

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter February 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our monthly newsletter. There has been a lot going on around the school and there is much more planned for the months ahead. Thank you to all of our staff, children and parents for their help and support so far this year. We can all be very proud of our school.

Swimming:

4th-6th Class have completed their swimming lessons for this year. Thanks to everyone at the pool in Mayfield for their work with our students. Swimming is a very important life skill and we are delighted to be able to provide this opportunity. Thanks to our PA for subsidising the cost to make it more affordable.

Evening Echo KidsZone:

We were featured in The Evening Echo before midterm. It was a great chance to let the outside world know how special our school is. We would have liked to include all of our pupils in the supplement but this was not possible. A copy of the supplement will be displayed shortly in the school in case you didn't see it.

C.O.W. Day:

As part of our Green Schools Programme, we had a Cycle On Wednesday day this month. We were delighted with the response to it from all of our families. Nearly 140 bicycles/scooters etc were in school on the day. Hopefully there will be safer pedestrian and bicycle access to our school, from all parts of Little Island, in the coming years.

Green Schools Evaluation:

On Monday this week we had our evaluation for our Travel Flag. This has been one of the harder flags to work towards and part of the process means that we have to prove that we are continuing our work in the three previous areas. Thank you to our Green School Committee and to Sandy McGroarty for their support over the last two years and especially to Ms. Walsh and Laura Daly who have done a huge amount of work. It has been a team effort and we are confident that we will be raising our next Green Flag shortly. We will hear officially after Easter.

Cycle Awareness for Parents:

As part of our Green Schools Programme we ran a training session for adults to help them to be more confident in bringing their children out cycling. The participants enjoyed it and we hope to be in a position to run it again on another occasion.

Photographer:

East Cork Studios took photos before midterm. Proofs are being made available this week. If you have any questions please contact Austin at East Cork Studios. These photos have proven to be very popular over the years and as an added benefit the school gets a commission on the sales.

Board of Management:

Our Board of Management's term comes to an end in November this year but they are as committed as ever. We are looking at work that needs to be done during the summer and planning for the staffing needs of the school next year. We are also in negotiations with the Department of Education for more money and resources to further improve our school. There is huge demand on resources in parts of Dublin for new schools so convincing the Department to give us anything is a challenge.

Engineers' Week:

As part of Engineers' Week we had an engineer come in to speak to 5th and 6th Class about his job and to encourage them to consider it as a future career.

6th Class trip to NMCI:

6th Class were invited by PepsiCo to go to The National Maritime College in Ringaskiddy. This is an amazing facility and the children loved the experience. They were really well looked after and the bus was sponsored by PepsiCo. We hope that this is an opportunity that every 6th Class will have in the years to come.

That's all for now.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Tuesday March 3rd: 9.30am: 1st to 6th Class to see Oisín in Tír na nÓg performed by Clan Cluana in The Complex.

Tuesday 17th March: School closed for St. Patrick's Day.

Monday 23rd March: Cór Fhéile

Friday 27th March: School closes at 12.15pm for all classes for Easter Holidays.