



SCOIL NAOMH TREASA

Bellewstown
Drogheda
Co. Meath

December Newsletter

December 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Christmas Concert

This year's Christmas Concert was another great success and enjoyed by all. Well done to all the teachers for their creative input and to the children for their enthusiasm and hard work. They put on a great show. Thanks to all the friends and relatives who came along to support the children on the day.

SVP Appeal

Thanks to everyone who donated to the SVP Christmas food appeal. Thanks also to the children who participated in the Christmas Jumper Day which raised €200 for the charity. Our local SVP representative, Bernie Moore, was very grateful for the food and money donations which will go a long way to giving someone a better Christmas. It is important that children think of others less fortunate than themselves at this time of year and instil the gift of giving as well as receiving.

Shoebox Appeal

The pupils from 5th and 6th Class took part in the Team Hope shoebox appeal. Boxes collected this year were sent to children in Romania and Malawi. These children are affected by poverty in many ways and the gift of a shoebox brings joy and excitement to their lives. Thanks to the 5th and 6th class for their generosity and for Miss Breen for organising.

The Children's Choir

Well done to the children who took part in the annual Christmas Carol service. They sang beautifully alongside the adult choir and under the direction of our choirmaster Peter Moore. They will sing again at the special Midnight Mass on 24th December. As a young talented group, they are highly valued members of our community.

Preparation for the Sacraments

The children in second class took part in their enrolment ceremony in preparation for their First Holy Communion and the children in sixth class took part in their Commitment Ceremony in preparation for their Confirmation. Thanks to Mrs. O'Mara and Miss Breen for preparing the children so well for both occasions.

Diocesan Inspection

Two diocesan inspectors visited the school on 12th December. They provided very positive feedback on all aspects of religious values being implemented throughout the school. Thanks to teachers and pupils for maintaining the good practice.

Parents Council

The AGM of the Parents Council was held on 23rd November and a new council elected. Their first fundraiser as a new council will be the Christmas Raffle which will be held on Friday 20th December at 11am in the school. Thanks to the parents of the new council who have committed to volunteering over the next two years to help the school. We hope it will be a fulfilling and positive experience.

Thanks to the outgoing council who worked tirelessly to support the school and raise much needed funds. We appreciate all that you did.

Green School Travel Flag

There are lots of exciting plans lined up to help us achieve our Travel Flag. This can be quite challenging, as most of our pupils travel to school by car. Ms Swinburne is coordinating the programme with the assistance of a very capable group of children from 6th class.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

Thanks to all parents who attended the Parent-Teacher meetings. These meetings are a very valuable link for teachers and parents. Teachers are available to discuss your child's progress during the year, through prior appointment. Junior Infant meetings are scheduled for the week of 24th – 28th February 2020. Individual times will be assigned by class teacher.

Sport

Swimming: The children from 1st – 6th class enjoyed a six-week term of swimming lessons which supported the aquatics strand of our PE curriculum.

Gaelic: Training will resume in January in preparation for the Corn Cois Farraige competition. The date for the Fingal League has still to be decided.

Athletics: This year's cross-country race has been postponed until February due to the bad weather and a water-logged course. Thanks to the children who are training hard in preparation for this difficult event and to Grace Foley for her ongoing support in coaching the children for the race.

Rugby: Thanks to Arial from Leinster Rugby who provided rugby coaching to the children from 1st to 6th class. Some of his sessions had to be postponed until after Christmas due to bad weather so we look forward to seeing him again in the New Year.

New Primary Language Curriculum

All teachers took part in a whole school training day for the new primary language curriculum. The training was held in Navan Education Centre.

School's Art Programme

5th and 6th Class are taking part in an Arts Primary School Programme in conjunction with the Highlanes Gallery in Drogheda. Artist Claire Halpin gave the children a tour of the current exhibition on display in the gallery, '*Elliptical Affinities*'. She then visited the classroom to guide the children with their own art projects based on the theme '*Ireland in 2020*'. The children will revisit the gallery in January and will display their art projects there.

New Infants: September 2020:

Please submit an 'Application for Enrolment', which can be downloaded from the website or available through the office by Friday 31st January 2020.

Important Dates

Please see the website for important dates regarding school holidays and special events.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. I am very proud of all the boys and girls and the progress that they have made so far this year. I look forward to welcoming them back in 2020.

Le Gach Dea Ghuí,

Bernadette McGuinness