



# Scoil Ghráinne CNS Newsletter

## November 30, 2017

### LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to all the parents who attended a discussion about our school uniforms. It was a very informative discussion and we are planning to update our school tracksuit to include a more modern design and material. More information on the new school tracksuit to follow.

Thank you to all parents who attended our Parent-teacher Meetings. If you were unable to attend please make an appointment with your child's teacher to organise.

#### Winter Performances:

Junior Infants will have their performance on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December @ 12:45 pm (doors 12:30)

Senior Infants will have their performance on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December @ 12:45 pm (doors 12:30 pm)

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class will have their performance on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December at 1:45 pm (doors 1:30 pm)

All other classes, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> will have their performances later on in the school year during term 3.

Many thanks,

Ken Scully

### DATES TO REMEMBER

WINTER PERFORMANCES: 12<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup> + 14<sup>TH</sup> DEC

WINTER RAFFLE: MONDAY THE 11<sup>TH</sup> OF DEC @ 9AM

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE: FRIDAY THE 22<sup>ND</sup> OF DEC @ 12

THANK YOU!

**Junior Infants** were covering the topic of food this month. We turned our play area into a café and we had so much fun pretending to be waiters and chefs and customers. We made smoothies and fruit skewers. We are very busy learning our sounds and we have even started homework. We are so big now!

**Senior Infants** In Seomra Corcra, we read *We're Going On A Bear Hunt*. We have been observing the weather and recording our results. We enjoyed pretending we were in the different places from our story and made collages of the scenes in art. In Seomra Oráiste we read *The Billy Goat's Gruff*. We got to make our very own bridge out of pipe-cleaners. In Seomra Dearg, we have been learning about space after reading about Baby Bear going to the moon in *Whatever Next!* We created our own textured moon pictures using paint mixed with flour and using bottle tops to create craters!

**Croí - Ms. Ryan's class** have been learning all about food this month. The younger children have been practicing their cutting skills with fruit, and have been reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The older children have been examining the food pyramid, and ways that we can keep our bodies healthy. **Ms. Egan's class** have been learning all about what our bodies can do. We're learning vocabulary for action words. We're practicing movement and shape in P.E. We love the Bear Walk and the Caterpillar Walk, and moving to our new song *Push the Blues Away*. We're enjoying the story *Polar Bear Polar Bear What Can You Hear?*

**First class** have been learning all about Dinosaurs and how they are now extinct! PE we are participating in dance and movement. We have done a lot of work on our resilience and finding ways to bounce back quickly after any incident.

**Second class** were working on the theme 'Under the Sea'. We completed reports based on sea creatures and used instruments to correct rain and wave sounds in music. We also looked at the life of the explorer Christopher Columbus and learnt a song based on facts of the explorer.

**Third class** We discovered how sound is produced all around us and explored different musical instruments to see how they create different musical sounds. When then made our own musical instruments for Art such as guitars, shakers and harmonicas. We have also been learning about different homes from all around the world. We compared the materials used to build each of these homes. For history we looked at photographs of homes.

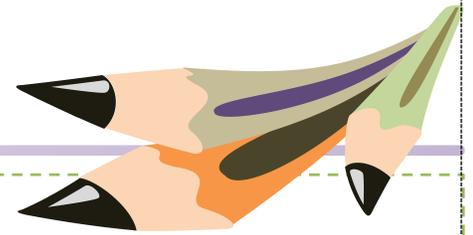
**Fourth class** did loads of amazing work this month for the Intel Mini Scientist competition. The classes worked in groups and made some amazing discoveries. They all put in a great effort designing visual displays and science booklets. On Friday afternoon three judges from Intel visited our school and the groups all presented their finished products and answered questions on their projects. The competition was very tough but congratulations to the runners up "Water Filtration", the winners, "Bendy Chicken Bone" and to everyone for taking part. There will be plenty of photos of the big event on the blog soon!

**Fifth class** have been learning all about our Local Environment. We examined maps of the local area and researched the history, services and facilities which we have in our locality. We also learned how to write an information report and are currently writing our own first drafts, based on many different topics which we are interested in. In science, we examined and created profiles on how various animals are classified into different groups, including, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish. We also took part in a music workshop last week, where we created our own rhythms and songs using I pads. In Gaeilge we have practised using different phrases and songs relating to Ag Siopadóireacht and we all enjoyed role-playing the part of the Siopadóir.

**Sixth class** had a fantastic opportunity to take part in a music workshop using iPads at school. They learned how to compose music electronically and listen to one another's pieces throughout the workshop. Some classmates were part of the Romanian language committee which helped the school to learn Romanian this month and took part in the assembly playing instruments and singing songs. Sixth have also been busy learning about Native Americans and Brazil in particular. Totem poles will soon be making an appearance in our classrooms!

### PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS

Our fantastic Winter raffle is taking place at **9am on Monday 11th December**. One book of tickets has been sent home with each family this week. **Please return all your raffle tickets, whether sold or unsold, by Wednesday 6th December**. You are under no obligation to buy the raffle tickets but it is very important that all unsold tickets are returned to the school. And remember to fill in your raffle tickets in **BLOCK CAPITALS** with your phone number! We have some fantastic prizes this year: 1st prize - Nintendo Switch; 2nd prize 2 x VIP tickets to a Republic of Ireland football team home game and many more including vouchers for the Blanchardstown Centre, Smyth's toys, Grant's uniform shop and Alan Dunne Photography! Many thanks to Martin Prunty of Epic Fitness, Small Steps Montessori, Soham Yoga, Brain O'Brain and Estel Virko photography for their very generous raffle prizes! Also, special thanks to Andrew Rankin's dad John who has organised two fabulous prizes from Lutrellstown Castle - a round of golf and a gift voucher for afternoon tea. You can make our raffle even better by donating spot prizes (such as gift vouchers, boxes of chocolates and biscuits). **There is a red box outside the school Secretary's office to collect raffle prizes donated by parents.** We would also be delighted to receive raffle prizes donated by businesses or companies that you may know. The school secretary can issue an authorisation signed by the Principal to allow you collect prizes on behalf of the school. This is a great way to help raise vital funds for our school, which will be used to benefit **ALL** our children. **Also** our very special "Reindeer Food" will be on sale from the school secretary's office in December, priced €2 each or 3 bags for €5.



## ANTI-BULLYING

**Our first Anti-Bullying Day took place last Friday 24th November.** Have a chat with your children at home about it. But remember, it's a strong word to use so please make sure you tell your child what bullying is. Let's not mix it up with telling tales.

Bullying is:

~Repeated, unwanted aggressive behaviour towards someone

~When someone is being hurt on purpose

~Can be social, verbal, physical or cyber



We are applying for our 3rd green flag (Water Theme) in March and as part of the process we are going to have a Green Schools' Action Day this Friday. We already have a green code about litter & energy....So we are holding a class competition to come up with a slogan about water conservation. Results will be posted here next month. You can talk to your children about saving water at home too.

~have a shower instead of a bath

~turn off the tap when you're not using it

~collect rain water to water your grass and flowers

