schools applied and only a few were picked. Thanks to Ms. Diamond and Ms. Murphy for attending training and planning outside school hours so that we can have this opportunity for our school.

That's all for now.

All the best,
Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

4th May: Artist from Craft Council of Ireland starting with Junior Infants

12th May: Holy Communion

18th May: Cork City Sports

29th May: Staff Meeting – Infants finish at 12.30pm and 1st to 6th finish at 1pm.

30th May: 5th Class school tour

31st May: school closed for referendum as school is a polling station.

Note: Cork Figure Skating Association are currently running training sessions in Little Island Sports Complex on Friday evenings and on Sunday mornings. See their website www.corkfigureskating.com for more details if you are interested.