Scoil Inse Rátha Déan do Dhícheall Newsletter December 2016

Dear Parents,

As the term comes to an end we can reflect on a very eventful and exciting term. There are a million things that we are proud of. Thank you to everyone in our school community for another successful term especially to our staff and pupils.

Parents Association:

Our PA has been working harder than ever this term. It is not an easy job having to go to ask businesses and industry for sponsorship and we really appreciate the parents who do this. Without them our school would not be as good as it is. Thank you to all of our sponsors as well. There are still a few calendars available from the office. Our annual Christmas Raffle was another huge success. Thank you to everyone who supported our raffle. A full list of winners will be available on our website shortly.

Christmas Performances:

Each of our classes put on a performance this week for our parents and families. Every child was included and performed excellently. There was a brilliant atmosphere around the school and we are really proud of all of our students. Thank you to all the parents, family members etc who managed to get here. We really appreciate that you made the effort to attend at such a busy time of the year.

Carol Singing:

Our choir sang in The Radisson last week to raise money for Enable Ireland, our chosen charity for this year. The Radisson contacted me afterwards to commend the children on their behaviour and singing. While we know they are brilliant it is nice to have members of our community saying nice things about us. They collected over €180 in less than an hour singing – well done to all involved.

Santa's visit:

Santa took time out of his very busy schedule to come and visit our school. He said that all the boys and girls are on the nice list! Our children sang songs and told him jokes. Thank you to the parents who came along to act as Santa's Helpers on the day. Check out The Latest News section of our website to see pictures from the visit- www.littleislandns.com.

School trips and treats:

We have fantastic, trustworthy children in our school so we are able to plan and undertake school trips and treats during the year. This month 1^{st} - 6^{th} Classes went to the panto in The Everyman. They had a great time and represented our school really well.

Swimming:

 $4^{th} - 6^{th}$ Classes will start swimming lessons after Christmas in Mayfield swimming pool. We do this every year to fulfil the Aquatics strand of the PE curriculum. They will attend 6 weekly lessons from the 10th of January. Thanks again to our PA for paying towards the cost of the bus which makes the cost of swimming much more affordable.

Chess Club:

The Little Island NS Chess Club will start again after Christmas. It will run at lunch time and they will be entered into the annual inter-school chess competition. There are several free apps that can help children (and adults) learn this fantastic game or of course you get a chess board and play together over Christmas.

Golf Lessons:

Dave Ryan, Sam's dad, has agreed to do golf lessons with 1^{st} & 2^{nd} Class in January and February. These lessons will take place in The Little Island Sports Complex on Monday mornings. Dave has all the equipment so it should be a fun opportunity for our children try out a different sport.

On behalf of everyone here is Little Island NS I would like to wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

That's all for now.

All the best, Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Thursday Dec 22nd: School Closes at 12.15pm for all classes.

Monday Jan 9th: school reopens after Christmas Holidays.

Tuesday Jan 10th: 4th-6th Class swimming.

Monday Jan 16th: Golf lessons with Dave Ryan for 1st&2nd

Thursday Jan 19th: Board of Management meeting

Wed Jan 25th: Enrolment closing date for Junior Infants for Sept 2017

