

Scoil Inse Rátha
Déan do Dhícheall
Newsletter January 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019. Christmas feels like a long time ago. There is a lot going on and there is a fantastic buzz of work in each class in the school. We are lucky to have such diligent staff and hard-working children. Thanks to everyone – it is great to see our school motto “Déan do Dhícheall” (do your best) in action!

Swimming:

4th – 6th Classes are swimming once a week in Mayfield for six weeks. We are more than half way through the course already. They are making great progress and are enjoying the experience as well. Swimming is a brilliant activity and skill so it would be fantastic if the children could build on what they learn in these lessons by going swimming outside of school time.

Board of Management:

Our Board of Management met this month. We reviewed our Code of Behaviour Policy and conducted our annual review of our Anti-Bullying Policy. We also submitted an objection to the planning application for a waste transfer and recycling facility in Little Island.

Chess:

We held trials for our chess teams this month. Two teams will be taking part in the Ficheall.ie tournament in Carraigtwohill on Thursday this week. It is a fantastic game that requires skills of strategy and analysis while having fun. If you want to know more about the game, so you can play it with your child, feel free to contact us.

Gymnastics:

Gymnastics starts for 1st-4th classes next week. They will take part in a range of gymnastic activities with a fully qualified gymnastics coach for six weeks. Gymnastics is a brilliant activity in itself but it also develops agility, core strength, gross motor skills and much more that can benefit other sports too.

Work Experience / Teaching Practice:

We have a number of student teachers and TY students in the school this term. It is always nice to see our past pupils and catch up with how they are getting on. Teaching Practice is an essential part of teacher training where student teachers learn under the guidance and supervision of an experienced teacher. It also helps us to develop a relationship with Mary Immaculate teacher training college which allows us access to their resources and expertise.

Basketball:

Mark is finishing up with 5th and 6th classes this week and will be starting with 1st and 2nd next week for eight weeks.

Golf:

Junior Infants and Senior Infants have started golf lessons in The Complex with David Ryan this month.

Students' Council:

Our Students Council, made up of pupils from Senior Infants to 6th Class, are working hard to come up with ways to make our school a better place. They organised an environmental art competition which 1st and 6th jointly won. The entries were presented at assembly and were of a really high standard. Information about children's rights arrived from the Ombudsman for Children and they distributed this to each class to make sure that everyone

was aware of the information. They will have other projects to lead and manage over the next few months

School Garden:

Pfizer are working on a project to improve their garden. They have approached us with a view to developing a partnership with them. We will provide a piece of bottle top art for their garden with a new sister piece for our garden. Our Students Council will help with some planting of beds in Pfizer's garden and Pfizer will provide some plants and other garden materials for us. There will be opportunities for us to develop this relationship over the coming years in many different ways and we look forward to it. We are continuing to collect bottle tops for more art pieces for our garden so please send in any you have.

Leeside AFC:

Many of our students play soccer with Leeside AFC and they all enjoy it. There are lots of happy stories about training and matches. The boys and girls are being guided by an excellent and committed group of coaches and we are lucky to have such a vibrant club in our community. While all abilities are catered for there are a few who are doing exceptionally well. Luke in 5th is involved with the Cork squad and Adam in 6th is involved with the FAI emerging talent squad. Patryk who was in 6th last year has moved onto the national squad. All of this from our local club is amazing and something for all of us to be proud of. Over the last few years Leeside have helped us to prepare for the FAI 5-a-side soccer and I'm sure they will support us again this year.

That's all for now.

All the best,
Micheál Rea

Up Coming Events:

Jan 31st: Chess tournament – Ficheall.ie tournament for 3rd/4th and 5th/6th Classes.

Feb 1st: 4th Class Indoor Camogie

Feb 7th: 4th Class Indoor Hurling

Feb 15th: Science Workshops for each class

Feb 18th-22nd: Midterm break

Feb 26th&27th: Road Safety Authority workshops for each class.

Feb 28th: East Cork Studios taking photos

March 22nd: school closed for staff in-service on Primary Language Curriculum.

May 30th: Cork City Sports