

Scoil Inse Rátha

Déan do Dhícheall

Newsletter November 2015

Dear Parents,

We've had a busy, exciting and rewarding month. We have a wonderful school and we should all be very proud of it.

Concert:

Last week's concert has been the culmination of many months of preparation. It is a credit to all in our school community – children, staff, parents and our wider community have helped to pull it all together. Ms.Crowley did a great job of leading the whole process and of making it enjoyable for everyone. Our staff got behind the project enthusiastically and made sure the children were well prepared and feeling confident to stand up in front of hundreds of people. Our students were amazing and did a fantastic job – we are all very proud of them. Shane,Rosita, Artur and all the staff in The Radisson couldn't have been more helpful and supportive and they provided a magical setting for our performance – we really appreciate all that they did. Thank you to all the families who came out and supported us and helped to create a great atmosphere on both nights. It was particularly nice to see past pupils, past parents and past staff coming back to support us and enjoy the performances. Well done to all involved.

Gaeilge:

This is one of the areas that we are focusing on this year in school. We had a PDST (Professional Development Support Service for Teachers) facilitator in to guide us through the process. Please use as much Gaeilge as you can at home to complement the work we are doing in school.

Board of Management:

Our new Board of Management begins its term on December 1st. Fiona Twomey (Chairperson) and Sean Twohig are the Patron's nominees, Frances Clarke and Gerard Stapleton are the parents nominees, Sandra Horgan and Pádraig O'Sullivan are the community nominees and Eleanor Crowley and myself are the staff nominees. This group forms a corporate entity which means that their job is to work in the best interests of the school and not to represent individual or sectoral interests. If you have a concern that needs to be raised at Board level it should be put in writing to the Board.

Parents Association:

As Gerard Stapleton has been elected onto our Board of Management he can't hold an officer's role on the Parents Association. In due course our PA will need to elect a new Chairperson to replace Gerard. On behalf of everyone in the school I would like to thank Gerard for all his hard work and commitment to our school.

Our annual Christmas Raffle will be held in the school on Dec 17th. Tickets will be on sale in the next week or so. Our calendars were on sale at the concert and have sold out! Thank you to everyone who bought them.

Well Being Symposium:

Wellness and Well Being are terms that we are hearing more of recently. Miriam Hennessy, our Acting Deputy Principal, attended an IPPN symposium in Dublin at the start of the month called Emotional Wellbeing – at the heart of school communities. The happiness and well-being of all of our children and staff is central to what we do. Our mission statement states that we aim to educate the whole of the child – not just the academic side. We can't get it right all of the time but it is at the heart of every decision we make and policy we write. Check out #LetsTalkWellbeing on Twitter for more information.

Lunchtime Football leagues:

The girls and boys have been playing in football leagues at lunchtime over the last couple of months. The final was played last week. It was a tight, close and competitive affair with some lovely football being played. Well done to all the teams involved and especially to the two teams in the final. Some of the children acted as referees as well and did a great job of keeping the game flowing. Thank you to the teachers who organised the matches and supervised them during their lunch break.

Parking:

We have a few spaces outside the school for specific users. There is a disabled parking space, a bus parking space and a set down area. Please use these spaces if they apply to you but keep them free if they do not apply to you. Please respect our neighbours when you are parking.

That's all for now.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

3rd Dec: 9am Irish Flag and Proclamation being presented to our school by Irish Naval Service.

9th Dec: 10am Sandy McGroarty raising out Green Flag for Travel

15th Dec: 5th & 6th going to The Everyman Theatre.

17th Dec: PA Christmas Raffle

22nd Dec: 12:15pm: school closes for Christmas Holidays

6th January 2016: school reopens