

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter October 2017

Dear Parents,

As mid-term approaches we get a chance to draw our breath and reflect on what was a very busy term so far. There is beautiful art work and lovely projects up on our corridors and there is a lot to be seen on our school app. Thanks to all the staff, pupils and parents who have helped out this term so far.

Sciath na Scol:

Our Sciath na Scol team played five matches against schools of similar size. As usual our students represented our school really well and we are very proud of them. They narrowly missed out on a place in the final, winning three matches, but played very well. Well done to all involved.

Credit Union Quiz:

We entered two teams in the Credit Union quiz this year. It is a very demanding, high quality quiz and we are delighted with our students for taking part. Well done to all involved.

Golf:

1st and 2nd Class are continuing their golf lessons at the moment. Dave Ryan is hoping to bring them to Cork Golf Club. The weather has prevented us visiting a couple of times so hopefully it will happen soon.

Rowing:

5th & 6th Classes started their Rowing Ireland course last week in Cork Boat Club. It involves 5 weeks of training on rowing machines and then a school blitz in The Neptune Stadium in November. This is a great opportunity for our students to experience something completely different in a safe and fun environment. Maybe the next Irish Olympic rowing champion is sitting in our classroom today!

Maxi Zoo Responsible Pet Ownership:

Emma Fanning from Maxi Zoo came to speak to our students last week. She discussed responsible pet ownership. She also spoke to the children about what to do if you want to approach a dog, if you see a dog without an owner or if a dog approaches you and you don't like it. She also brought Ted, the rabbit, and allowed the children to rub him.

Parents Association:

Our Parents Association have been busy this month.

- The AGM was held at the start of the month. It was great to get some new parents volunteering to be on our committee.
- We had a very successful bag packing event in Supervalu this month. Thank you to all the parents and children who gave their time to support our school. Thank you to Ryan's Supervalu for supporting us as well.
- Calendar: photos were taken this month for our annual school calendar. These calendars are a lovely family keepsake and gift so we look forward to seeing this year's version.

Space Station event in GCC:

The International Space Station will have a live link with GCC this week and some of our 5th Class students have been invited to witness this amazing event. We are delighted to have been invited. Keep an eye on our app for pictures and a report on how it went.

Charity for the year:

In light of the homelessness crisis in our country, we have chosen The Simon Community as our charity for this school year. We will have three events during the year to raise money for this charity. Our Hallowe'en Hike this week is the first event which should be a lot of fun for everyone. We will have some carol singing in December and a cake sale before Easter as our other two events.

Lunch time league:

Lunchtime leagues have started and they will run for the next few weeks. This is a great opportunity for every child from 3rd to 6th to take part in a fun league. Thanks to the staff who organise and run this.

Maths Week:

Last week was Maths Week and the children were involved in various class activities including projects and maths trails. See www.mathsweek.ie for more. Maths is everywhere in the world around us and it is important for the children to be aware of how often they use maths. It is also important for you to give them as many opportunities as possible to use the maths they learn. A simple example could be to give your child 50c and let them figure out what treat they could buy in the shop. Talking to them about prices and which item costs more than or less than the 50c they have is a great learning opportunity for your child.

Parking:

We have a set down area outside the school for parents to drop off their children in the mornings. Parents who want to come in with their children should park further up the road. Please respect our neighbours and don't park on the yellow lines or in a way that blocks our neighbours' gates. Please keep the staff carpark free for staff. The carpark is for staff use only. To ensure the safety of children we ask that parents do not enter the carpark to drop or collect children.

Have a happy and safe midterm break!

That's all for now.

All the best,

Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Fri 27th Oct: Hallowe'en Hike for Simon Community.

30th Oct to Nov 3rd: School closed for midterm break.

7th Nov: 1st Class Nutri Safari to Supervalu, Glanmire.

13th-17th Nov: Science Week

Wed Nov 22nd: Parent/Teacher meetings – school closes at 1pm for students.

Thursday Nov 23rd: Parent/Teacher meetings – after school.

Fri Nov 24th: 5th&6th Class at rowing blitz in The Neptune Stadium

Mon Nov 27th: School nurse in for Junior Infants

Wed Nov 29th: Board of Management meeting