



# Scoil Chaitríona Cailíní

## NEWSLETTER

December 2018



### Parents' Association

Chairperson:	Suzanne White
Assistant Chairperson:	Paula Hackett
Secretary:	Claire Byrne
Assistant Secretary:	Nicola Reid
Treasurer:	Veronica Healy
Assistant Treasurer:	Elaine Hughes

There was an AGM held in the staffroom on September 27<sup>th</sup> and a new committee was elected.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in the €10 subscription to date. Your support is greatly appreciated. This money goes towards the Holy Communion and Graduation parties and also seasonal events such as our Christmas and Easter activities with the children. This year instead of a selection box, the girls got to make Pom Pom Christmas trees. The girls, parents and teachers really enjoyed the activity.

The next Parents' Association meeting is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 9.05am in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Home School Community Liaison

It is hard to believe that we are almost finished our first term. As this is our first newsletter this year, a big welcome to our new 2<sup>nd</sup> class girls and parents. It has been a very busy few months. During this term, we had many classes /courses for our parents and grandparents e.g. Irish, Pottery, First Aid, Mindfulness and Relaxation, Gardening. I have applied for classes for January 2019 and I will be in touch when these classes have been organised. These classes are FREE OF CHARGE and ALL ARE WELCOME! I also hope to set up a Couch to 5km (C25K) group after our Christmas. We can run/jog/walk off those mince pies together! Singing for Fun will continue after Christmas on Fridays at 9.30am in Mercy College. During this term, we had a talk for parents on autism by a volunteer from the Snowflakes Autism Support Group. On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am, there will be a talk in Scoil Chaitríona on ADHD by HADD, Ireland's Support Organisation for people with ADHD. In October, our 6<sup>th</sup> class girls from Room 24 took part in an art competition promoting the importance of attendance in our school. Well done to you all on your wonderful posters. Each child got an ice-cream for taking part. Congratulations to Nicole Boyle and Abbey Duffy Burke who both won family cinema passes. Well done to all the classes for making a huge effort to improve our overall attendance for this term. There is always great excitement in every classroom at the end of the month as the winning class is announced. So far this year we have had different winners each month. A special thanks to Jean our Attendance Monitor for all her help with this. A prize is given to every child in the winning class e.g. ice-cream. Just reminding you that your child can save in the Credit Union every Friday morning. Thanks to our two volunteers Nicola and Claire who give up their time to run the Credit Union in our school.

A special thank you to our Parents' Association for all their hard work throughout the term. Before our midterm break, the fifth classes had a cake sale and the parents helped with our coffee morning. This was a fundraiser for our new school library. Just last week the parents also came in to help with the Christmas activity, the children thoroughly enjoyed making the Christmas trees. Well done to you all!

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Dervilla 086-0825669**  
**HSCL Scoil Chaitríona Cailíní**

### Sherpa Kids

Sherpa Kids Before & After School care open from 7:30am - 6:00pm daily. Flexible & Affordable Childcare.

**Camps** - Next camp will be 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 - 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019, €20.00 per day with sibling discount available. Our Halloween Mid Term camp was a huge success and lots of fun, we had a great week full of activities and took a trip to the print museum to make posters.



*To find out more or book in with Sherpa Kids contact us on*

**086 276 8222 or**

**email [scoilchaitriona@sherpakids.ie](mailto:scoilchaitriona@sherpakids.ie)**

### Athletics

The Daily Mile challenge is up and running in the school with classes either walking, jogging or running around the yard for a few minutes every day. Unfortunately, the weather has interrupted the training on a few occasions this month but hopefully this situation will improve. It is great to see the children getting fitter and fitter.

#### **Cross Country in St Anne's Park**

Athletics Ireland, in conjunction with Dublin City Council organised a cross country event in St. Anne's Park on the 5<sup>th</sup> December which was Get All Girls Active Day #GAGA. Seventy six girls from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> took part in this challenging and exciting event. Everyone who took part got a medal. It was a great success despite all the muck and rain! Thanks to all those parents who braved the elements to support us!

If you are interested in further keep-fit activities, there is a GAGA exercise video on You Tube.



