

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter October 2013

Dear Parents,

After getting a chance to draw our breath during midterm we could reflect on what has been 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 website detailing what is going on at each class level. See www.littleislandns.com for more. Thanks to all the staff, pupils and parents who have helped out this term so far.

Concert:

With only a few weeks to go practices are in full swing throughout the school. Everyone is working really hard so we can put our best foot forward at the end of the month. Tickets are on sale in the office and are €5 each for adults and children. Please buy early as it is only on for two nights and there is limited seating. As previously advised, Parent Teacher meetings will be held on Jan 20th and 21st instead of November for this year because of the concert.

WOW Days and Active School Flag:

Our Walk on Wednesday's initiative is going really well and lots of families are supporting it. Last year we used this as part of our Green Schools Travel Flag but this year we are implementing it as part of our work on The Active Flag. It is great to see so many children walking, cycling and scooting to school. We are aware that it is not possible for everyone to do it but we hope that by encouraging more activity among our children they will be more active outside of school.

Sciath na Scol:

Our boys and girls teams did us proud this year in the football championship. The enthusiasm and effort put in by the children was very encouraging. Thank you to the staff that helped and organised the training and matches.

3rd Class blitz in Nemo Rangers:

3rd Class boys and girls travelled to Nemo Rangers to play in a non-competitive football blitz this month against a number of schools from around the city. It was excellently run and the children enjoyed a lovely day's football.

7-a-side football:

The Mini-sevens competition was on just before the midterm. Again our girls and boys represented our school excellently and we are very proud of them. This competition completed a very intensive period of football for our school which provided our children with an opportunity to learn in a different way and a chance to represent their school.

Board of Management:

The term of our Board of Management comes to an end on Nov 30th and our new Board takes over on Dec 1st. I would like to thank the outgoing Board for all their work over the last four years. Our school has overseen two building projects and the revamp of our older classrooms, along with numerous other little projects along the way. They have been very supportive of any plan to make our school a better place. These volunteers have given very generously of their time and energy and it is all very much appreciated.

Parents Association AGM:

Our PA had their AGM recently. There was a good turnout and it was great to see some new faces. Our PA is always looking for people to join and to help out. It doesn't have to be a full time commitment but every time you can help is very much welcomed. Thank you Deirde, Una, Michelle and Kay who have stepped down from the PA, after many years of excellent service. Thank you for your time and energy which has had a huge impact on our school.

Minister Dara Murphy visits our school:

We were delighted this month to welcome Minister for State, Dara Murphy to our school. He was welcomed by our Students Council and they told him about all the things they like about our school. They also asked him to help make our school a better place by providing funding to modernise some of the older parts of the building.

Minister Murphy also spoke to our Board of Management, teachers and Parents Association. He visited Junior Infants and 2nd Class. He was very impressed by our school and acknowledged the great work being done by our school community. He promised to help us in any way he could to get more resources for our school. We very much hope this happens sooner rather than later!

Maths Week:

We had Maths Week in October. All of our classes engaged in some extra maths activities to mark the occasion. Today is the 200th birthday of George Boole whose work in maths is seen today in electronic devices and computers. He was also the first maths professor in UCC. See www.georgeboole.com for more information.

Dept. of Children and Youth Affairs Consultation with Children:

Four children from our school were invited to a consultation for children and young people in Limerick which was hosted by The Dept. of Children and Youth Affairs. They spent the day giving their opinions on a variety of issues including the future of the country. There were only a small number of children invited so this was a great opportunity and the children involved did us proud. Thanks to the staff who accompanied them and to the children who represented us so well.

That's all for now.

All the best,
Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

24th & 25th November at 7pm: *A Story Before Bed* in The Radisson Blu, Little Island.