*Our pupils donated 78 shoe boxes filled with lovely gifts to the Team Hope Appeal to help children in Eastern Europe and Africa.*



## News

**Our first Term at Scoil Chaitríona Cailíní** - We have had a very busy and enjoyable first term and we are all looking forward to the Christmas celebrations. We were delighted to welcome our new 2nd class pupils and their families. We bid a very fond farewell to our school traffic warden Angela Maher and welcomed our new traffic warden John Barry.

Congratulations to the pupils from Room 21 who participated in the programme Big Words, Little Stories on Near FM. Ella Kavanagh and Hannah Carroll presented stories and poems on air, which were written by their classmates Amelia Conroy, Toni Grant, Kelsey O'Mahony, Ella Harris and Aimee McGrath. Congratulations also to Éabha Ivory and Nicole Boyle Room 24 and Ella Harris and Amelia Conroy Room 21 for their participation in Comhairle na nÓg. We are also very proud of Ashling Kelly Room 15 for all her amazing equestrian achievements.

**Sponsored walk** - The sponsored walk took place on Friday 5th October. Despite the threat of poor weather, we were able to go ahead with the walk and everyone had a very enjoyable day. The event raised €2539.80 towards our new library.

**Dress up day and cake sale** - On Friday 26th October, we had a dress up day and a cake sale supported by 5th class pupils, their families and teachers Anna Ingle and Katie Doyle. The amount raised was a fantastic sum of €1366.75. This amount has also been added to our library fund.

**Library update** - The construction of the new library is now under way. The walls are constructed and heating has been installed. We are now ready to move on with the next phase of the work, which will involve plastering, electrics and flooring. The work is taking place outside of normal school hours. It does not impact on the day-to-day routine or facilities in school. A huge thank you to all our parents and families, who have assisted with the fundraising, helped us to source materials and volunteered to help with the construction work.

**Webwise Day** - On Thursday 15th November, we had a Webwise day in the school. All pupils participated in lessons involving safety on the internet and on social media platforms. We also had an art competition focused on this theme on the day. Please discuss the topic regularly with your child. Parents are asked to be vigilant about their child's interactions on social media and on Apps and other elements of the internet.

## Green School

Caitriona Buggle our Green Schools Travel Officer from An Taisce, called out to the school recently to view the traffic situation around the front and back entrances. With the help of the school traffic wardens, members of our own committee and our school caretaker, she was able to identify a number of situations, which could be improved upon.

The Green School competition for November was for fourth class who had to draw pictures of road traffic signs. As usual the standard was very high! The Green School Committee are designing posters to encourage road safety for a competition organised by the Gardaí. This is to highlight road safety in the run up to Christmas.

## European Dimension in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

Ms Conefrey's class are currently participating in an e-Twinning project with schools in Italy, Poland, Lithuania and Turkey. They have written pen-pal letters to the schools in each country. They have also written fact files about their favourite places in Ireland. These were put on the Twin space, which is the shared area for displaying projects. This week they uploaded pictures of the Christmas trees they made with members of the Parents' Association. They also uploaded a PowerPoint presentation, which was shown at the Green School Course attended by Ms Conefrey in Finland.

For Christmas, they are planning to have a video call with some of their pen-pal schools to talk about Christmas traditions in Ireland. They are also in the middle of working on a PowerPoint presentation about Dublin. They each have to write an important fact about their favourite place.

## Erasmus

Our application for a second Erasmus Mobility Project (Key Action 1 School Education) has been approved. This project is entitled "Literacy for Life" and will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. It will last for 18 months and will involve staff members travelling abroad to work and study with their European counterparts in order to source best practice in the area of literacy teaching. This will be of great benefit to our pupils and will help increase the international profile of our school.

## Christmas Celebrations

The children have been working hard with their teachers and with Gareth to get ready for the Christmas concert, which takes place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon. It promises to be a very entertaining and enjoyable show. Parents, grandparents, family and friends are welcome to attend. On behalf of the staff and Board of Management of Scoil Chaitríona Cailíní, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.

Nollaig Shona!  
Ms. Whelan